



FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

118TH CONGRESS

ADOPTED DECEMBER 6, 2022

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BROWARD COUNTY FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

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I. FEDERAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

BROWARD COUNTY FEDERAL PRINCIPLES

- Maximize leverage of federal funding for local programs.
- Increase flexibility for Broward County.
- Lessen the impact of adverse federal policies on Broward County's budget and decision-making authority.

BROWARD COUNTY GUIDING FEDERAL POLICIES

SUPPORT proposals that would provide a greater share of total available federal funding to Broward County, and **OPPOSE** proposals, which would reduce the County's share of total funding.

SUPPORT proposals that would provide local governments with greater decision-making authority over the use of federal funds, which provide for direct grants or mandatory pass-through allocations to large urban counties.

OPPOSE proposals that impose new unfunded mandates on the County.

OPPOSE proposals that would finance increased spending for one program by cutting other programs of greater benefit to the County, or which would result in a net revenue loss or a cost-shift to the County.

SUPPORT proposals to reduce or relax local match requirements that hinder the ability of local governments to receive or use federal funds.

OPPOSE federal preemption of local government authority.

SUPPORT continued appropriations policies that allow Community Project Funding (CFP) requests to receive direct federal funding for local initiatives.

SUPPORT the priorities of the National Association of Counties (NACo), except where this Federal Legislative and Executive Program may differ from NACo's priorities.

II. DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Broward County **SUPPORTS** all opportunities to apply for federal grants that can leverage local investments in public infrastructure, human services, the environment, and all other aspects of county government. The following are a list of grants, which the County recommends Congress maintain level or increased funding:

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

SUPPORT funding for the FEMA Port Security Grant Program. Additionally, **SUPPORT** the permanent elimination of cost-share requirements for the FEMA Port Security Grant Programs.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BUS RAPID TRANSIT

SUPPORT U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) grant funds that would allow Broward County Transit to establish and operate Bus Rapid Transit corridors and expand the use of zero-emission buses. Also, **SUPPORT** existing state of good repair formula grants to increase funding for aging vehicles and infrastructure.

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS GRANT PROGRAM

SUPPORT increased funding for the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program including New Starts, Small Starts and Core Capacity Improvements. This is Federal Transit Administration's primary grant program for funding major transit capital investments, including heavy rail, commuter rail, light rail, streetcars, and bus rapid transit.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

SUPPORT new discretionary grant programs or the growth of existing programs for local governments to help communities compete for opportunities to improve their local transportation programs.

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR REBUILDING AMERICA (INFRA) GRANT PROGRAM

SUPPORT the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant Program, which provides dedicated, discretionary funding for projects that address critical issues facing our nation's highways and bridges.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT ASSISTANCE (MEGA) GRANT PROGRAM

SUPPORT the National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) Grant Program to fund major projects that are traditionally too large or complex for existing funding programs.

PORT EVERGLADES

SUPPORT modernizing and upgrading port and intermodal infrastructure using the \$27 billion that ports would be eligible to apply to, including \$12.5 billion for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants, \$3.2 billion for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) Grants, \$5 billion for National Infrastructure Project Assistance Program (MEGA), and \$1.4 billion for Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grants.

PORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PIDP) GRANT

SUPPORT Port Everglades applications for dedicated port-specific grants associated with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) including the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) \$2.25B, and the MARAD America's Marine Highway Program (AMHP) \$25 million. Additionally, **SUPPORT** \$400 million for Port Truck Idling Programs for the reduction of truck emissions at Ports.

REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) GRANTS

SUPPORT funding for the competitive Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program. Also, **SUPPORT** new discretionary grant programs or the growth of existing programs for local governments to help communities compete for opportunities to improve their local transportation programs.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

SUPPORT funding for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program to assist local governments improve forensic science and medical examiner services.

STRENGTHENING THE MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER SYSTEM PROGRAM GRANT

SUPPORT funding for the Strengthening the Medical Examiner-Coroner System Program Grant that supports a forensic pathology fellowship in Broward County.

U.S. HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC GRANTS

SUPPORT increased funding for the Ending the HIV Epidemic grants to allow broader programs to address HIV in their communities.

RYAN WHITE GRANT PROGRAM

SUPPORT the consolidation of the Ryan White grant application process into a multi-year award process for all funding including formula, Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) and supplemental.

SUPPORT increased funding for all Ryan White Parts (Parts A-D, F, and Housing People with AIDS) to fund core, supportive housing services that are effective in promoting viral suppression and the overall health of people living with HIV. This includes modifying current funding methodologies to account for patient migration and to ensure that communities with the greatest need are funded in a manner that addresses disparities, particularly in the Southern United States where the burden of HIV is highest.

SUPPORT the alignment of federal applications for HIV programs to include concurrent priorities, activities, and outcomes to accomplish Ending the Epidemic: A Plan for America. **SUPPORT** proposals that would increase the County's share of available Ryan White funding and preservation of direct Ryan White grants to heavily impacted areas, such as the County.

SUPPORT proposals to revise Ryan White, which would allow funds to be used to provide a more comprehensive, integrated continuum of care and services, which would increase local flexibility in using funds to address local needs and priorities. **SUPPORT** proposals which would amend Ryan White to increase the availability of and access to routine HIV screening and HIV/AIDS care, treatment, prevention, research, and education programs.

III. FEDERAL PRIORITIES BY DEPARTMENT

ARTS, CULTURE AND LIBRARIES

EBOOKS PRICING MODELS AND ACCESS

SUPPORT proposals that mandate all published works must be available for libraries to purchase and lend to library users. **SUPPORT** proposals that ensure libraries can continue to purchase and lend eBooks and digital content at pricing models that are reasonable and flexible. **SUPPORT** equitable access to and use of eBooks and digital content.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL EDUCATION

SUPPORT increased federal funding for arts education research and for cultural and educational agencies, including museums, which promote and sustain the arts, arts education, the humanities, and the sciences, such as the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING

SUPPORT increased funding for public libraries.

JUDICIARY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

FEDERAL COURTHOUSE

SUPPORT supplemental funding for the construction of a new federal courthouse in Broward County.

HOLOCAUST INSURANCE ACCOUNTABILITY

SUPPORT legislation that would empower Holocaust survivors to seek redress through the American legal system, to retrieve the amount they or their families are rightfully owed, and to hold accountable insurance companies unjustly enriched by failing to honor policies they sold to Holocaust survivors. Additionally, **SUPPORT** efforts to seek justice for the many Holocaust survivors and their heirs whose families were torn apart by the Nazi regime.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

SUPPORT legislation that requires law enforcement to collect data on all investigatory activities. Additionally, **SUPPORT** legislation that requires uniformed police officers to wear body cameras. Also, **SUPPORT** legislation that requires marked federal police vehicles to have dashboard cameras.

PROHIBITED DISCRIMINATION

SUPPORT legislation prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation in employment, housing, and public accommodations.

PUBLIC SAFETY INNOVATION GRANTS

SUPPORT proposals to establish public safety innovation grants for community-based organizations to create local commissions and task forces to help communities re-imagine and develop concrete, just and equitable public safety approaches. These local commissions would operate like President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

SUPPORT increased funding for public safety programs that provide community-based interventions for juveniles and adults who commit non-violent misdemeanor offenses. Additionally, **SUPPORT** increased funding for youth mentoring initiatives.

RACIAL EQUITY & DIVERSITY TRAINING

SUPPORT policies aimed at denouncing white supremacy. The Board also **SUPPORTS** legislation prohibiting law enforcement agencies from engaging in or tolerating police brutality. The Board **SUPPORTS** proposals that mandate racial equity and diversity training in the workplace to ensure everyone in the workplace is respected and treated appropriately regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

WELCOMING JURISDICTIONS

OPPOSE legislation, or executive branch agency administrative actions seeking to penalize and deny to states and local governments federal grant funds, because they are welcoming communities for foreign visitors and immigrants, regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, or disability.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HURRICANE RELIEF REIMBURSEMENT

SUPPORT expedited funding relief efforts to industries and individuals affected by natural disasters. The Board encourages FEMA to continue to work collaboratively with local applicants in the reimbursement process by ensuring that there are realistic timeframes established for gathering documentation and continuing the deployment of the new program delivery model as a support to local applicants.

RECOVERY & PREPAREDNESS

SUPPORT increased investment in mitigation programs such as the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and other partnerships between local and federal governments to complete mitigation projects and increase resiliency to disasters. **SUPPORT** measures that ensure any supplemental disaster recovery assistance appropriated by Congress, including Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR), is expedited to states to be made available to disaster-impacted counties. **OPPOSE** programmatic changes that would increase the local cost share for disaster recovery, such as implementation of a disaster deductible.

SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION

SUPPORT proposals that reauthorize and expand the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center's (NTAC) ability to conduct additional research and training to prevent targeted violence through the development of best practices and standardization across all levels of government.

SUPPORT the establishment of a national program to target school violence prevention. This involves providing funding to hire additional personnel to expand NTAC's research and training on targeted school violence nationwide.

SUPPORT funding for innovative community-based violence prevention alternatives to support school-based violence prevention efforts.

FORT LAUDERDALE-HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

SUPPORT the continued funding of the Airport Improvement Program at no less than \$3.35 billion to maintain infrastructure development for airports.

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWERS

SUPPORT continued funding that protects and maintains the contract tower program in its entirety for the nation's airports.

PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGES (PFC)

SUPPORT legislation modernizing the PFC fee to allow airports to determine the appropriate charge based on local infrastructure needs as it relates to safety, security, and capacity.

INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE

SUPPORT proposals that provide funding for infrastructure projects to invest and meet future capacity needs for airports.

PER-AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) REGULATION LIABILITY

SUPPORT proposals that would exempt airport liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in legislation that would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate PFAS, subject to qualifications for this exemption that address risk to human health or the environment, e.g., no impacts to off-site properties or drinking water supply wells. **OPPOSE** preemption of state or local regulation to address PFAS contamination.

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) STAFFING

SUPPORT hiring and training of additional CBP officers for deployment at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) to meet demand for CBP services relative to international air traffic, as well as the continued deployment of innovative technologies and procedures for efficient processing and to minimize passenger wait times.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SUPPORT an increase in funding for the National Housing Trust Fund to build and preserve affordable housing for persons with extremely low incomes (ELI), including veterans, seniors, individuals with disabilities or special needs, and persons experiencing homelessness. In addition, the Board **SUPPORTS** legislation to lift or increase the present 4 percent and 9 percent cap on Housing Tax Credits to provide a direct allocation of tax credit/bond resources to Local Housing Finance Authorities.

SUPPORT programs and initiatives providing community development, economic development, and housing for low- and moderate-income persons to improve their living conditions and the economic health and infrastructure of their communities. **SUPPORT** proposals, tax incentives, and funding which would increase home ownership and rental housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families and increase the supply of affordable housing.

BROADBAND FOR HOUSEHOLDS AND BUSINESSES

SUPPORT policies and funding that improve access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet to every household and business throughout the county and the state.

BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT

SUPPORT proposals that would increase resources available to local jurisdictions to clean up and redevelop brownfields.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

SUPPORT increased federal funding for the CDBG program. The CDBG is an entitlement program that provides grants on a formula basis to local governments to address a variety of community development needs.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HOME)

SUPPORT the restoration of \$1.25 billion for the HOME Program to assist states and local governments provide affordable housing for low-income families. This request includes support for increased funding for public housing, the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program, including rental assistance, public housing operating and capital funds, and overall Housing Authority resources.

HOUSING SERVICES FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

SUPPORT proposals that provide additional resources for meeting the housing and related supportive service needs of special populations, such as the elderly, disabled, trafficking victims, veterans, domestic violence survivors, LGBTQ youth, persons with substance use disorders, and mentally ill persons.

HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS

SUPPORT continued appropriations to facilitate and streamline access to the most appropriate and cost-effective public and private long-term services for older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers.

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

SUPPORT health insurance coverage for ASD, in parity with other chronic medical conditions receiving insurance coverage, to ensure children diagnosed with ASD can access available medical services, treatments, and therapies.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS

SUPPORT increased funding for Child Advocacy Centers to enhance child abuse investigations to include a trauma informed multi-disciplinary response to child victims.

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

SUPPORT increased funding for licensing and monitoring of childcare facilities as well as subsidized childcare services for parents and professional development opportunities for childcare workers.

CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (CHIP)

SUPPORT proposals that would expand Medicaid, CHIP, and health insurance coverage to more persons, such as the uninsured, persons in state or local detention facilities, and minors whose health needs, otherwise, must be met by the County.

SUPPORT proposals that would provide states with greater flexibility over the use of CHIP funds, expand the scope of covered services, and use community-based delivery systems without requiring federally approved waivers.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)

SUPPORT increased funding for the CSBG that mitigates the root causes of poverty. Additionally, **SUPPORT** an increased amount of household income a family can earn and still be eligible for services (i.e., Increase from 125% of federal poverty line to 200% of federal poverty line) and a regional adjustment of eligibility based on cost of living in a geographic area.

HOMELESSNESS

SUPPORT a minimum of \$3 billion for the Housing and Urban Development (HUD’s) McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants program, and request funding of \$1 billion for the National Affordable Housing Trust to maintain new permanent supportive housing.

SUPPORT increased funding for the HUD Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Programs; and Homeless Programs within the Departments of Health and Human Services, HUD, Justice, Veterans Affairs, Education, and Labor.

SUPPORT an increase in funding for the Home Ownership Program to expand aid for vulnerable populations including those experiencing homelessness, the elderly and persons living with disabilities.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SUPPORT increased funding for the provision of effective and comprehensive services to victims of human trafficking in addition to developing and enhancing a collaborative response to victims.

LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

SUPPORT an increase in the administrative cap of LIHEAP to be in line with CSBG (an increase from 8.5% to 15%) to allow for additional staff to process large volumes of applications received annually.

MEDICAID

SUPPORT increasing the percentage the federal government reimburses states for Medicaid expenditures through the Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP), based on a sliding scale, so that states with lower personal incomes will have higher FMAPs.

SUPPORT proposals that use Intergovernmental Transfers (IGTs) to draw down additional federal funding without supplanting the state’s share with local funds that have been certified to be federally matched.

SUPPORT proposals that maintain the federal-state-local structure for financing and delivering Medicaid services and efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policies and operations.

SUPPORT federal investments and strategies that focus on serving those most in need, address the root causes of poverty, and maintain the maximum amount of efficiency and flexibility possible at the local level.

SUPPORT critical mandatory and optional services such as the Medically Needy program.

SUPPORT Medicaid coverage for dual eligible clients (Medicare/Medicaid).

SUPPORT waivers from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to allow state and local governments to explore the purchase of Canadian pharmaceuticals to reduce costs.

SUPPORT enhanced covered Medicaid services, which include expanded dental benefits for eligible adults.

OPPOSE any measure that would further shift federal and state Medicaid costs to counties – including cuts, funding or service caps, block grants and new limits on counties’ ability to raise the non-federal match or receive supplemental payments.

OPPOSE any efforts to impose work requirements as eligibility criteria for assistance programs such as Medicaid.

MEDICAIDE INMATE EXCLUSION POLICY

SUPPORT legislation that: (a) amends federal law to prohibit states from terminating eligibility of federal health care benefits, including those benefits awarded to Veterans and children, for non-convicted justice-involved individuals who are inmates of public institutions or residents of Institutes for Mental Disease (IMD) based solely on their status as inmates or residents; and (b) requires states to establish a process under which an inmate or resident of an IMD, who continues to meet all applicable eligibility requirements, is placed in a suspended status so that the state does not claim federal financial participation (FFP) for services the individual receives, but the person remains on the state’s rolls as being eligible for Medicaid; and c) once release or discharge from the facility is anticipated, require states to take necessary steps to ensure that an eligible individual is placed in payment status so that they can begin receiving Medicaid-covered services immediately upon leaving the facility.

MEDICARE

SUPPORT the elimination of the 24-month waiting period for individuals to access Medicare benefits after receiving a disability determination.

SUPPORT the inclusion of prescription drug coverage within the traditional Medicare framework and permanent Medicare funding for medical immunosuppressant and other related drugs.

MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDERS FUNDING

SUPPORT no less than \$563 million for the Community and Mental Health Services (CMHS) Block Grant, and no less than \$1.86 billion for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant.

SUPPORT legislation that allows counties to provide local community-based services for persons with mental illnesses, substance abuse conditions, and people experiencing homelessness.

SUPPORT proposals that enhance the ability of counties to prevent and treat mental illness and substance abuse disorders, including programs and legislation to reduce mental illness in jails and provide appropriate treatment to those in custody, while protecting overall public safety.

SUPPORT the MAT (Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment) Act and similar legislation that would reduce the barriers to Opioid Use Disorder treatment, most specifically by eliminating the DEA waiver and additional burdens on prescribers. These burdensome requirements are not on par with medications prescribed for other chronic conditions.

NATIONAL SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE

SUPPORT Congressional funding that is at or above the level of \$101.6 million in FY 2023 for the implementation of 988. Additionally, **SUPPORT** the passage of legislation that will further strengthen county crisis response infrastructure to make up the \$525,000 shortfall for 2-1-1 Broward’s operation of the 988 suicide/crisis lifeline.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT (OAA)

SUPPORT increased funding to the OAA cost-effective home and community-based services that keep older adults out of more expensive nursing homes and allow older adults to age at home with independence and dignity.

SUPPORT increased funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers to facilitate and streamline access to the most appropriate and cost-effective public and private long-term services and support for older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. Additionally, **SUPPORT** proposals that would increase flexibility over the use of OAA funds.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

SUPPORT reforms to the current immigration system creating an expeditious and fair path to citizenship. The Board also **SUPPORTS** increased border security with defined metrics for success and ensure these measurements are decoupled from the streamlining of the immigration system.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

SUPPORT additional funding for local governments to combat the opioid epidemic.

PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (ACA)

OPPOSE any barriers to accessing care and any attempts to undo the ACA and the availability of affordable plan options on the Marketplace, particularly provisions that expand access to health insurance and public health services funded through the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

SUPPORT retaining the protection from health plans discriminating based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, pregnancy and gender expression or identity or excluding coverage of pre-existing conditions; ensure regulations and guidance include cost-sharing limits and prohibit the removal of medications from formularies mid-year.

PRIMARY CARE SERVICES

SUPPORT increased funding to the Bureau of Primary Health Care to expand the locations and services of preventive and primary care access points through the FQHCs.

RECOVERY RESIDENCES

SUPPORT clarification to the Fair Housing Amendments Act (FHAA) regarding what regulations may be enacted by states and local governments to protect the health, safety, and welfare of sober home residents and the neighborhood areas where sober homes are located.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

SUPPORT increased funding for the provision of effective and comprehensive services to victims of all types of sexual violence and to ensure a trauma-informed response across all disciplines.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

SUPPORT maintaining or increasing funding for SNAP. Additionally, **SUPPORT** proposals that maintain Medicaid, SNAP, and child support enforcement as open-ended entitlement programs. Also, **SUPPORT** proposals that improve coordination and policy alignment between SNAP and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs.

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

SUPPORT legislation which increases annual TANF Block Grant funding levels and state and local flexibility over the use of funds and preserves or increases the current state maintenance-of-effort requirement to ensure that sufficient resources are available to meet the needs of low-income children in the County.

TITLE IIIB SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

SUPPORT proposals that increase Title IIIB Support Services to better meet the increasing demand for cost-effective in-home and community-based services that keep older adults out of more expensive nursing homes. These services include transportation, adult day care, counseling, and emergency alert response systems to age at home with independence and dignity.

TITLE IIIE, NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

SUPPORT proposals that build upon the restoration of funds provided in FY 2018 to address years of funding cuts and erosion. Nationwide, unpaid family caregivers annually provide over \$470 billion in uncompensated care services – an amount that rivals the entire federal Medicaid budget. Increases for this program will prevent billions in additional care costs to taxpayers if loved ones are placed in a more expensive institutional setting.

VETERAN-DIRECTED CARE PROGRAM

SUPPORT proposals that prioritize Veterans with more intensive care needs to preserve their independence and dignity. Broward County receives funds from this program through the Areawide Council on Aging of Broward County, Inc. to serve Broward County Veterans.

SUPPORT increased funding for the Veteran-Directed Care Program to allow Veterans with more intensive care needs to preserve their independence and dignity.

PORT EVERGLADES

PORT EVERGLADES DEEPENING AND WIDENING PROJECT

To proceed with further construction of the Port Everglades Navigation Improvement Program (PENIP) to deepen and widen the federal navigation channel and waterways, the Board **SUPPORTS** sufficient funding for federal navigation projects via the USACE and **SUPPORTS** language in the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to update the certified authorized federal cost of the PENIP to reflect ongoing environmental initiations and changes to the project.

SUPPORT for the full reimbursement of \$4.763 Million from the Construction General Account of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill, which is the remaining amount owed for the federal share of costs associated with widening and deepening the Southport Channel and Turning Notch. The Water Resource Development Act of 2000 authorized reimbursement of \$15,003,000 to Port Everglades for this federal share of the project costs incurred by the non-federal interest in carrying out this project. Past federal appropriations to pay a portion of the necessary costs include FY 2002-\$3 million; FY 2003-\$3 million; FY 2004- \$600,000; FY 2005-\$400,000; FY 2006-\$375,000; FY 2008-\$703,000; FY 2009-\$1,435,000 and FY 2010-\$727,000.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SUPPORTS the full implementation of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 and a competitive and reliable international ocean transportation supply system. The Board **OPPOSES** a proposed declaration of an emergency order mandating shared cargo throughput (dwell time) and availability data. It is unnecessary and detrimental as there is no supply chain emergency with substantial, adverse effects on the competitiveness and reliability of the international transportation supply system.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (USTR)

SUPPORT a delay in raising tariffs on Chinese goods while negotiations continue. Additionally, **SUPPORT** continuing the tariff exemption on ship-to-shore cranes, shipping containers, and container handling equipment.

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT (TIFIA) PROGRAM

SUPPORTS the TIFIA Program as it provides credit assistance for qualified projects of regional and national significance such as intermodal freight and port access projects.

U. S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP)

SUPPORT policies that ensure the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is responsible for fully funding staff, equipment, infrastructure, and technology for maritime and aviation operations to meet the current seaport and airport passenger and cargo demands of international passengers and cargo at PEV and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL). CBP's adequate staffing is a critical component of port and airport operations.

Concurrent with adequate CBP staffing, the Board **SUPPORTS** the sunset or dramatic reduction of the CBP Reimbursable Services Program (559) where Port Everglades and/or port users voluntarily reimburse CBP overtime to allow for an increase in officers for processing arriving international passengers and cargo.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

SUPPORT proposals that treat personnel and other expenses associated with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI) treatment equitably. Additionally, **SUPPORT** their full reimbursement through monitoring fees and expenses using an equitable approach based on actual costs incurred versus the current per-treatment method. The current per-treatment method of cost-recovery renders PEV uncompetitive in the international market. **SUPPORT** funding and construction of an APHIS AQI Station at PEV.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

NOAA collects and distributes observations and predictions of water levels and currents to ensure safe, efficient, and environmentally sound maritime commerce. U.S. coastal cities and ports paid for the capital cost to install NOAA water and meter current systems, while NOAA received \$150 million in the Inflation Reduction Act intended in part for the dissemination of this critical information. The Board **SUPPORTS** full funding for the costs to maintain and operate all installed oceanographic observing systems by NOAA so they may continue to efficiently collect and distribute this real-time information.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

SUPPORT proposals that would exempt port liability under the comprehensive environmental response, compensation, and liability act (CERCLA) in legislation that would require the EPA to regulate per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), subject to qualifications for this exemption that address the risk to human health or the

environment, e.g., no impacts to off-site properties or drinking water supply wells. **OPPOSE** preemption of state or local regulation to address PFAS contamination.

SUPPORT electrification grants using funds from the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) to reduce air pollution at Ports by installing zero-emission port equipment, conducting planning, or permitting in connection with such zero-emission port equipment or technology, and developing qualified climate action plans.

SUPPORT the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Program providing funds for grants and rebates that protect human health and improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions from diesel engines.

RESILIENT ENVIRONMENT

BEACH PROJECTS

SUPPORT lifting the statutory restrictions on the use of federal funds for the acquisition of foreign or other non-domestic sand for beach nourishment.

SUPPORT efforts to streamline and simplify the regulatory requirements that stem from overlapping jurisdictions of federal agencies in the coastal zone.

SUPPORT equitable funding for beach projects based on economic and environmental qualifications.

SUPPORT the full funding of the USACE Shore Protection account, which can reimburse Broward County for costs incurred with the planning, engineering, design, and construction of beach nourishment projects.

SUPPORT reimbursement and direct funding for beaches due to their economic return on investment and a critical need to renourish beaches due to the accelerated rates of sea level rise and storm activity.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH FLORIDA (C&SF) FLOOD RESILIENCY STUDY

A study must be initiated by the USACE to evaluate the flood control effectiveness and resilience of the C&SF Project. To compete for such funding via the FY 2021 Work Plan, the Board **SUPPORTS** additional funding above what the President's budget request for the Investigations Account. Additionally, the Board **SUPPORTS** an adequate number of "new starts" for flood and storm damage reduction studies so the C&SF Resilience Study may begin.

COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PROJECT (CERP)

SUPPORT increased and accelerated funding for CERP with priority given to the Broward County Water Preserve Areas (WPAs) and the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP).

CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT

SUPPORT the reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 through legislation that authorizes directed federal funding and technical assistance to states for the restoration and management of coral reef ecosystems.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

SUPPORT federal efforts to involve local communities in resilience planning for federal facilities located in those communities, including holistic consideration of coastal flooding, natural systems, housing, social conditions and economic resilience.

FEDERAL RESILIENCE PLANNING

SUPPORT federal efforts to involve local communities in resilience planning for federal facilities located in those communities, including holistic consideration of coastal flooding, natural systems, housing, social conditions, and economic resilience.

FEMA FLOOD MAPPING RISK RATING 2.0

SUPPORT measures that ensure FEMA consults with counties as it develops its new Risk Rating 2.0 flood mapping initiative.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) REFORM

SUPPORT the immediate reauthorization and reform of the NFIP to ensure affordable and transparent flood insurance for homeowners and businesses and empowerment of individual and local government actions to proactively reduce flood losses. The Board **SUPPORTS**:

Affordability/Rate Structure

- Maintaining insurance rate increase caps while giving FEMA the authority to offer means-tested assistance for low- and moderate-income property owners.
- Ensuring NFIP rates are not excessive or unfair by making the rate-setting process more transparent to the public.

Flood Risk Mitigation and Resilience

- Increasing funding for existing flood mitigation programs and establish tax credits for mitigation efforts.
- Considering loan/voucher programs to further emphasize mitigation, particularly for lower-income participants.
- Authorizing FEMA to encourage owners of multi-family and mixed-use structures to mitigate flood risks with lowered insurance premiums.
- Funding and incentives to help communities that prioritize sea level rise and make investments in projects that emphasize resilience to reduce flood risk.
- Funding and incentives to help communities make investments in large-scale projects that reduce flood risks and improve resilience with a priority given to natural and nature-based approaches.
- Funding or financing options for communities to make investments in green or gray infrastructure that will reduce risks from natural disasters, including floods.
- Improving the coordination of resources among FEMA, U.S. Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other agencies to combine data and resources and provide accessible digital elevation maps that help communities better understand their flood risks.

Programmatic Modifications to Enhance NFIP's Financial Sustainability

- Considering Write-Your-Own reforms including reducing commissions while further incentivizing NFIP policy sales efforts.
- Fully funding the floodplain mapping program and encourage greater participation by those outside of the 100-year floodplain via expanded use of the Preferred Risk Policy.
- Enforcing responsibilities to ensure those in the 100-year floodplain have and maintain flood insurance.
- Privatization that maintains affordability and requires whole profile of risk.

OPPOSE any reauthorization efforts that are detrimental to policy holders, local governments, and the integrity of the program.

SUPPORT broadening of the NFIP to create a true multi-peril national catastrophic insurance fund that would cover hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION

OPPOSE oil exploration and hydraulic fracturing in Florida, which present potential for negative environmental consequences to coastal areas, the Everglades, and state water resources.

SUPPORT the preservation of the longstanding moratorium against offshore oil and gas drilling in federal waters off Florida's coast and oppose seismic air gun blasting for oil and gas exploration off the Atlantic coast of the United States.

PER-AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SUPPORT efforts by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal agencies to study health and environmental impacts of PFAS compounds. Additionally, if regulatory actions are developed, **SUPPORT** efforts for the administration to work closely with local governments throughout the rule-making process.

PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE)

SUPPORT federal legislation or administrative action that removes federal restrictions on PACE programs.

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMPACT

SUPPORT the Compact's Federal Climate, Energy, and Resilience Federal Legislative Principles and Priorities, unless specific issues conflict with Broward County positions.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

OPPOSE proposals that preempt county authority over telecommunications services including the placement, construction, and modification of telecommunications towers and facilities, emergency alert and interoperable communications systems, and consumer protections relating to telecommunication services.

WATER RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT ACT (WRDA)

SUPPORT the biennial passage of the WRDA, as this legislation authorizes USACE projects and policies that impact many of Broward County's priorities including Everglades restoration, port and inlet construction, and beach renourishment projects.

TRANSPORTATION

AUTONOMOUS, RENEWABLE AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES, AND INNOVATION

SUPPORT funding for the acquisition of autonomous, renewable, and electric vehicles. Also, **SUPPORT** the removal of potential roadblocks to the integration of this innovative, transformational automotive technology that can significantly improve safety, mobility, and sustainability and reduce CO2 emissions.

SUPPORT funding for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program to enhance safety and prevent roadway deaths due to speeding, alcohol impaired driving. The program provides funding to implement improvements, apply low-cost safety treatments, and creates safe routes to school and public transit services.

SUPPORT funding for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program to provide funding that improves safety, efficiency, and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail.

BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE

SUPPORT federal investments in Broward County's Sonovoid Innovative Bridge Repair Project to assist in the repair or replacement of the 39 Sonovoid Bridges in the County.

BROWARD COMMUTER RAIL

SUPPORT Broward County's pursuit of federal discretionary grant funding for Broward Commuter Rail South.

FLEXIBLE ROUTE APPLICATIONS

SUPPORT legislation that assists in solving the first-mile/last-mile challenge that many transit agencies face today. This includes legislation that allows for the development and implementation of flexible route applications.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SURTAX

Incentivize counties and projects that use local funding to advance surface transportation projects. Numerous approaches are possible, including lowering local cost shares for federal aid projects in cities on an approved local transportation funding initiative; providing additional points or a higher weight when scoring/evaluating projects for competitive federal funds, such as RAISE or CIG Programs; or opening new categories of funding to directly support counties with an approved local transportation funding initiative.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

SUPPORT policies and funding for Pedestrian Safety Initiatives including grant programs and formula funding to address safety towards eliminating fatalities and injuries and promote connectivity for pedestrians.

LOCAL PREFERENCE PROGRAMS

SUPPORT the ability for local small businesses to participate in federal infrastructure projects to support local economies.

RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

SUPPORT funding resilient infrastructure projects including relocating roadways to a higher elevation, stabilizing slopes, replacing culverts with bridges or upsizing culverts, tide gates, and improving natural features. Additionally, **SUPPORT** funding for highway infrastructure that could be affected by flooding.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT) DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) PROGRAM

SUPPORT continued funding for USDOT’s Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) Program and the DBE Program under Title 49 CFR Parts 23 and 26. The DBE program is one of the most significant tools for guaranteeing the participation of minority-owned and women-owned businesses in the federal procurement of goods and services in the arenas of Highway, Transit and Aviation. Additionally, it also serves as a foundation for other federal procurement programs and contracting opportunities.

WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES

PER-AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) REGULATION LIABILITY

SUPPORT proposals that would exempt Broward County’s Water and Wastewater Services Utilities’ liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in legislation that would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate PFAS, subject to qualifications for this exemption that address risk to human health or the environment, e.g., no impacts to off-site properties or drinking water supply wells. There should also be no pre-emption for state or local regulation to address PFAS contamination.

WATER AND WASTEWATER RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

SUPPORT increased funding for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure to implement resilience practices. The Board **SUPPORTS** the drinking water grant provisions in the Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020 and the Clean Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Program in the American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2020. Additionally, **SUPPORT** increased funding for the AWIA Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-270) grant provisions, which includes the Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability Program.