

## RESOLUTION NO. 2014-2

### A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC. URGING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO RESTORE FULL FUNDING TO THE ENTIRE MIAMI-DADE LIBRARY SYSTEM TO UNDERTAKE AND CONTINUE THE EXAMINATION, FORMULATION AND ADOPTION OF A LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE PLAN FOR THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY.

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Dade Public Library Advisory Board is assigned to serve in an advisory capacity to the County Commission in respect to all matters pertaining to the Miami-Dade Public Library System as well as to serve as a member of Mayor Carlos Gimenez's Blue Ribbon Task Force to study the future of the Miami-Dade Public Library System; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of their responsibilities and duties, the Task Force convened and determined that the best course of action on behalf of the Public Library System was for the Task Force and the County to formulate and adopt a short-term funding plan for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 with the goal of funding the System's operating budget to levels prior to the downturn in the economy; and

**WHEREAS**, while the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. is aware of the current funding crisis faced by the Public Library System, they are encouraged and optimistic by an improved economy and the prospects for a return to a stabilized and strong economy thereby allowing for the restoration of full funding for the Public Library System; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Dade Public Library System is comprised of forty-nine branches which services over 2.5 million residents as well as approximately 8 million visitors throughout Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, a healthy public library system promotes literacy and cultural appreciation and fosters a more knowledgeable and educated society; and

**WHEREAS**, with the reduction of funding to the Public Library System and the closures, down-sizing or reconfigurations of the Public Library System many children, teens and adults within all the Miami-Dade County municipalities have been turned away from a place of learning and have thus suffered greatly; and

**WHEREAS**, at their April 16, 2014 meeting, the Library Advisory Board enthusiastically endorsed the consensus recommendations of the Taskforce members to increase the ad valorem tax millage rate in order to restore the current levels of funding to both maintain and enhance library services throughout Miami-Dade County with none of the current library facilities having to close; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the recommendations of the Library Advisory Board and the Blue Ribbon Task Force members, the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

believe that a sustainable financial plan with the restoration of full funding for the Public Library System is in the best interest of all the residents located in all the municipalities throughout Miami-Dade County.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY:** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

**SECTION 1.** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. hereby urge the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners to restore full funding to the entire Miami-Dade Library System.

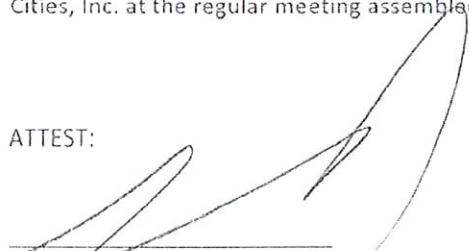
**SECTION 2.** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. hereby further urge the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners to undertake and continue the examination, formulation and adoption of a long-term, sustainable plan for the Miami-Dade County Public Library System in the 21st century.

**SECTION 3.** A copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Mayor and Commissioners of Miami-Dade County.

**SECTION 4.** The Miami-Dade League of Cities encourages all municipalities to support and enact similar Resolutions in each of their cities.

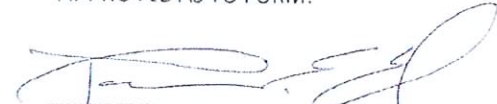
**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. at the regular meeting assembled this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2014.

ATTEST:

  
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JORDAN W. LEONARD  
SECRETARY

  
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CINDY LERNER  
PRESIDENT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
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DARCEE S. SIEGEL, ESQ.  
CHAIR, MDCLC CITY ATTORNEY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE