

RESOLUTION NO. 2026- 081

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, RATIFYING THE DECLARATION THAT A DROUGHT EMERGENCY EXISTS IN ALL UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND RATIFYING THE DECLARATION OF A TEMPORARY BURN BAN, AND IMPLEMENTING HERNANDO COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida ("Board"), adopted Ordinance No. 2025-02, setting forth the procedures to be followed in the event a drought emergency is declared; and

WHEREAS, due to prolonged drought conditions, an extreme shortage of rainfall, and a spike in brushfires throughout Hernando County ("County"), and after consulting with several fire departments within the State of Florida, the Fire Chief determined that a drought emergency exists in the unincorporated areas of the County;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VI of Ordinance No. 2025-02, the Fire Chief has notified the County Administrator that he has determined the existence of extreme drought conditions in the County;

WHEREAS, based upon these observations and analysis, and pursuant to the authority granted under Ordinance No. 2025-02, the Fire Chief declared a County-wide temporary burn ban effective April 14, 2026;

WHEREAS, the Board may implement the provisions of Ordinance No. 2025-02 and may ratify, modify, or terminate the temporary burn ban provisions by resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Incorporated Whereas Clauses. The foregoing Whereas clauses are true and correct and are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. Findings. In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 2025-02 and the Fire Chief's determination, the Board finds that an emergency drought condition exists in the County, ratifies the Fire Chief's declaration of a temporary burn ban, and implements the provisions of Ordinance No. 2025-02, *nunc pro tunc*, to April 14, 2026.

Section 3. Effective Date and Duration. This Resolution shall take effect *nunc pro tunc* to April 14, 2026, and shall remain in full force and effect until the Board determines, by subsequent resolution, that emergency drought conditions no longer exist in the County.

ADOPTED IN REGULAR SESSION THE 28th DAY OF April 2026.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Attest: Unenke Ounga, Deputy Clerk
Douglas A. Chorvat, Jr.
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

By: Jerry Campbell
Jerry Campbell
Chairman



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: Natasha López Perez
County Attorney's Office