

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-70

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO OPPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 7097, SPECIFICALLY THE REDUCTION IN THE STATE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX AND THE FUTURE SUNSET OF THE CHARTER COUNTY AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SALES SURTAX LEVIED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

WHEREAS, Committee Substitute House Bill (CS/HB) 7097 is the 2020 tax package proposed by the Florida House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, CS/HB 7097, Sec. 17 amends Sec. 202.12, F.S., to include a 0.5% rate reduction for both the State Communications Services Tax (CST) and direct-to-home satellite services beginning on January 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the State CST benefits cities and counties through statutorily required revenue sharing; and

WHEREAS, CS/HB 7097, Sec. 28 would require any Charter County and Regional Transportation System Surtax as defined in Sec. 125.011(1), F.S., including the surtax levied by Miami-Dade County, to expire on December 31, 2049; and

WHEREAS, following this expiration, any new levy of the surtax authorized on or after January 1, 2050, would have to be approved by a majority vote of the electorate at a general election held within 2 years before the effective date of the new levy, and once approved could not be levied for more than 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables trolley system, which has been a fixture in the community since 2003, is 100% funded by the Miami-Dade County Regional Transportation Surtax; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables freebee system is partially funded by the Miami-Dade County Regional Transportation Surtax; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities estimates the total local government revenue impact of CS/HB 7097 in fiscal year 2020-21 would be -\$17.8 million; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission urges the Florida Legislature to oppose certain sections of CS/HB 7097, specifically the reduction in the State CST and the future sunset of the Charter County and Regional Transportation System Sales Surtax;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:

SECTION 1. The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida urges the Florida Legislature to oppose certain sections of CS/HB 7097, specifically the reduction in the State Communications Services Tax and the future sunset of the Charter County and Regional Transportation System Sales Surtax levied by Miami-Dade County.

SECTION 3. That the City Commission directs that this item be made part of the City’s Legislative Agenda, and that this resolution be sent immediately to the Governor of the State of Florida, the Miami-Dade delegation, and all those senators and representatives who represent the City of Coral Gables.

SECTION 4. That the City Commission hereby urges other cities in Florida to oppose certain sections of CS/HB 7097, specifically the reduction in the State Communications Services Tax and the future sunset of the Charter County and Regional Transportation System Sales Surtax levied by Miami-Dade County, and directs the City Clerk to share this resolution with the Miami-Dade County League of Cities.

SECTION 5. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TENTH DAY OF MARCH, A.D., 2020.
(Moved: Keon / Seconded: Lago)
(Yeas: Mena, Fors, Jr., Keon, Lago, Valdes-Fauli)
(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)
(Agenda Item: J-1)

APPROVED:



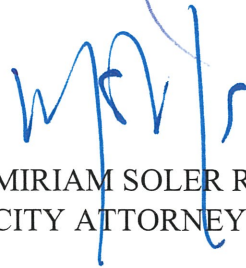
RAUL VALDES-FAULI
MAYOR

ATTEST:



BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS
CITY ATTORNEY