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RESOLUTION NO. 2018-

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RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF COUNTY THE 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 **UNITED** THE STATES SENATE. OF THE UNITED STATES SPEAKER HOUSE 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

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

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

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

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

- Section 1. The recitals set forth in the preamble to this Resolution are incorporated by reference herein.
- Section 2. The Board hereby urges the United States Congress to pass the reauthorized Act, thereby providing necessary funding for studies, conservation efforts, and other actions to protect the South Florida coral reef and other endangered reefs.
- Section 3. The Board hereby directs 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.

Section 4. SEVERABILITY

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

1	this Resolution. If any Court determines that this Resolution, or any portion hereof, cannot
2	be legally applied to any individual(s), group(s), entity(ies), property(ies), or
3	circumstance(s), such determination shall not affect the applicability hereof to any other
4	individual group, entity, property, or circumstance.
5	Section 5. <u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
6	This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.
7	ADODTED this doubt
8	ADOPTED this day of , 2018.
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10	Approved as to form and legal sufficiency: Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney
11	Dr. /s / Anguala E Daniansin 00/00/40
12	By <u>/s/ Angela F. Benjamin 03/08/18</u> Angela F. Benjamin (date)
13	Senior Assistant County Attorney
14	Pv /o/ Androw / Movoro 02/09/19
15	By <u>/s/ Andrew J. Meyers 03/08/18</u> Andrew J. Meyers (date)
16	County Attorney
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22	AJM/AFB/gf
23	Coral Reef Act Resolution 03/08/18
24	18-026.06