

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2010-

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
3 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA,
4 SUPPORTING LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO EXTEND LIFE
5 SAFETY RETROFIT RELIEF TO COMMUNITY
6 ASSOCIATIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND
7 PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

8 WHEREAS, there are approximately 57,000 mandatory community associations
9 in the State of Florida; and

10 WHEREAS, the NFPA-1 and NFPA-101 (also known as Life Safety Code) has
11 been adopted by all 50 states; and

12 WHEREAS, most states made exceptions and accommodations for existing
13 residential structures when adopting the Life Safety Code but the State of Florida failed
14 to do so; and

15 WHEREAS, the State of Florida currently leads the country in terms of residential
16 foreclosure filings and devaluation of property values; and

17 WHEREAS, Broward County has received valuable input from private residential
18 communities within its borders who are impacted by many of the costly life safety
19 (sprinkler, fire alarm, elevator, etc.) retrofits currently being requested; and

20 WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has twice before unanimously passed
21 legislation to extend retrofit relief to the millions of impacted Floridians and twice before
22 such legislation has been wiped out by gubernatorial veto; and

23 WHEREAS, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners appreciates
24 and understands the economic tsunami that will ensue should such relief not be
forthcoming and finally passed during the 2010 Regular Legislative Session;

1 WHEREAS, there has been no verifiable data that requiring common area
2 sprinklers alone in concrete block construction buildings will save the lives of owners
3 inside their units; and

4 WHEREAS, there are two bills currently pending, HB 561 sponsored by
5 Representative Ellyn Bogdanoff, and SB 1222 sponsored by Senator Jeremy Ring, that
6 will allow a community's membership the right of self determination with regard to
7 whether or not their premises should be subject to certain retrofit requirements; and

8 WHEREAS, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners supports the
9 efforts of these legislators to help millions of financially struggling citizens of this State;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, other states have recognized the importance of distinguishing
12 between existing buildings that met Code requirements at the time of their construction
13 and new construction; NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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18 Section 1. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners recognizes,
19 and asks Governor Charlie Crist and the Florida State Legislature to acknowledge the
20 economic hardship created by enforcing Life Safety Code retrofits at a time in history
21 when community associations are least able to survive such projects.

22 Section 2. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners asks Governor
23 Charlie Crist and the Florida State Legislature to return this issue to the will of the
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