

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-64**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, URGING FLORIDA GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT TO VETO HOUSE BILL 7007/SENATE BILL 1010, PROHIBITING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM BANNING POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS, AND URGING ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO SUPPORT THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES IN THIS EFFORT.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables Commission has declared that it is in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare of its residents and visitors to reduce litter and pollutants on the land and waters of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, expanded polystyrene, a petroleum by-product, commonly known as Styrofoam, is neither readily recyclable nor biodegradable and takes hundreds to thousands of years to degrade in the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, products made from expanded polystyrene have little value and are not accepted into single stream recycling facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, expanded polystyrene is a common pollutant, which fragments into smaller, non-biodegradable pieces that are ingested by marine life and other wild life, thus harming or killing them; and

**WHEREAS**, polystyrene food service materials such as cups, plates, coolers, ice chests, and food containers, constitute a portion of the litter in the City's streets, parks, public places and waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the physical properties of expanded polystyrene, the EPA states, "that such material can also have serious impacts on human health, wildlife, the aquatic environment and the economy;" and

**WHEREAS**, as an environmental leader among local governments in Florida, the City adopted an Ordinance prohibiting the use of polystyrene by the City, by City contractors/vendor, during special events permitted by the City, and by most businesses located within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach, the Village of Key Biscayne, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, the Town of Surfside, North Bay Village, the Village of Bal Harbour and others have passed legislation regulating or prohibiting the use of polystyrene; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida legislature adopted House Bill 7007/Senate Bill 1010, prohibiting local governments from imposing bans on polystyrene products;

**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 Coral Gables City Commission urges Florida Governor Rick Scott to veto House Bill 7007/Senate Bill 1010 and urges all municipalities in Miami-Dade County to support the City of Coral Gables in this effort.

**SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY**

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

**SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS FIFTEENTH DAY OF MARCH, A.D., 2016.

(Moved: Lago / Seconded: Slesnick)

(Yeas: Quesada, Slesnick, Keon, Lago, Cason)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Non-Agenda Item)

APPROVED:

JIM CASON  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

WALTER J. FOEMAN  
CITY CLERK

CRAIG E. LEEN  
CITY ATTORNEY