

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND MR. RONALD L. BOOK, P.A., DATED OCTOBER 29, 2021, PURSUANT TO RFQ NO. 2021-136-WG FOR STATE LEGISLATIVE CONSULTING SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TERMINATE THE CONTRACT FOR CONVENIENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 5.2 THEREOF; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ISSUE A COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION FOR A NEW STATE LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANT.

WHEREAS, in 2021, the City issued Request for Qualifications (No. 2021-136-WG) for State Legislative Consulting Services, in order to retain a state lobbyist to represent the City and its interests at the state level; and

WHEREAS, on October 29, 2021, the City and Mr. Ronald L. Book, P.A. ("State Lobbyist") entered into a Professional Services Agreement (the "Agreement") for State Legislative Consulting Services for an initial term of two (2) years, with two (2) additional one (1) year renewal options, to be exercised at the City Manager's sole option and discretion; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.2 of the Agreement provides the City, at its discretion, with the ability to terminate the contract for its convenience at any time during the term of the Agreement, upon 15 days written notice to the State Lobbyist; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Code Section 2-485 and the Miami-Dade County Code of Ethics Section 2-11.1(s)(2)(f), any person who is retained as a lobbyist by the City is prohibited from lobbying before the City during the term of the lobbyist's contract; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, it appears that the State Lobbyist filed a lobbyist registration form with the City Clerk on behalf of a real estate developer on a pending referendum matter; and

WHEREAS, the State Lobbyist also serves as the Chair of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, an entity with which the City has significant contractual relationships, including an ongoing negotiation involving a City contribution of up to \$2 million for the acquisition or renovation of housing for homeless persons; and

WHEREAS, in view of these relationships, the City desires to terminate the existing Agreement, to avoid any perception that the State Lobbyist's representation of the City in Tallahassee is in any way connected to, or dependent upon, City's actions or

approvals with respect to other entities that are affiliated with the State Lobbyist and have business interests before the City.

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 relating to the contract between the City and Mr. Ronald L. Book, P.A., dated October 29, 2021, pursuant to RFG No. 2021-136-WG for state legislative consulting services; authorize the City Manager to terminate the contract for convenience pursuant to Section 5.2 thereof; and further authorize the City Manager to issue a competitive solicitation for a new state legislative consultant.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this ____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney

5-9-23

Date