

## Resolution 2009-437

1  
2 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
3 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
4 SUPPORTING CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION THAT  
5 ESTABLISHES A SYSTEM OF CAP-AND-TRADE,  
6 RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY STANDARDS, MITIGATION  
7 AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES, AND DIRECT FUNDING  
8 FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT; URGING THE UNITED  
9 STATES CONGRESS TO APPROVE COMPREHENSIVE  
10 CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION CONSISTENT WITH  
11 THE GOALS OF THE AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND  
12 SECURITY ACT OF 2009; AND PROVIDING FOR AN  
13 EFFECTIVE DATE.

14 WHEREAS, it is a consensus of the world's leading scientists that climate  
15 change/global warming caused by human emission of greenhouse gases ("GHG") is  
16 among the most significant problems facing the world today; and

17 WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ("IPCC") reported  
18 in 2007 that evidence of global warming is already affecting our planet and is  
19 "unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air  
20 and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising sea level"; and

21 WHEREAS, since the 2007 IPCC Report was published, even more compelling  
22 research and evidence in climate change science demonstrates that the consequences  
23 of climate change are occurring at a faster pace and at a greater magnitude than the  
24 IPCC models projected; and

WHEREAS, most recent scientific studies indicate that due to anticipated  
changes in ocean circulation and other factors, future changes in sea level rise will have  
a greater effect on the heavily populated areas of the eastern coast of the United  
States, leading to high vulnerability for low-lying Florida; and

1           WHEREAS, due to Florida's 1,350 miles of low-lying coastline, Florida is  
2 recognized to be one of the most vulnerable states in the country to the impacts of  
3 climate change, especially sea level rise; and

4           WHEREAS, Southeast Florida, including Broward County, is considered to be at  
5 the forefront to experience the impacts of sea level rise on our beaches, coral reefs,  
6 everglades and other environmentally sensitive resources that sustain our environment  
7 and economy; and

8           WHEREAS, recognizing the need for urgent action, the Board of County  
9 Commissioners of Broward County has committed to reducing GHG emissions and  
10 launched a Broward Climate Change Task Force initiative to develop a regional Climate  
11 Change Program; and

12           WHEREAS, in an effort to influence state and federal climate change legislation,  
13 the Board of County Commissioners of Broward County has adopted legislative policies,  
14 proposals, and resolutions, which include support for the Waxman Principles and the  
15 Safe Climate Act designed to reduce GHG emissions; the "Cool Counties Initiative" that  
16 supports GHG reductions to 80% below current levels by 2050, and Renewable Energy  
17 Payments, as part of a renewable energy program; and

18           WHEREAS, an economy-wide Cap-and-Trade system is an approach to  
19 achieving GHG reductions through establishing a "cap," or a legal limit placed on the  
20 amount of GHG emissions permitted by covered entities, and "trade," a system where  
21 emitters can buy or sell credits established through permits; and

22           WHEREAS, revenue from the Cap-and-Trade permits could be "recycled" back  
23 into the economy to facilitate the transition to an efficient, low-carbon economy and to  
24 ensure that consumers are not burdened by potentially higher energy costs; and

1           WHEREAS, the 111<sup>th</sup> United States Congress is currently considering the  
2 American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 and comprehensive climate change  
3 legislation. Title III of the Act includes the Safe Climate Act that provides for a Cap-and-  
4 Trade Program, calls for an 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050, and establishes  
5 by a specific date a Renewable Electricity Standard for the amount of electricity that  
6 must be produced from renewable energy sources defined as wind, solar, geothermal,  
7 biomass, landfill gas, qualified hydropower, and marine and hydrokinetic energy; and

8           WHEREAS, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 also provides  
9 for a National Climate Change Adaptation Program that requires a National Climate  
10 Change Vulnerability Assessment, and support for local governments to assess  
11 vulnerability to climate change impacts, and to develop and implement strategies to  
12 reduce such vulnerability; and

13           WHEREAS, legislation under consideration by Congress is consistent with, and  
14 furthers, the climate change policies of the Board of County Commissioners of Broward  
15 County, provides a comprehensive approach to mitigate for and adapt to the impacts of  
16 climate change, and recognizes the critical need for adaptation programs for the most  
17 vulnerable regions and natural resources; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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22           Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Broward County supports  
23 legislation that establishes a system of Cap-and-Trade as an effective strategy to  
24 reduce GHG emissions.

1 Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners of Broward County supports  
2 legislation that establishes a Renewable Electricity Standard to reduce GHG emissions  
3 and to encourage the development of renewable energy technology.

4 Section 3. The Board of County Commissioners of Broward County supports  
5 legislation that provides for strategies to mitigate for and adapt to the impacts of climate  
6 change.

7 Section 4. The Board of County Commissioners of Broward County urges the  
8 United States Congress to adopt comprehensive climate change legislation consistent  
9 with the goals of the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 that includes a  
10 Cap-and-Trade system, a Renewable Electricity Standard, programs that provide for the  
11 implementation and development of strategies to mitigate for and adapt to the impacts  
12 of climate change, and direct funding for local governments.

13 Section 5. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Florida Delegation of  
14 the United States Congress, the Office of the Governor of Florida, and the Florida  
15 Energy Climate Commission.

16 Section 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

17 This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

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19 ADOPTED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day June , 2009. #49

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22 MCO/bjl  
23 06/15/09  
24 CapTradeReso.doc  
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