

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, DEMANDING THAT THE CITY OF MIAMI PORT AUTHORITY SCREEN AND TEST EVERY PASSENGER THAT DISEMBARKS FROM ANY CRUISE SHIPS IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY ANY INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE THE NOVEL CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 (“COVID-19”).

WHEREAS, corona virus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the rapidly spreading coronavirus outbreak a pandemic, acknowledging what has seemed clear for some time — the virus will likely spread to all countries on the globe; and

WHEREAS, 142 positive cases of COVID-19 were confirmed among Florida residents as of March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to take immediate action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled, and that residents and visitors in South Florida remain safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, currently, passengers arriving to the City of Miami via cruise ships are not being screened for COVID-19 prior to disembarking; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, 3,877 passengers were permitted to disembark a cruise ship in PortMiami without undergoing any medical screening just days after a passenger who had been on board tested positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these passengers proceeded to travel through the Miami International Airport for their return flights home; and

WHEREAS, the lack of screening procedures for COVID-19 in PortMiami is a sharp contrast to the protocol in California, where a former passenger of the Grand Princess cruise ship tested positive for COVID-19 in early March after disembarking; and

WHEREAS, subsequently, California Health Department and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention tested 46 people on board while the ship and thousands of passengers and crew idled off the coast for three days; and

WHEREAS, it is vital and necessary for the PortMiami to implement mandatory screening and testing for COVID-19 and ensure that all future passengers disembarking cruise ships will not further spread COVID-19 throughout South Florida and the rest of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby demand that the City of Miami Port Authority screen and test every passenger that disembarks from any cruise ships in order to identify any individuals that have the novel corona virus disease 2019 ("COVID-19").

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of March, 2020.

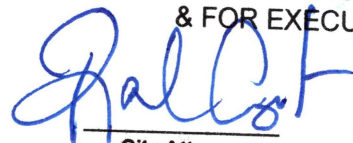
ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Michael Gongora)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

3-17-2020

Date