RESOLUTION NO. 2019-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ENCOURAGING THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO SET MEANINGFUL ENERGY EFFICIENCY GOALS, INCLUDING A SPECIFIC PERCENTAGE GOAL, AND TO REQUIRE UTILITIES TO SHARE ENERGY CONSUMPTION DATA WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Broward County Climate Change Action Plan aims for a county-wide reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 80 percent below 2005 levels by the year 2050; and

WHEREAS, energy use within the built environment, consisting of residential and commercial buildings, is a significant contributor to county-wide GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, energy conservation and efficiency programs and policies that promote behavioral and operational changes by residents and building owners can significantly reduce energy demand from the built environment; and

WHEREAS, the positively efforts undertaken by utilities and building owners in Florida to expand renewable energy installations will be even more effective in meeting electricity demand if that demand is reduced through energy conservation and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is a low-cost resource that helps residential and commercial building owners use less energy, save money on bills, and reduces GHG emissions, while providing additional economic and societal benefits including local job creation and economic growth; and
WHEREAS, Florida’s largest utilities trail other large utilities in the Southeast and throughout the nation in delivering energy savings to customers. As a percentage of annual electricity sales in 2017, Florida had the second-worst performance in the Southeast region. In the same year, the national average was five times higher than Florida, and efficiency savings in California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont were 15-25 times higher; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (FEECA) proceedings present a once-in-every-five-year opportunity to reset and improve the energy conservation goals for the state’s largest utilities. FEECA emphasizes reducing the growth rates of weather-sensitive peak demand and reducing and controlling the growth rates of electricity consumption. The Florida Public Service Commission is charged with setting appropriate goals for each of the seven electric utilities subject to FEECA; and

WHEREAS, improved conservation goals will generally lead to more robust energy efficiency programs and options directed at residential and commercial customers, providing both economic and environmental benefits.

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

Section 1. Broward County urges the Florida Public Service Commission to set meaningful energy efficiency goals during the current Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act proceeding in order to put Broward County and the State of Florida on a path to significant environmental and economic energy efficiency benefits.
Section 2. The meaningful energy efficiency goals should include an annual goal for energy savings by utilities equaling or exceeding 0.29 percent of the previous year’s electricity sales in kilowatt-hours, which is the average annual energy savings rate for utilities in the southeastern United States.

Section 3. Broward County further urges the PSC, as part of the FEECA proceeding, to require Florida electric utilities to share anonymized energy consumption data at the census block level with local governments to allow cities and counties to effectively design and implement their own energy-efficiency programs for residents and businesses.

Section 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this ______ day , 2019.

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By /s/ ______ DATE XXXX (date)
XXX XXX County Attorney