

**Resolution No. 2015 - \_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 746 (NEGRON) AND HOUSE BILL 427 (MAGAR) TO INCREASE BOATER SAFETY**

**WHEREAS**, on July 24, 2015, Austin Stephanos and Perry Cohen, both fourteen years of age, left Jupiter Inlet in a 19-foot boat; and

**WHEREAS**, after encountering a storm the two teens were lost at sea and their boat would not be found until two days later, sixty-seven miles off of Daytona Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, a U.S. Coast Guard search continued until July 31 and a private search continued until August 8, neither of which located the teens; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida State Senator Joe Negron has introduced Senate Bill 746 and State Representative MaryLynn Magar has introduced House Bill 427; and

**WHEREAS**, these two bills would increase boater safety by encouraging boaters to have either an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) or a Personal Locator Beacon that is registered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration by providing boat owners a reduction on their annual vessel-registration fees if they possess one of these devices; and

**WHEREAS**, EPIRBs and Personal Locator Beacons can transmit distress calls on a designated emergency frequency to a satellite receiver and are used by rescue personnel to locate the position of the signal; and

**WHEREAS**, such beacons would significantly enhance the probability of finding and saving boaters lost at sea.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA,** that this Board urges the Florida Legislature to pass SB 746 and HB 427 and Governor Scott to sign the legislation into law.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- Commissioner Mary Lou Berger, Mayor - \_\_\_\_\_
- Commissioner Hal R. Valeche, Vice Mayor - \_\_\_\_\_
- Commissioner Paulette Burdick - \_\_\_\_\_
- Commissioner Shelley Vana - \_\_\_\_\_
- Commissioner Steven L. Abrams - \_\_\_\_\_
- Commissioner Melissa McKinlay - \_\_\_\_\_
- Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor - \_\_\_\_\_

The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

**ATTEST:**  
**CLERK & COMPTROLLER**  
**Sharon R. Bock, Clerk and Comptroller**

**Palm Beach County, Florida by its**  
**Board of County Commissioners**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**Approved as to Form and Legal**  
**Sufficiency:**

**Approved as to Content:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant County Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Administrator