

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT LEGISLATION TO REAUTHORIZE THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) AND TO REFORM THE NFIP TO PROVIDE FOR GREATER AFFORDABILITY AND COVERAGE; REWARDS FOR MITIGATION EFFORTS; GREATER TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND OVERSIGHT; IMPROVED RISK MODELING AND PRIVATE INSURANCE OPTIONS, AND GREATER CONSUMER PROTECTION.

WHEREAS, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP or Program) was established in 1968 to require that all residential and commercial properties, that are located in areas at high risk of flooding and that have federally-backed mortgages, carry flood insurance; and

WHEREAS, the NFIP expires on September 30, 2017 unless the United States Congress reauthorizes it. The reauthorization deadline is an opportune moment to reform and improve the Program since it is \$25 billion in debt; and

WHEREAS, any potential change to the NFIP has significant impacts for the City of Miami Beach because 93% of the buildings in Miami Beach are located in FEMA's Special Flood Hazard Area, which means insurance is required for buildings with federally-backed mortgages; 84% of residents and business on Miami Beach carry flood insurance policies under the NFIP; and 64% of NFIP policies are held by buildings that are Pre-FIRM, meaning they were constructed before the first FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) in 1972. Most Pre-FIRM buildings on Miami Beach are lower than FEMA Base Flood Elevation, thus, the cost of insurance is high and expected to increase significantly under the NFIP; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach has taken significant action to protect its residents, businesses, visitors, and property owners from the effects of sea level rise and flooding, including the implementation of a \$500,000 pump system throughout the City which is in the process of completion, the raising of streets, and the adoption of ordinances requiring increased minimum building evaluations for new construction; and

WHEREAS, based upon its particular vulnerability to the constant and global effects of sea level rise, the City of Miami Beach is taking strong positions on: greater affordability and coverage for flood insurance; rewards for community mitigation efforts; transparency, accountability, and greater oversight of the NFIP; improved risk modeling; private insurance options; and consumer protection; and

WHEREAS, the City supports a long-term NFIP reauthorization that reduces premium costs, increases coverage, and incentivizes mitigation efforts, and further supports a flood insurance program that provides access to quality insurance and mitigation funds for all communities regardless of NFIP risk category; and

WHEREAS, the City's position on these various aspects of the NFIP are more fully set forth in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

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 urge the United States Congress to adopt legislation to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and to reform the NFIP to provide for greater affordability and coverage; rewards for mitigation efforts; greater transparency, accountability, and oversight; and, improved risk modeling, private insurance options, and greater consumer protection.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of September, 2017.

ATTEST:

Philip Levine, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney
DT

9/6/17

Date