

PROPOSED

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING GOVERNOR DESANTIS, THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO READMINISTER THE YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM; DIRECTING TRANSMISSION OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE OFFICIALS DESIGNATED HEREIN; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by Senator Nan H. Rich)

WHEREAS, the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (also known as the Youth Risk Behavior Survey) ("YRBSS") is a Statewide, school-based confidential survey of Florida's public high school students;

WHEREAS, the YRBSS includes questions that address sexual and physical abuse, bullying, eating disorders, and gender identity;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the YRBSS is to monitor priority health-risk behaviors that contribute substantially to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth, continuing to patterns in adulthood;

WHEREAS, the first Florida YRBSS was administered in 1991;

WHEREAS, with the understanding that students sometimes feel unheard or are nervous to approach a school official about an issue, mental health advocates have relied on the data of the YRBSS to identify needs and disparities;

WHEREAS, the YRBSS can aid in providing data to address the rising rates of suicide attempts and ideations, particularly among young girls, the LGBTQI community, and other underrepresented communities;

1 WHEREAS, since 2001, the YRBSS has been jointly administered in
2 odd-numbered years by the Florida Department of Health and the Florida Department of
3 Education;

4 WHEREAS, in 2001, the YRBSS became part of the Florida Youth Survey that
5 includes the Florida Youth Tobacco Survey, the Middle School Health Behavior Survey,
6 and the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey;

7 WHEREAS, the YRBSS has been supported by many agencies, including the
8 Florida Departments of Education, Children and Families, and Juvenile Justice; school
9 districts throughout the State; and the Division of Adolescent and School Health at the
10 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

11 WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Education has recently withdrawn its
12 participation in the YRBSS, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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17 Section 1. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners ("Board")
18 urges Governor DeSantis, the Florida Department of Education, and the State Board of
19 Education to readminister the YRBSS, in recognition of the vital role that the YRBSS plays
20 in monitoring priority health-risk behaviors that contribute substantially to the leading
21 causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth, continuing to patterns in
22 adulthood.

23 Section 2. The Board directs the County Administrator to transmit a copy of this
24 Resolution to Governor DeSantis; the Florida Department of Education; successor

Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr., appointee effective June 1, 2022; State Board of Education Chair Thomas Grady; State Board of Education Vice Chair Benjamin Gibson; and to each member of the State Board of Education.

Section 3. Severability.

If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this day of , 2022.

PROPOSED

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

By /s/ Alexis I. Marrero Koratich 05/03/2022
Alexis I. Marrero Koratich (date)
Assistant County Attorney

By /s/ Maite Azcoitia 05/03/2022
Maite Azcoitia (date)
Deputy County Attorney

AIK/gmb
Support of YRBSS Resolution
05/03/2022
#44000-0001