

HB 6011

2023

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act for the relief of the Estate of Jason Sanchez
3 by Miami-Dade County; providing for an appropriation
4 to compensate the Estate of Jason Sanchez for injuries
5 and damages sustained by Jason Sanchez and his
6 survivors as a result of the negligence of a Miami-
7 Dade County employee; providing a limitation on
8 compensation and the payment of attorney and lobbying
9 fees; providing an effective date.

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11 WHEREAS, on May 13, 2019, Jason Sanchez was lawfully
12 traveling on his motorcycle northbound on Southwest 107th Avenue
13 toward the intersection at Southwest 176th Street in Miami-Dade
14 County, wearing his helmet and traveling at or below the posted
15 speed limit, and

16 WHEREAS, a Miami-Dade County employee operating a Miami-
17 Dade County passenger bus failed to stop at the marked
18 intersection and pulled out in front of Mr. Sanchez in an
19 attempted left turn, causing a collision, and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Sanchez sustained fatal blunt force injuries
21 as a result of the collision, and

22 WHEREAS, the Estate of Jason Sanchez has alleged, through a
23 lawsuit filed on September 17, 2019, in the Circuit Court of the
24 Eleventh Judicial Circuit in and for Miami-Dade County, that the
25 negligence of Miami-Dade County, through its bus driver, was the

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26 proximate cause of Mr. Sanchez's death, and

27 WHEREAS, Jacqueline Abreu, Mr. Sanchez's mother, and Manuel
 28 Sanchez, Mr. Sanchez's father, have suffered significant
 29 financial damages due to the loss of their son's financial
 30 support and have experienced extreme mental anguish and
 31 suffering as a result of the loss of their son, and

32 WHEREAS, following the filing of the lawsuit, the Estate of
 33 Jason Sanchez and Miami-Dade County have reached a tentative
 34 settlement agreement, pending county approval, in the amount of
 35 \$1.25 million, and

36 WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreement between the parties and
 37 the limits of liability set forth in s. 768.28, Florida
 38 Statutes, the settlement will be partially satisfied by Miami-
 39 Dade County in the amount of \$300,000, and the satisfaction of
 40 the remainder is contingent upon the passage of a claim bill in
 41 the amount of \$950,000, NOW, THEREFORE,

42

43 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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45 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act
 46 are found and declared to be true.

47 Section 2. Miami-Dade County is authorized and directed to
 48 appropriate from funds of the county not otherwise encumbered
 49 and to draw a warrant in the sum of \$950,000 payable to the
 50 Estate of Jason Sanchez as compensation for injuries and damages

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51 sustained.

52 Section 3. The amount paid by Miami-Dade County pursuant
53 to s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, and the amount awarded under
54 this act are intended to provide the sole compensation for all
55 present and future claims arising out of the factual situation
56 described in this act which resulted in the death of Jason
57 Sanchez, including injuries and damages to the Estate of Jason
58 Sanchez and his survivors. The total amount paid for attorney
59 fees relating to this claim may not exceed \$190,000, and the
60 total amount paid for lobbying fees may not exceed \$47,500.

61 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.