Agenda Item #:

## PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

3A-2

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

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Meeting Date: A	oril 6, 2010	[X] Consent [ ] Workshop	[ ] Regular [ ] Public Hearing
Department:	County Administration		
Submitted By:	County Administration		
Submitted For:	Office of Economic Deve	elopment	

#### I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

**Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to** adopt : A Resolution by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida, urging the Florida Legislature to pass SB 1856 or similar legislation extending Florida's Qualified Target Industry (QTI) Tax Refund Incentive Program.

**SUMMARY:** In 1994, the Florida Legislature created the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Incentive Program as an additional tool for Economic Development. During this Legislative Session, the QTI Program is under sunset review by the Senate Commerce Committee and as a result, SB 1856 (Bill) was filed that recommended the extension of the Program for an additional five (5) years. The Bill as originally filed imposed restrictions on the ability to use the statewide average wage requirement if the County's average wage was higher which would place urban Counties at a disadvantage in attracting new jobs through this Program. An Amendment by Senator Charlie Justice restored the ability to use the State average as the wage requirement. <u>Countywide (DW)</u>

**Background and Policy Issues:** The Qualified Target Industry Program in s. 288.106 F.S. was created in 1994 as part of a retooling of Florida's economic development efforts. The QTI program was designated to encourage the recruitment or creation of higher-paying, higher-skilled jobs for Floridians by awarding eligible businesses refunds of certain state or local taxes paid in exchange for creating jobs. The amount of the refund is based on the wages paid, number of jobs created, and where in the state the eligible businesses chooses to locate or expand, but the minimum is \$3,000 employee over the term of the incentive Agreement.

Attachments: Resolution

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Recommended by: _	Spinn Howard.	3-30-2010
	Economic Development Director	Date
Approved by:	anna RRz	2410
	Assistant County Administrator	Date

### II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

### A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years Capital Expenditures Expenditure Operating Cost		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014			
		() <del></del> (							
External Revenu	le					<u></u>			
Program Income	e (PBC)								
In-Kind Match (PBC)									
NET FISCAL IMP	DACT	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	) <u></u> -	<u> 1990 – Allen Allender, solar</u>			
# ADDITIONAL FTE			<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
POSITIONS									
(Cumulative)		8			· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •				
le Item Included In Current Budget? Vee Ne									
Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes No									
Fund	Dept.	Unit	Obje	ect Various					
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:									
				5					

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: \_\_\_\_\_

# III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. QFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Administration Comments:

NO Fiscal part 2010 OFMB

7. 10

**Contract Development and Control** 

**B. Legal Sufficiency:** 

Sr. Assistant County Attorney

- 51
- C. Other Department Review:

**Department Director** 

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

WPDATA.AGNDA -Legislative Support QTI Program 4-6-10

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2010-**

#### A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 1856 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION EXTENDING FLORIDA'S QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature created the Qualified Target Industry (QTI) Tax Refund Incentive Program in 1994 as an additional tool for economic development in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the QTI Program was designed to attract and create highpaying, high-skilled jobs for Floridians by awarding eligible businesses refunds of certain state or local taxes in exchange for creating jobs; and

WHEREAS, the QTI Program is one of the most important incentives available to recruit businesses to Florida and help local businesses expand; and

WHEREAS, the amount of tax refunds in the QTI Program is based on the wages paid, the number of jobs created and where in the state the eligible business chooses to locate or expand; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County and the State of Florida have used the QTI incentive both to attract new businesses to and help to expand existing businesses in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these efforts, companies have committed to creating an estimated total of 1,440 new jobs and approximately \$187,754,957 in new capital investment since FY 2004-05 in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, absent the QTI Program, these companies may not have received the assistance needed to move forward with their expansion plans; and

WHEREAS, under current law, the QTI Program will sunset on June 30, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Senate Commerce Committee has undertaken a sunset review of the QTI Program and in addition to recommends the extension of the QTI Program for an additional five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, given the current state of the economy and the need for highpaying, high-skilled jobs in Florida, now is not the time to allow this important economic development program to sunset; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports the extension of the QTI program and an amendment by Senator Charlie Justice that continues to allow Florida counties to use the statewide average wage as the QTI wage base if it is lower than the county average wage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

<u>Section I.</u> The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are expressly incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

<u>Section II.</u> Palm Beach County urges the Florida Legislature to pass SB 1856 or similar legislation extending Florida's Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Incentive program and to continue to allow Florida counties to use the statewide average wage as the QTI wage base if it is lower than the county average wage.

The Chair thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20010.

By:\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK & COMPTROLLER

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Deputy Clerk

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