

By Representative Prieguez

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Miami-Dade County; providing
3 for the relief of Hilda De Paz; authorizing and
4 directing Miami-Dade County to compensate Hilda
5 De Paz for personal injuries she suffered due
6 to the negligence of county employees;
7 providing an effective date.

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9 WHEREAS, on May 23, 1995, Miss Hilda De Paz was on her
10 way to her job as a housekeeper and was a passenger on a Metro
11 Transit Authority bus that carelessly rear-ended another Metro
12 bus, on Collins Avenue near 44th Street in Miami Beach, and

13 WHEREAS, Miss De Paz initially was in critical
14 condition as a result of the multiple traumas she suffered
15 from the impact, and the injuries she incurred in the accident
16 have substantially affected her life so that she has a
17 12-percent impairment disability, as rated on the Florida
18 Impairment Rating Guide, and she is no longer able to perform
19 any work, needs future medical care, and cannot do any heavy
20 lifting, bending, or strenuous activities, and

21 WHEREAS, to date, Miss De Paz has received no
22 compensation, and her medical bills are still outstanding, and

23 WHEREAS, in order to satisfy the claims of other
24 injured bus passengers, Miami-Dade County has already paid a
25 total of \$200,000, the maximum amount allowable under section
26 768.28, Florida Statutes, leaving no funds available to
27 compensate Miss De Paz, and

28 WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County wishes to provide for the
29 past and future medical bills of Miss De Paz and to compensate
30 her for lost wages and lost earning ability, and

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1 WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County and Hilda De Paz agreed to
2 settle this case, and an Agreed Final Judgment was entered on
3 May 25, 2000, awarding Miss De Paz a total of \$60,000 plus
4 interest, and

5 WHEREAS, in order for the Agreed Final Judgment to take
6 effect, a claim bill that incorporates the terms of the
7 agreed-upon final judgment must be enacted, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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

13 Section 2. Miami-Dade County is authorized and
14 directed to appropriate from funds of the county not otherwise
15 appropriated and to draw a warrant in the amount of \$60,000,
16 which amount includes statutory attorney's fees and costs,
17 payable to Hilda de Paz for injuries and damages she sustained
18 as a result of the negligence of a county employee. The
19 payment shall be made within 30 days after the effective date
20 of this act.

21 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
22 law.