

By Senator Rodriguez

40-00075-23

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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.

10  
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  
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

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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:

44  
45 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act are  
46 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  
51 sustained.

52 Section 3. The amount paid by Miami-Dade County pursuant to  
53 s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, and the amount awarded under this  
54 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

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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.