

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION JOINING THE BISCAYNE BAY COALITION IN SUPPORT OF ITS PROTECTION FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RESIDENTS AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF OUR TOURISM ECONOMY

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay is a part of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay is designated as a national park and protects 172,000 acres of submerged lands; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay is protected as an aquatic preserve and protects 70,000 acres of submerged lands; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay spans the entire coast of Miami-Dade County and is an iconic part of the view-scape of Miami and the Beaches; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay supports the economy of Miami-Dade County and surrounding areas through tourism and the Port of Miami for business; and

WHEREAS, the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve and Biscayne National Park are the nursery grounds for commercial and recreational fisheries vital to Miami-Dade's economy; and

WHEREAS, the water quality of Biscayne Bay is essential for human health and safety and the health of the environment; and

WHEREAS, natural fresh water flows into Biscayne Bay have been severely diminished due to impacts from sprawl and alterations to historic Everglades flow patterns; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay is a natural estuary in need of ongoing monitoring and restoration; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay supports endangered and threatened species; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay and its coastal wetlands play a vital role in the Atlantic flyway serving as a migratory pathway for wildlife and is globally important.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY \_\_\_\_\_, that:**

**Section 1.** The forgoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption.

**Section 2.** The \_\_\_\_\_ support(s) the restoration of Biscayne Bay as part of the Greater Everglades with the completion of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (BBCW) Project under Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP).

**Section 3.** The \_\_\_\_\_ support(s) the adoption of a state rule to protect the current flow of surface and ground water into Biscayne Bay.

**Section 4.** The \_\_\_\_\_ support(s) the efforts of the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EEL) and the Florida Forever Program to purchase adjacent coastal wetlands needed for the BBCW Project and recharge of Miami-Dade's aquifer.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.