Agenda Item #: PH -

PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: January 24, 2012	{ } Consent	{ } Regular	
	{ } Workshop	{X} Public Hearing	

Department:

Submitted By: Submitted For:

Engineering & Public Works Engineering Services Division

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to adopt: an Ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners (Board) of Palm Beach County, Florida, amending Palm Beach County Code Chapter 26, Article II Division 1, known as the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) Special Assessment Ordinance (Ordinance 2008-063); amending Section 26-23, Improvements; amending Section 26-24, Special Assessments; amending Section 26-29, Percentage of Costs, Further Procedures; amending Section 26-30.3, Public Hearing; amending Section 26-30.10, Payments; amending Section 26-30.15, Savings Clause; providing for Repeal of Laws in Conflict; providing for Severability; providing for Effective Date.

SUMMARY: The proposed Ordinance will amend Chapter 26, Article II, Division 1, known as the MSTU Ordinance 2008-063 to allow for assessments and collections at a percentage rate less than 100% when directed by the Board of County Commissioners, but the rate can be no less than 50%. There remain a few MSTU projects that were petitioned at the previous 50% rate that cannot be approved at a rate less than 100% without this amendment. The proposed Ordinance also amends the section on street lighting improvements regarding costs being capable of being calculated for special assessment purposes and amends the timeframe between bid opening and public hearing to be as soon as practicable.

Countywide (MRE)

Background and Policy Issues: On December 19, 2006, the Board directed staff to repetition MSTU projects to determine if the property owners were still willing to pay their portion of the project due to higher project costs. On July 22, 2008 the Board deleted several projects from the MSTU Program based on the results of the repetitioning and the MSTU Program was directed to complete existing projects and not accept any new projects. By Ordinance, at the time, the proposed assessments for projects were still 50% for paving and drainage improvements. The Ordinance was later changed, on December 16, 2008, to require a 100% assessment from the property owners. In fairness to those projects petitioned at a 50% rate, it is requested that this amendment be heard and approved.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance – Underline/Strikethrough Copy 2. Proposed Ordinance

Recommended by:		
	Division Director	Date
Approved By: 🔨	T. Will	1/9/17
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	County Engineer	Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Capital Expenditures	<u>\$ -0-</u>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Operating Costs	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
External Revenues	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Program Income (County)	0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
In-Kind Match (County)	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
NET FISCAL IMPACT	* <u>\$ -0-</u>	0-		-0-	-0-
# ADDITIONAL FTE	,				
POSITIONS (Cumulative)					

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes No

Budget Acct No.: Fund___ Dept.___ Unit__ Object Program

Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

 \star The fiscal impact of this item is indeterminable at this time.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. <u>REVIEW COMMENTS</u>

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

B. Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency:

ssistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

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

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112112 Contract Dey. and Control wheeler

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23	ORDINANCE NO. 20
4 5 6 7	AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 26, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 1, KNOWN AS THE MUNICIPAL
8 9	SERVICE TAXING UNIT (MSTU) SPECIAL ASSESSMENT
10	SECTION 26-23, IMPROVEMENTS; AMENDING SECTION
11 12	26-24, SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; AMENDING SECTION
13	PROCEDURES; AMENDING SECTION 26-30.3, PUBLIC
14 15	HEARING; AMENDING SECTION 26-30.10, PAYMENTS; AMENDING SECTION 26-30.15, SAVINGS CLAUSE;
16	PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT:
17 18	PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES;
19	PROVIDING FOR CAPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR
20	EFFECTIVE DATE.
21	
22	WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida
23	enacted Palm Beach County Code Chapter 26, Article II, Division 1, Ordinance No. 2008-
24	063 referred to as the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) Special Assessment
25	Ordinance which enhanced the efficiency of the County's funding and construction of
26	street improvements and related projects through special assessments; and
27	WHEREAS, there is a recognized need to make revisions to the MSTU Special
28	Assessment Ordinance in order to better facilitate and enhance the application of the
29	County's MSTU special assessment process; and
30	WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend the MSTU
31	Special Assessment Ordinance as set forth herein.
32	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
33	COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:
34	The following Sections of the MSTU Ordinance as codified in the Palm Beach
35	County Code Chapter 26, Article II, Division 1, are hereby amended as follows:
36	Section 1.
. 37	Section 26-23. IMPROVEMENTS:
38	(a) Road improvements as provided in this division include but are not limited
39	to such improvements as pavement, grassing, landscaping, storm drainage
40	facilities, traffic-control devices, driveways, earthwork, and all engineering and
41	administrative expenses in connection with the project. The term "landscaping"
ATTACHMENT	'I

includes the installation and maintenance thereof pursuant to the county's
 landscaping ordinance (appendix F, §500.35).

3 (b) Street lighting improvements as provided in this division include, but are not
 4 limited to, such improvements as poles, wires, lines, cables, lamps, meter boxes;
 5 all other components of a street lighting system; and all engineering and
 administrative expenses in connection with the design, implementation,
 construction, as well as maintenance expenses thereof, including electric utility
 company charges for the supply of electric power to the improvements <u>if capable</u>
 of being calculated for special assessment purposes.

(c) The board may, by resolution, establish guidelines applicable to the board's
 determination of whether to proceed with any project for which a petition is
 submitted.

In neighborhoods of special environmental concern subject to problems that 13 (d) 14 are capable of remediation by providing facilities for water and/or sewer service or drainage, the board may provide any or all such improvements under the terms of 15 16 this division. In such circumstances, the provision of such services and improvements shall be subject to all pertinent provisions of this division and shall 17 be treated in the same manner as road improvements, street lighting and 18 landscaping improvements for special assessment percentage purposes and other 19 purposes. The term "drainage" as used herein includes clearing and dredging of 20 21 canals and other drainage facilities not under the jurisdiction of other 22 governmental entities.

(e) In areas of special concern along thoroughfares, the board may provide for
 walls under the terms of this division. Improvements of this type include but are
 not limited to all components of walls, and all administrative and engineering
 expenses in connection with design, implementation and construction, as well as
 advising property owners and/or property owners associations of all requirements,
 including but not limited to acquisition of easements by property owners
 associations and maintenance responsibilities.

ATTACHMENT 1

1 Section 2.

2 Section 26-24. SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS: The Board may provide for payment of the costs of any improvement under 3 Section 26-23(a), (b), (c) (d) or (e) or (f) of this division by levying and collecting special 4 assessments on the abutting, adjoining, contiguous, or other property specially benefited 5 by the improvements provided herein. The percentage of the cost of improvements 6 under Section 26-23 of this division to be paid by special assessment shall be 100 7 percent of the total cost of the improvements as follows: 1) 100 percent for non-road 8 projects, 2) 100 percent for road projects involving roads not currently maintained by 9 Palm Beach County, 3) no less than 50 percent for road projects involving roads currently 10 maintained by Palm Beach County, except as provided in Section 26-30.13 of this 11 division. For road projects, where one side of the road is adjacent to a canal; where 12 county owned property exists; or where there are property(s) whose access to the road 13 has been legally restricted, the County may be treated as an assessed property owner 14 15 and may pay its proportionate share of the assessed amount. Section 3.

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Section 26-29. PERCENTAGE OF COSTS, FURTHER PROCEDURES:

Upon completion of the preliminary cost estimate and compliance with the 18 requirements of Section 26-28 of this division, the improvements shall be brought to the 19 BOARD for a public hearing. No action is required by the BOARD prior to the public 20 hearing if the method of assessment is proposed to be the abutting footage method. The 21 proposed percentage of costs for a road improvement, street lighting improvements, 22 barrier walls, water and/or sewer is one hundred (100) percent as provided in Section 26-23 24. If the proposed method of assessment is other than abutting footage, then prior to 24 the public hearing the BOARD shall determine the method of assessment to be utilized 25 for the improvement to be repaid to the trust fund by the property owners through special 26 assessments upon the specially benefitted property. However, the BOARD at any time, 27 in its sole discretion, may reject the petition or project for any further consideration. 28

ATTACHMENT 1

1 Section 4.

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Section 26-30.3. PUBLIC HEARING:

Prior to awarding the contract for construction of the improvements for which 3 special assessments will be made, the Board shall hold a public hearing on the proposed 4 project unless the Board rejects the project from further consideration. Property owners 5 to be assessed shall be notified by regular mail of the time and place of the public 6 hearing. The mailed notice shall advise each property owner of their individual proposed 7 special assessment, per parcel, based on the lowest acceptable bid, including other 8 allowable costs and the percentage and method of assessment determined in 9 accordance with the above provisions of this division. 10

11 The public hearing shall be held not later than twelve (12) weeks as soon as 12 practicable after the date the construction bids are received and no sooner than ten (10) 13 days after the mailing of the notices described in this section. Addresses for the mailed 14 notices shall be obtained from the records of the property appraiser or other reliable 15 sources.

In addition, a notice shall be published once each week for two (2) consecutive
weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality. If there is no newspaper of
general circulation in the locality, the notice shall be published in a newspaper of general
circulation in the county. The most recent of such publication shall be no less than one
(1) week before the public hearing, the Board shall do so by resolution as provided in
Section 26-30.4 of this division.

At least ten (10) days before the public hearing, each property owner shall be 22 given notice of the public hearing by regular mail. The mailed and published notices 23 shall describe the streets or areas to be improved and advise all interested persons that 24 each property and amount to be assessed may be obtained at the office of the county 25 engineer clerk of the board. At this public hearing, the owners of property to be specially 26 assessed or any other interested persons may appear before the Board and be heard as 27 to the propriety and advisability of making such improvements, costs, manner of payment, 28 and amount to be specially assessed against each property to be improved. 29

At the public hearing, an assessment roll prepared in accordance with the method and percentage of assessment provided by this division shall be presented to the Board.

The assessment roll shall show the lots and lands assessed, and the amount of benefit to and assessment against each lot or parcel of land. If the special assessment is to be paid in installments, the number of annual installments into which the special assessment is divided shall also be entered and shown upon the assessment roll.

5 At the time and place named in the notice of publication, the Board shall meet as an equalizing Board to hear and consider all complaints as to such special assessments 6 and shall adjust, equalize, and approve by resolution as required in Section 26-30.4 of 7 this division. Such assessment shall stand affirmed and remain legal, valid and binding 8 as a first lien upon the property against which such assessment is made until paid. 9 Promptly after such confirmation of assessment, the assessment roll shall be recorded by 10 the clerk of board in a special book known as the "Improvement Lien Book" and the 11 record of the lien in this book shall constitute prima facia evidence of its validity. A copy 12 of the resolution above shall also be recorded in the official records of the clerk of the 13 circuit court Clerk & Comptroller of the county to facilitate knowledge of the lien by third 14 15 parties.

Upon completion of the improvements, the board may credit to each assessment the difference in the original assessment made, approved and confirmed, and the proportionate part of the actual costs of the improvement to be paid by special assessment determined upon completion of the improvements. This information shall be set forth in an "amending resolution" which shall be adopted by the Board and also recorded in the public records as referenced above. In no event shall the final assessments exceed the amount of benefits originally assessed by the Board.

23 <u>Section 5.</u>

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Section 26-30.10. PAYMENTS:

Billing, receiving and accounting for the payment of assessments shall be the responsibility of the clerk of the circuit court <u>Clerk & Comptroller</u>. A record of payments and balances shall be kept for each property assessed. All payments received shall be deposited into the applicable trust fund or deposited as otherwise provided in this division. A tabulation of accounts shall be provided by the clerk of the circuit court <u>Clerk</u> <u>& Comptroller</u>.

Section 6. 1

2	Section 26-30.15. SAVINGS CLAUSE:
3	Notwithstanding the provisions of this division herein repealing Ordinance No. 91-
4	41 and Ordinance No. 93-26, this division shall not affect or impair the processing and
5	implementation of any improvement project commenced under the provisions of
6	Ordinance No. 82-17, 84-5, 86-16, 87-10, 91-41, er 93-26, <u>94-11 and 2008-063</u> . All
7	projects initiated under the divisions referenced above shall be deemed valid and in full
8	force and effect. Further, any money available for use in the units created and funded
9	under the above-referenced divisions shall be available for use in and transferred to the
10	corresponding units and trust funds created hereunder.
11	Section 7. PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT:
12	All local laws and ordinances in conflict with any provisions of this Ordinance are
13	hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.
14	Section 8. SEVERABILITY:
15	If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance is
16	for any reason held by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional,
17	inoperative, or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.
18	Section 9. INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES:
19	The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Palm
20	Beach County Code. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to
21	accomplish such, and the word ordinance may be changed to section, article, or other
22	appropriate word.
23	Section 10. CAPTIONS:
24	The captions, section headings, and section designations used in this Ordinance
25	are for convenience only and shall have no effect on the interpretation of the provisions
26	of this Ordinance.
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28	(REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY)
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ATTACHME	NT 1

Statistics.

1 Section 11. EFFECTIVE DATE:

The provisions of this Ordinar	nce shall become effective upon filing with the
Department of State.	
APPROVED and ADOPTED b	y the Board of County Commissioners of Palm
Beach County, Florida, on this the	day of, 20
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
By: Deputy Clerk	By: Shelley Vana, Chair
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY	
By: Assistant County Attorney	
EFFECTIVE DATE: Filed with	the Department of State on the day of
, 20 G:\WPDATA\ENG\MRE\Agenda\MSTU Ordina	лсе 112011.doc
	Department of State. APPROVED and ADOPTED b Beach County, Florida, on this the SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK By: Deputy Clerk APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY By: Assistant County Attorney EFFECTIVE DATE: Filed with

ATTACHMENT 1

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	2 3 ORDINANCE NO. 20
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20	FROMDING FOR
21	
22	WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida
23	enacted Palm Beach County Code Chapter 26, Article II, Division 1, Ordinance No. 2008-
24	063 referred to as the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) Special Assessment
25	Ordinance which enhanced the efficiency of the County's funding and construction of
26	street improvements and related projects through special assessments; and
27	WHEREAS, there is a recognized need to make revisions to the MSTU Special
28	Assessment Ordinance in order to better facilitate and enhance the application of the
29	County's MSTU special assessment process; and
30	WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend the MSTU
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40	facilities, traffic-control devices, driveways, earthwork, and all engineering and
41	administrative expenses in connection with the project. The term "landscaping"
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includes the installation and maintenance thereof pursuant to the county's landscaping ordinance (appendix F, §500.35).

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(b) Street lighting improvements as provided in this division include, but are not limited to, such improvements as poles, wires, lines, cables, lamps, meter boxes; all other components of a street lighting system; and all engineering and administrative expenses in connection with the design, implementation, construction, as well as maintenance expenses thereof, including electric utility company charges for the supply of electric power to the improvements if capable of being calculated for special assessment purposes.

(c) The board may, by resolution, establish guidelines applicable to the board's determination of whether to proceed with any project for which a petition is submitted.

(d) In neighborhoods of special environmental concern subject to problems that are capable of remediation by providing facilities for water and/or sewer service or drainage, the board may provide any or all such improvements under the terms of this division. In such circumstances, the provision of such services and improvements shall be subject to all pertinent provisions of this division and shall be treated in the same manner as road improvements, street lighting and landscaping improvements for special assessment percentage purposes and other purposes. The term "drainage" as used herein includes clearing and dredging of canals and other drainage facilities not under the jurisdiction of other governmental entities.

(e) In areas of special concern along thoroughfares, the board may provide for walls under the terms of this division. Improvements of this type include but are not limited to all components of walls, and all administrative and engineering expenses in connection with design, implementation and construction, as well as advising property owners and/or property owners associations of all requirements, including but not limited to acquisition of easements by property owners associations and maintenance responsibilities.

Section 2.

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Section 26-24. SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS:

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15 Section 3.

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Section 26-29. PERCENTAGE OF COSTS, FURTHER PROCEDURES:

17 Upon completion of the preliminary cost estimate and compliance with the requirements of Section 26-28 of this division, the improvements shall be brought to the 18 BOARD for a public hearing. No action is required by the BOARD prior to the public 19 hearing if the method of assessment is proposed to be the abutting footage method. The 20 proposed percentage of costs for a road improvement, street lighting improvements, 21 barrier walls, water and/or sewer is as provided in Section 26-24. 22 If the proposed method of assessment is other than abutting footage, then prior to the public hearing the 23 BOARD shall determine the method of assessment to be utilized for the improvement to 24 be repaid to the trust fund by the property owners through special assessments upon the 25 specially benefitted property. However, the BOARD at any time, in its sole discretion, 26 27 may reject the petition or project for any further consideration.

Section 4.

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Section 26-30.3. PUBLIC HEARING:

3 Prior to awarding the contract for construction of the improvements for which special assessments will be made, the Board shall hold a public hearing on the proposed project unless the Board rejects the project from further consideration. Property owners 5 to be assessed shall be notified by regular mail of the time and place of the public 6 hearing. The mailed notice shall advise each property owner of their individual proposed special assessment, per parcel, based on the lowest acceptable bid, including other allowable costs and the percentage and method of assessment determined in accordance with the above provisions of this division.

11 The public hearing shall be held as soon as practicable after the date the construction bids are received and no sooner than ten (10) days after the mailing of the 12 notices described in this section. Addresses for the mailed notices shall be obtained 13 from the records of the property appraiser or other reliable sources. 14

In addition, a notice shall be published once each week for two (2) consecutive 15 weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality. If there is no newspaper of 16 general circulation in the locality, the notice shall be published in a newspaper of general 17 circulation in the county. The most recent of such publication shall be no less than one 18 (1) week before the public hearing, the Board shall do so by resolution as provided in 19 20 Section 26-30.4 of this division.

At least ten (10) days before the public hearing, each property owner shall be 21 given notice of the public hearing by regular mail. The mailed and published notices 22 shall describe the streets or areas to be improved and advise all interested persons that 23 each property and amount to be assessed may be obtained at the office of the county 24 engineer. At this public hearing, the owners of property to be specially assessed or any 25 other interested persons may appear before the Board and be heard as to the propriety 26 and advisability of making such improvements, costs, manner of payment, and amount to 27 be specially assessed against each property to be improved. 28

29 At the public hearing, an assessment roll prepared in accordance with the method and percentage of assessment provided by this division shall be presented to the Board. 30 31 The assessment roll shall show the lots and lands assessed, and the amount of benefit to

and assessment against each lot or parcel of land. If the special assessment is to be paid in installments, the number of annual installments into which the special assessment is divided shall also be entered and shown upon the assessment roll.

At the time and place named in the notice of publication, the Board shall meet as 4 an equalizing Board to hear and consider all complaints as to such special assessments 5 and shall adjust, equalize, and approve by resolution as required in Section 26-30.4 of 6 this division. Such assessment shall stand affirmed and remain legal, valid and binding 7 as a first lien upon the property against which such assessment is made until paid. 8 Promptly after such confirmation of assessment, the assessment roll shall be recorded by 9 in the official records of the Clerk & Comptroller of the county to facilitate knowledge of 10 11 the lien by third parties.

Upon completion of the improvements, the board may credit to each assessment the difference in the original assessment made, approved and confirmed, and the proportionate part of the actual costs of the improvement to be paid by special assessment determined upon completion of the improvements. This information shall be set forth in an "amending resolution" which shall be adopted by the Board and also recorded in the public records as referenced above. In no event shall the final assessments exceed the amount of benefits originally assessed by the Board.

19 <u>Section 5.</u>

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Section 26-30.10. PAYMENTS:

Billing, receiving and accounting for the payment of assessments shall be the responsibility of the Clerk & Comptroller. A record of payments and balances shall be kept for each property assessed. All payments received shall be deposited into the applicable trust fund or deposited as otherwise provided in this division. A tabulation of accounts shall be provided by the Clerk & Comptroller.

26 <u>Section 6.</u>

27

Section 26-30.15. SAVINGS CLAUSE:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this division herein repealing Ordinance No. 9141 and Ordinance No. 93-26, this division shall not affect or impair the processing and
implementation of any improvement project commenced under the provisions of
Ordinance No. 82-17, 84-5, 86-16, 87-10, 91-41, 93-26, 94-11 and 2008-063. All projects

initiated under the divisions referenced above shall be deemed valid and in full force and
effect. Further, any money available for use in the units created and funded under the
above-referenced divisions shall be available for use in and transferred to the
corresponding units and trust funds created hereunder.

Section 7. PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT:

All local laws and ordinances in conflict with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

8 Section 8. SEVERABILITY:

9 If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Ordinance is
 10 for any reason held by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional,
 11 inoperative, or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance.

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Section 9. INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES:

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Palm
 Beach County Code. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to
 accomplish such, and the word ordinance may be changed to section, article, or other
 appropriate word.

17 Section 10. CAPTIONS:

The captions, section headings, and section designations used in this Ordinance
 are for convenience only and shall have no effect on the interpretation of the provisions
 of this Ordinance.

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Section 11. EFFECTIVE DATE:	
	inance shall become effective upon filing w
Department of State.	
APPROVED and ADOPTE	D by the Board of County Commissioners of
Beach County, Florida, on this the	day of, 20
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER
By: Deputy Clerk	By:
Deputy Clerk	By:Shelley Vana, Chair
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY	
By: Malant title	د
Assistant County Attorney	
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