

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Extension of COVID-19 Leave Benefits

Work Session/Regular Session

DATE OF MEETING: January 26, 2021

BUDGET IMPACT:

FUNDING SOURCE:

( ) Annual

( ) Capital

(X) N/A

( ) SPLOST

( ) TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Extension of COVID-19 Leave Benefits

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HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) was passed into law in March of 2020, with a sunset date of December 31, 2020. The Act established and mandated certain leave benefits for employees that had either contracted, been exposed to or affected (care of a family member) by the COVID-19 virus.

However, these mandated leave benefits expired on December 31, 2020, and while the New Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 did not extend any of the FFCRA leave benefits it did give employers the option to voluntarily extend these leave benefits to employees through March 31, 2021.

The need to continue offering COVID-19 leave benefits to our employees is as great now as it was throughout 2020. While vaccines are currently being offered not enough of them have been given in order to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We request that the Board extend the leave benefits offered through the FFCRA from January 1, 2021, through March 31, 2021.

OPTIONS: 1. Approve the extension of COVID-19 leave benefits from January 1, 2021, through March 31, 2021.  
2. Board's pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Board's Pleasure

DEPARTMENT: Human Resources

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Kevin Beals

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: