



Office of
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ATTORNEY**

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney
William K. DeBraul, Deputy County Attorney
Kate Pingolt Cotner, Assistant County Attorney

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Dylan Reingold, County Attorney *DR*
DATE: January 12, 2018
SUBJECT: Federal Lobbying Concerning All Aboard Florida

BACKGROUND

On August 14, 2017, I executed an agreement between McDermott Will & Emery and Indian River County, as authorized by the County Administrator, for McDermott Will & Emery to represent Indian River County on federal lobbying efforts relating to the proposed All Aboard Florida project. The agreement was for \$50,000 for six months and will expire on January 31, 2018. Under that agreement, McDermott Will & Emery assisted Indian River County in lobbying efforts with both federal legislators and federal agencies. It is important to note that McDermott Will & Emery also represents Martin County and CARE-FL with respect to the All Aboard Florida project. However, the engagement with Indian River County was solely for federal lobbying and did not include litigation representation. The main members of the McDermott Will & Emery who have represented Indian River County are Stephen Ryan, former Congressman Jeff Miller and Erica Stocker.

At this time, I believe continuing the federal lobbying is an important component in promoting Indian River County's interests with respect to the proposed All Aboard Florida project. Thus, I am presenting another contract with McDermott Will & Emery for six additional months, to run through July 31, 2018. The agreement includes a fixed monthly fee of \$10,000, paid at the beginning of each month for the first five months, with no charge for the final month, for a total of \$50,000.

FUNDING

Funds for this expenditure are budgeted and available in General Fund/County Attorney/Legal Services/All Aboard Florida, Account # 00110214-033110-15023

RECOMMENDATION

The County Attorney's Office recommends that the Chair allow for public comment on this matter and then have the Board vote to approve the agreement with McDermott Will & Emery and authorize the County Attorney to execute the agreement.