



February 24, 2026

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
Commissioner Christine Moore, District 2
Commissioner Mayra Uribe, District 3
Commissioner Maribel Gomez Cordero, District 4
Commissioner Kelly Martinez Semrad, District 5
Commissioner Michael “Mike” Scott, District 6

FROM: Commissioner Nicole Wilson, District 1

SUBJECT: Urgent Request for Evaluation of Potential Impact of SB 1134 and HB 1001 and Letter of Opposition to State Legislature

Dear Mayor, Commissioners, and Administration,

I respectfully request that the Board direct staff to prepare a brief evaluation of the potential impact of SB 1134 and HB 1001 and authorize the submission of a letter of opposition to members of the State Legislature.

As drafted, SB 1134 and HB 1001 referred to as the “Anti-Diversity in Local Government” bills, pose significant legal, operational, and financial risks to counties and municipalities across Florida.

The bills prohibit the use of county and municipal resources for activities that “promote or fund” diversity-related programs and impose sweeping enforcement mechanisms, including provisions that expose local governments and elected officials to misfeasance or malfeasance for actions as minor as placing a social media post recognizing a cultural holiday. The breadth of the language, combined with approximately a dozen carve-outs and undefined terms, creates substantial ambiguity. This lack of clarity heightens the risk of inconsistent interpretation and exposes the County to significant litigation and reputational harm.

COMMISSIONER NICOLE WILSON, DISTRICT 1
201 South Rosalind Avenue, 5th Floor, Orlando Florida 32801
Phone: 407-836-7312 Fax: 407-836-5879

The bills, as written, could:

- Prohibit cities and counties from sponsoring or promoting widely attended cultural festivals such as Pride events, Puerto Rico Day celebrations, Black History Month observances, or Lunar New Year festivals;
- Restrict grants or funding to community-based organizations such as local Hispanic Chambers of Commerce or Jewish Community Centers;
- Limit the County's ability to promote cultural tourism initiatives that are central to economic development strategies;
- Prevent recognition of non-federal or non-state holidays, including National Coming Out Day, Ramadan, or Yom Kippur;
- Restrict the creation of memorials or public art installations that do not meet narrow statutory definitions; and
- Impede law enforcement agencies from maintaining minority community-focused liaison programs designed to foster trust and public safety.

Given the potential consequences for our County's economic vitality, community partnerships, public safety initiatives, and constitutional governance, I recommend that the BCC:

1. Direct the County Attorney's Office and relevant departments to prepare a brief evaluation of the potential impact of SB 1134 and HB 1001, including legal, fiscal, tourism, public safety, and operational considerations; and
2. Authorize a formal letter to our local legislative delegation and to state leadership from our Board, articulating the County's concerns and opposition and withdrawal of the bills.

The City of Miami has already submitted a letter outlining a preliminary examination of the potential impacts of this legislation on tourism, cultural programming, and municipal promotion. Their correspondence urges reconsideration and opposition to the bills in their current form. I am including it here for your reference.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

/s/

Nicole H. Wilson
Commissioner, District 1

Cc: County Administrator Byron Brooks, County Attorney Jeff Newton, Cheryl Gillepsie