

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes _____ No X

Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.:

Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____ Object _____ Program _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

C. Department Fiscal Review:

_____ *[Signature]*

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

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

January ALPION 5/24/22
Lisa Minter 5/24/22

 OFMB 5/24/22

John J. Lambert 6/11/22

 Contract Development & Control
 5-31-22 TEO

B. Legal Sufficiency:

_____ *[Signature]* 6/1/22
 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

RESOLUTION NO. R2022-_____

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REAUTHORIZE THE CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT OF 2000; SUPPORTING UNITED STATES SENATE BILL 46 AND HOUSE BILL 160, THE RESTORING RESILIENT REEFS ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE CHAIR OF THE UNITED STATES COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION AND TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS REPRESENTING PALM BEACH COUNTY RESIDENTS.

WHEREAS, Florida's Coral Reef runs parallel to the Florida coastline from Monroe County north to Martin County, is a valuable national resource that protects our shores and beaches by reducing wave energy from storms and hurricanes, and provides a vital marine habitat for over 6,000 species; and

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration suggests that coral reefs in Southeast Florida have an asset value of \$8.5 billion, generating \$4.4 billion in local sales, \$2 billion in local income, and 70,400 full and part-time jobs; and

WHEREAS, this habitat is essential to Palm Beach County's tourism, diving, and fishing industries, with snorkeling and diving in Palm Beach County generating \$202 million annually and recreational reef fishing in Palm Beach County generating \$80 million annually; and

WHEREAS, coral reefs dissipate wave energy offshore before waves flood coastal communities, and the U.S. Geological Survey estimates that with a one-meter loss in reef height, the 100-year floodplain would increase across Florida by 20 km², imperiling 24,000 more people and \$2.9 billion in property and economic activity; and

WHEREAS, protection of Florida's Coral Reef is essential for ensuring the continued protection of our shorelines, coastal economies, coastal food sources, and biomedical opportunities that are a direct result of our coral reefs; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that coastal ocean waters are under great user pressure and suffer from water quality degradation that has compromised the resiliency of Florida's Coral Reef; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the six major coral bleaching events that have impacted Florida reefs since 1987, a novel coral disease discovered in 2014 has killed millions of reef-building corals in Florida and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative, multiagency, emergency response team of experts is essential to address and protect the future of our coral reefs; and

WHEREAS, the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration Coral Reef Conservation Program was established in 2000 by the Coral Reef Conservation Act to protect, conserve, and restore the nation's coral reefs by maintaining healthy ecosystem function; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 46 and House Bill 160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act of 2021, would revive and modernize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 18 years after its expiration; and

WHEREAS, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act of 2021 would provide a five-year authorization for federal funding, statutory authority for the US Coral Reef Task Force to lead, coordinate, and strengthen federal government actions to preserve and restore coral reef systems, and direct a portion of the federal funding and technical assistance to states and impacted communities so they can help drive priorities and management of coral reef ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 46 and House Bill 160 specifically strengthen the federal response to coral reef emergencies including disease outbreaks, invasive species, coral bleaching, natural disasters, vessel groundings, hazardous spills, and coastal construction accidents; and

WHEREAS, the Senate and House bills are sponsored by Florida Senator Marco Rubio and Florida Representative Darren Soto, respectively; and

WHEREAS, support for S. 46 and H.R. 160 is consistent with Palm Beach County's long history of championing protections for marine and estuarine environment; and

WHEREAS, this resolution mirrors a 2019 Resolution (R2019-1781) to support the near identical Restoring Resilient Reefs Act of 2019 which passed the Senate in 2020, but stalled in the House of Representatives.

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

Section 1: The foregoing recitals are hereby adopted and ratified herein.

Section 2: Palm Beach County urges the United States Congress to pass

Senate Bill 46 and House Bill 160, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act of 2021, and reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000.

Section 3: The Board of County Commissioners hereby directs the Office of Legislative Affairs to transmit copies of this Resolution to Sen. Marco Rubio, Sen. Rick Scott, U.S. Rep. Darren Soto, and to the other members of the Palm Beach County Delegation.

Section 4: The Board of County Commissioners hereby directs the County's federal lobby team to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in section 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Legislative Affairs to amend the 2022 Federal Legislative Agenda to include this item.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Robert S. Weinroth, Mayor	_____
Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss, Vice Mayor	_____
Commissioner Maria G. Marino	_____
Commissioner Dave Kerner	_____
Commissioner Maria Sachs	_____
Commissioner Melissa McKinlay	_____
Commissioner Mack Bernard	_____

The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2022.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JOSEPH ABRUZZO
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

By _____
Scott A. Stone Date
Assistant County Attorney

By _____
Deputy Clerk Date