



News Release

County Commissioners Consider Resolution Regarding Iguana Rules and Regulations

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Broward County Commissioners will consider supporting efforts to control the green iguana population in Broward County and South Florida.

The Animal Rights Foundation of Florida asked the Commission to sign a resolution that would encourage the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to officially designate iguanas as "Reptiles of Concern" and enact rules and regulations that govern the possession, distribution and release of green iguanas. Palm Beach and Monroe counties have recently passed similar resolutions.

"This is about protecting plant life and communities that have complained about iguana overpopulations," said Mayor Lois Wexler.

Reptiles listed as "Reptiles of Concern" require a \$100 permit when purchased. Reptiles falling under that category must also be micro-chipped for identification purposes.

"What I particularly like about this is the micro-chipping because that allows them to identify who the owner was," said Broward County Commissioner Ilene Lieberman. "It's very frustrating to me that there are people who take these animals into their home and then their solution is to just let them go free and create problems for other individuals."

According to the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida, iguanas can currently be purchased at pet stores for about \$10 and are often released into the wild when owners lack the knowledge or resources to properly care for them.

The Commission asked that the County Attorney draft a resolution for the Board to consider at a future meeting within thirty to sixty days.

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