

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO APPROVE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT AND PROVIDE EXPANDED FEDERAL FUNDING AND GRANT PROGRAMS FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION OF CORAL REEFS; DIRECTING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS REPRESENTING BROWARD COUNTY RESIDENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, 16 U.S.C. Section 6401 *et seq.* (the "Act"), was designed to improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's ability to study coral reefs and to mitigate reef damage and decay; and

WHEREAS, the Act currently requires reauthorization, and reauthorization has been proposed in the United States Congress. The reauthorized Act would provide additional federal funding and grant programs for necessary studies and conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, our South Florida coral reef system is a major economic engine creating thousands of jobs, and is the ecosystem for thousands of native species of marine life; and

WHEREAS, the reef is currently afflicted by an unknown disease, and suffers from natural and human-made damage; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorized Act would provide funding for research and solutions that can help protect this reef—and others like it around the world—for generations to come; and

1 WHEREAS, with the Florida Legislature passing SB 232 and HB 53 establishing
2 the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area, major progress has
3 been made on protecting coral reefs at the state level; and

4 WHEREAS, Congress passing the reauthorized Act would both continue and build
5 upon this progress; and

6 WHEREAS, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (the "Board")
7 wishes to urge the United States Congress to reauthorize the Act and provide vital funding
8 for the above-specified purposes, NOW, THEREFORE,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
11 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

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13 Section 1. The recitals set forth in the preamble to this Resolution are
14 incorporated by reference herein.

15 Section 2. The Board hereby urges the United States Congress to pass the
16 reauthorized Act, thereby providing necessary funding for studies, conservation efforts,
17 and other actions to protect the South Florida coral reef and other endangered reefs.

18 Section 3. The Board hereby directs the County Administrator to transmit a copy
19 of this Resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United
20 States House of Representatives, and all members of Congress representing Broward
21 County residents.

22 Section 4. SEVERABILITY

23 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any Court to be invalid, the invalid
24 portion shall be stricken, and such striking shall not affect the validity of the remainder of

