

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TERMINATE THEIR PILOT INSPECTION PROGRAM FOR DOWNSTAIRS ENCLOSURES.

WHEREAS, Monroe County has participated in the National Flood Insurance Program since 1975; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County recognizes and appreciates the benefits associated with being a National Flood Insurance community and does not wish to jeopardize participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); and

WHEREAS, Monroe County became the only named county in the United States Code of Federal Regulations 44 CFR 59.30 when the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) established a pilot inspection program under 44 CFR 59.30 for Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, 44 CFR 59.30 became effective March 8, 2002; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County has cooperated with FEMA’s Pilot Inspection program since its effective date; and

WHEREAS, the Pilot Program has had harmful unintended consequences in Monroe County, including contributing to the County’s 9.2% population loss between 2000 and 2008, causing thousands of low and middle income gainfully employed and retired families to leave their occupations and homes in Monroe County, devastating the Keys’ social and economic well being, including the construction industry, and threatening the safety of the community’s homes and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County’s compliance with NFIP standards now equals or exceeds that of other communities in the National Flood Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, Congress may take action which includes NFIP raising rates on all “high risk” areas, phasing out the grandfathered subsidy status of all pre-FIRM homes, and requiring multiyear flood insurance policies which will likely increase all Keys home, commercial property and business owners FEMA flood insurance premiums; and

WHEREAS, failing to act now to terminate the pilot inspection program, thus preserving the Monroe County’s special regulation in 44 C.F.R. 59.30, will further jeopardize Monroe County’s position during Congressional negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County has demonstrated its willingness to enforce floodplain management regulations and is committed to complying with NFIP regulations in the future; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Respectfully requests that FEMA immediately declare the Pilot Inspection Program (codified at 44 C.F.R. 59.30) terminated, and have Monroe County's name stricken from the Code of Federal Regulations, and allow Monroe County to continue to conduct floodplain management as required by 44 C.F. R. 60.3, which governs all other National Flood Insurance Program communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 17th day of February, 2010.

Mayor Sylvia Murphy _____
Mayor Pro Tem Heather Carruthers _____
Commissioner Mario DiGennaro _____
Commissioner George Neugent _____
Commissioner Kim Wigington _____

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ATTEST: Danny L. Kohlage, Clerk

By: _____
Mayor Sylvia Murphy

By: _____
Deputy Clerk