

## CHAPTER 2023-322

### Senate Bill No. 6

An act for the relief of the Estate of Jason Sanchez by Miami-Dade County; providing for an appropriation to compensate the Estate of Jason Sanchez for injuries and damages sustained by Jason Sanchez and his survivors as a result of the negligence of a Miami-Dade County employee; providing a limitation on compensation and the payment of attorney and lobbying fees; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2019, Jason Sanchez was lawfully traveling on his motorcycle northbound on Southwest 107th Avenue toward the intersection at Southwest 176th Street in Miami-Dade County, wearing his helmet and traveling at or below the posted speed limit, and

WHEREAS, a Miami-Dade County employee operating a Miami-Dade County passenger bus failed to stop at the marked intersection and pulled out in front of Mr. Sanchez in an attempted left turn, causing a collision, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sanchez sustained fatal blunt force injuries as a result of the collision, and

WHEREAS, the Estate of Jason Sanchez has alleged, through a lawsuit filed on September 17, 2019, in the Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit in and for Miami-Dade County, that the negligence of Miami-Dade County, through its bus driver, was the proximate cause of Mr. Sanchez's death, and

WHEREAS, Jacqueline Abreu, Mr. Sanchez's mother, and Manuel Sanchez, Mr. Sanchez's father, have suffered significant financial damages due to the loss of their son's financial support and have experienced extreme mental anguish and suffering as a result of the loss of their son, and

WHEREAS, following the filing of the lawsuit, the Estate of Jason Sanchez and Miami-Dade County have reached a tentative settlement agreement, pending county approval, in the amount of \$1.25 million, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreement between the parties and the limits of liability set forth in s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, the settlement will be partially satisfied by Miami-Dade County in the amount of \$300,000, and the satisfaction of the remainder is contingent upon the passage of a claim bill in the amount of \$950,000, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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

Section 2. Miami-Dade County is authorized and directed to appropriate from funds of the county not otherwise encumbered and to draw a warrant in the sum of \$950,000 payable to the Estate of Jason Sanchez as compensation for injuries and damages sustained.

Section 3. The amount paid by Miami-Dade County pursuant to s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, and the amount awarded under this act are intended to provide the sole compensation for all present and future claims arising out of the factual situation described in this act which resulted in the death of Jason Sanchez, including injuries and damages to the Estate of Jason Sanchez and his survivors. The total amount paid for attorney fees relating to this claim may not exceed \$190,000, and the total amount paid for lobbying fees may not exceed \$47,500.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 9, 2023.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 9, 2023.