

**Ballot Questions of proposed Charter Amendments
May 21, 1957 – November 4, 1986**

Ch. Latta

GENERAL FILE COPY
 CLERK OF THE BOARD
 OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY
 DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Date of Election	Result of Votes	Question
May 21, 1957	For 44,404 Against 42,620	Do you approve the County Home Rule Charter as prepared and certified by the Metropolitan Charter Board?
February 11, 1958 (election delayed per Supreme Court)		"Autonomy Amendment" - see text immediately following
September 30, 1958	For 49,893 Against 74,420	Shall the following amendment to the Charter of Dade County be adopted? "Article X - Autonomy of Municipalities Sec. 10.01: Reservation of Certain Powers in Municipalities. A. Anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, neither the political autonomy nor the right of self-government or self-determination of any of the municipalities in Dade County shall be infringed upon, disturbed, or interfered with, and they shall maintain their continuous right to exercise all powers whether granted by their several charters, or by Special Act, or by General Law. This, however, shall not and does not apply to Sec. 4.04 dealing with Assessment and Collection of Taxes, nor with Sub-paragraph (18) of Paragraph A of Sec. 1.01 which permits the Dade County County Commissioners to set reasonable minimum standards for all governmental units in the County for the performance of any service or function. B. All existing ordinances inconsistent herewith shall no longer remain in force and effect."
September 30, 1958	For 35,134 Against 79,277	Shall the Home Rule Charter adopted by the electors of Dade County on May 21, 1957, be revised by adding thereto the following: "Change of Name: The name of Dade County is changed to Miami County. This charter and all ordinances enacted thereunder are amended so that 'Miami County' shall be substituted in each instance for 'Dade County'."
November 3, 1959	For 15,687 Against 69,946	Charter Amendment No. 1 - 5 County Commissioners. Shall the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for Five (5) County Commissioners, elected at large, in accordance with the provisions contained in Resolution No. 3711?
	For 12,210 Against 70,727	Charter Amendment No. 2 - 9 County Commissioners. Shall the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for Nine (9) County Commissioners, elected from districts, in accordance with the provisions contained in Resolution No. 3754?
	For 10,865 Against 70,201	Charter Amendment No. 3 - 7 County Commissioners. Shall the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for Seven (7) County Commissioners, elected at large, in accordance with the provisions contained in Resolution No. 3813?

(continued)

November 3, 1959
(continued)

For 38,781
Against 53,916

Charter Amendment No. 4 - Tax Assessor.
Shall the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for the election of the Tax Assessor of Dade County, in accordance with the provisions contained in Resolution No. 3851?

For 42,278
Against 53,349

Charter Amendment No. 5 - Sheriff.
Shall the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide for election of the Sheriff of Dade County, in accordance with the provisions contained in Resolution No. 3852?

August 15, 1961

For 115,026 ✓
Against 11,927

"Shall the home rule charter of government for Dade County be amended, revised and modified by repealing Sections 9.03 (A) and 9.03 (B) relating to the reassessment of all real and tangible personal property in Dade County?

October 17, 1961
(McLeod Amendments)

For 97,170
Against 105,097

Shall the Home Rule Charter of Government for Dade County, Florida, be amended by adoption of an amended Charter, which limits and redefines the powers of the County Commission, reduces the number of County Commissioners to five, fixes Commissioner's salaries at \$15,000 per annum, provides for election of new Commissioners, deletes all provisions relating to the County Manager, provides assessments for County and Municipal taxes by Board of Tax Assessor appointed by County Commissioners, eliminates requirement for full-time County Attorney, expands powers of Municipalities, provides for establishment of a County Court, provides Sheriff and Tax Assessor shall be elective offices, limits the tort liability of the County, provides such revised Charter shall become effective immediately upon adoption, prescribes method by which such revised Charter may be abolished and contains other provisions as set forth in the initiatory petitions on file with Clerk of the County Commission.

May 29, 1962
(Charter Rev. Bd. Rec.)

(See next sheet.)

August 21, 1962
(Crandon Amendments)

For 29,415
Against 34,910

First Proposed Charter Amendment.
Whether Sections 1.03 and 1.04 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to provide for nine county commission districts, and that the Board of County Commissioners shall be reduced to nine commissioner elected from districts beginning with the 1964 Primary Elections, and that the terms of office of all present commissioners shall expire upon the election of such nine new commissioners?

For 32,845 ✓
Against 30,804

Second Proposed Charter Amendment.
Whether Sec. 3.04 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to provide that appointment of major department heads by County Manager shall be subject to approval by the County Commission?

For 32,272 ✓
Against 30,852

Third Proposed Charter Amendment.
Whether Sec. 4.02 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to provide that no administrative orders, rules or regulations creating, merging or combining departments shall become effective until approved by resolution of the County Commission?

For 29,235
Against 34,095

Fourth Proposed Charter Amendment.
Whether the Home Rule Charter shall be amended by adding a new section creating a Port Authority Board consisting of five members appointed by the County Commission for staggered terms at salaries fixed by the County Commission, which Board shall have exclusive jurisdiction, power and control over Port Authority property, subject to approval of annual budget by County Commission?

(continued)

August 21, 1962
(Crandon Amendments)
continued -

For 30,315
Against 33,523

Fifth Proposed Charter Amendment.

Whether Article 6 of the Home Rule Charter relating to the Metropolitan Court shall be amended to provide for the establishment of a new system of courts consisting of a Metropolitan Court with jurisdiction to try all offenses under county ordinances occurring in the unincorporated areas and within municipalities having a population of less than 2,500, and a Metropolitan-Municipal Court in each municipality having a population in excess of 2,500 with jurisdiction to try offenses under county ordinances occurring within the boundaries of each such municipality, and to provide for the qualifications, method of appointment, removal, terms, compensation and number of judges of such courts, and to provide for appointment of an inspector of the Metropolitan-Municipal Courts, and prescribing minimum standards for all Metropolitan-Municipal Courts?

(See next page for May 29, 1962 Election.)

November 5, 1963
(Good Gov't. League)

For 66,595 ✓
Against 64,525

Amendment to Section 1.01 A(19) of The Home Rule Charter to make the Sheriff of Dade County an elective office and to require a special election within thirty days for the purpose of electing the Sheriff of Dade County

November 5, 1963

For 62,671
Against 65,276

Amendment to Section 8.01 A of The Home Rule Charter to make Tax Assessor of Dade County an elective office and to require a special election within thirty days for the purpose of electing the Tax Assessor of Dade County

November 5, 1963

For 49,147
Against 68,006

Amendment to Section 5.04 of The Home Rule Charter to provide that changes in Municipal Boundaries shall be accomplished in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 171, Florida Statutes

November 5, 1963
(Government Research Council)

For 70,391 ✓
Against 57,167

Amendment to The Home Rule Charter to provide for eight County Commission Districts, and for a nine member Board of County Commissioners, consisting of eight Commissioners and a Mayor to be elected by the voters of the county at large and providing for termination of the term of office of all present commissioners upon election of such new commissioners on the twelfth Tuesday following the effective date of this proposed amendment

November 5, 1963

For 47,010
Against 76,645

Amendment to Section 1.06 of The Home Rule Charter to provide a salary of \$15,000 for the Mayor and a salary of \$10,000 for other County Commissioners, effective only upon the election of a Mayor and eight County Commissioners

November 5, 1963

For 45,420
Against 78,179

Amendment to Section 8.03 of The Home Rule Charter to change the name of Dade County to County of Miami

November 5, 1963
(Charter Review Board)

For 58,427 ✓
Against 56,591

Amendment to The Home Rule Charter to provide that Charter Amendment may be proposed by initiatory petitions of not less than ten percent of registered voters, only during years in which state primary and general elections are held; providing that county commission may propose charter amendments at any time; and prescribing times when elections on charter amendments shall be held

November 5, 1963
(Dade Co. Bar Assoc.)

For 63,739 ✓
Against 32,171

Amendment to Section 6.01 of The Home Rule Charter to provide for the selection and tenure of Metropolitan Court Judges under a plan similar to the "Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan" effective on February 1, 1964, under which judges shall be initially appointed from a list submitted by The Metropolitan Court Nominating Council, and thereafter periodically stand for election on the basis of their individual judicial records without political campaigns

~~Cont'd. from previous pages belongs before information re. August 21, 1962 Election.~~

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF METROPOLITAN DADE COUNTY.

Date of Election	Result of Votes	Question
May 29, 1962	Yes - - 49168 No - - 6283 ✓	<p><u>A.</u> <u>Sec. 1.05</u> Forfeiture of Office.</p> <p>A. Any member of the Board of County Commissioners who ceases to be a qualified voter of the County or remove himself from the County or the District from which he was elected, or who fails to attend meetings without good cause for a period of six months, shall immediately forfeit his office.</p> <p>B. Any elected or appointed County official who holds any other elective office, whether federal, state or municipal, shall forfeit his County position, provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any official presently holding such other office during the remainder of their present terms.</p> <p>C. Any appointed official or employee of Dade County who qualifies as a candidate for election to any federal, state or municipal office shall immediately forfeit his County position.</p>
"	Yes - - 52245 No - - 5274 ✓	<p><u>C.</u> <u>Section 2.04</u> - qualifications and filing fees of County Commissioners.</p> <p>All candidates for the office of County Commissioner shall qualify with the Clerk of the Circuit Court no earlier than the 63rd day, and no later than noon on the 49th day prior to the date of the election at which he is a candidate in the method provided by law or ordinance ordinance, and shall pay a filing fee of \$300. All filing fees shall be paid into the general funds of the County.</p>
"	Yes - - 53371 No - - 4833	<p><u>D.</u> <u>Section 4.03</u> - Financial Administration.</p> <p>D. Contracts for public improvements and purchases of supplies, materials, and services other than professional shall be made whenever practicable on the basis of specifications and competitive bids. Formal Formal sealed bids shall be secured for all such contracts and purchases when the transaction involves the expenditure of \$1,000 or more. The transaction shall be evidenced by written contract submitted and approved by the Board. The Board, upon written recommendation of the Manager, may by Resolution adopted by two-thirds vote of the members present waive competitive bidding when it finds this to be in the best interest of the County.</p>

November 5, 1963 (Assoc. of Unincorporated Areas)	For 21,264 Against 71,434	Amendment to The Home Rule Charter to provide for four County Commission Districts, and for a thirteen member Board of County Commissioners consisting of eight Commissioners elected from Districts, four Commissioners elected within Municipalities, and a Chairman elected at large, and providing for the termination of office of all present Commissioners thirty days after the 1964 state second primary election
November 5, 1963	For 10,411 Against 81,651	Amendment to The Home Rule Charter to provide a salary of \$17,500 for the Chairman and a salary of \$15,000 for all other County Commissioners
January 28, 1964	For 48,490 Against 59,950	Amendment to Section 1.01 A(8) of the Home Rule Charter to require that any Urban Renewal program within a Municipality must be first approved by the voters of the Municipality, and that all local funds for such Urban Renewal program must be derive solely from the Municipality; and to require that any Urban Renewal program in the unincorporated area of the County must be first approved by the voters in the unincorporated area, and all local funds for such Urban Renewal program must be derived solely from the unincorporated area
May 26, 1964	For 26,158 Against 41,776	Amendment to Home Rule Charter providing for department of Public Libraries headed by a Public Libraries Director appointed by County Manager, and vesting department with authority to establish, maintain and operate Public Libraries, and to exercise all powers granted by law to Library Boards
November 8, 1966	For 78,781 Against 70,080	Whether Section 8.01 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to abolish the Office of Sheriff and to transfer the powers and functions of such office to the County Manager?
November 8, 1966 (Proposed Ordinance)	For 71,386 Against 48,101	Ordinance to be known as "South Dade County Hospital Ordinance"; providing for short title; providing for declaration of legislative intent; providing for creation of South Dade County Hospital; providing for services to be rendered by said hospital; providing for use of bond funds for construction of said hospital; providing for establishment of Senior Citizens' Home; providing for continued operation of Kendall Hospital until construction of new hospital facility; providing for inclusion of this Ordinance in the Metropolitan Code and providing for an effective date
November 7, 1967	For 38,213 Against 19,583	Whether Section 2.07 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to provide for the canvass of all elections under the Charter by county canvassing board in accordance with the state election laws?
November 7, 1967	For 17,034 Against 46,248	Whether Section 1.06 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to provide that after June 10, 1968, each member of the Board of County Commissioners shall receive, in addition to the \$6,000 annual salary, \$50 for each day's attendance at official board meetings, such per diem payments not to exceed \$9,000 annually for each member of the Commission?

November 7, 1967

For 37,813
Against 21,291

Whether Section 6.04C of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to provide a form of ballot to read: at each election for Metropolitan Judge, the ballot shall be as follows:

Shall Judge (Name of Judge) of the Metropolitan Court be retained in office?

For _____ Against _____

November 5, 1968

For 72,671
Against 165,260

Whether Section 8.01 of the Home Rule Charter shall be amended to transfer to the Dade County Public Safety and Fire Departments, respectively, on October 1, 1969, all municipal police and fire-fighting functions, powers, and real and personal property used by each such municipal department

November 4, 1969
(Charter Review Bd.)

For 56,698
Against 29,229

Submit to electors a prop.sub.by D.C.Charter Review Bd.to repeal Sec.8.02 of Home Rule Charter, which provides that County & Munic.Officeholders and employees who are called before Grand Jury to testify concerning conduct of their office, who refuse to sign a waiver of immunity against subseq.criminal prosecution shall be removed from office.

* * *

March 14, 1972

(Metro.Study Comm.) For 66,998
Against 144,274

Whether the Dade Co.Charter shall be revised in order to provide among other things for(a) a full time strong mayor elected in the County at-large with a min.salary of \$40,000.per annum; having the power to veto enactments of the Co.Comm.which veto may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the membr.of the Comm; and serving as head of all Co.exec. and adm.depts;(b)an initial fourteen (14) member Co. Commission with three (3) Commrs.elected in the Co. at large and eleven (11)elected from equally sized individual distrs. and salaried initially at \$10,000.per annum each, in place of the present nine (9) member Co.Comm; (c) a full-time vice-mayor with a min.salary of \$12,000.per annum; (d) a supr.of Adm., (e) a Chairman of the Bd.of Co.Comms. salaried at \$14,000.per annum; and (f) a recall procedure req.petitions to state grounds for recall and to be signed by ten per cent (10) of the regis.voters for offices elected from distrs., or five per cent of the registered voters for offices elected & from the County at large?

October 3, 1972

For 55,454
Against 17,132

Whether Sec.4.08, D.C.Charter, relating to Co. Boards shall be revised in order to prov.for exp.of Water & Sewer Bd. & Dept. of W.& S.of City of Miami to an agency Co./wide in scope and responsib., said agcy.to be known as Miami-Dade W. & S. Auth.

March 9, 1976	For	172,807	No.1	relating to licensing and regulation of taxis and other passenger vehicles for hire, the whole number of votes cast was	243,216
	Against	70,409			
	For	137,637	No.2	relating to staggered terms for members of the County Commission, the whole number votes cast	237,044
	Against	99,407			
	For	43,706	No.3	relating to annual salaries for Mayor and County Commissioners, whole number votes cast	250,399
	Against	206,693			

7 - (date conducted)

September 14, 1976	For	51,283		Shall a new introductory article entitled "Citizens" Bill of Rights" creating certain individual rights and guaranteeing those rights to the citizens of Dade County be added to the County Charter	
	Against	16,418			

September 30, 1976	For	54,375	No.1	"Shall the County Charter be amended to provide that a special election shall be held to choose County Commissioners to succeed appointed County Commissioners whenever (a) a majority of the members of the Board of County Commissioners has been appointed to office rather than elected to office and (b) more than 180 days will elapse before the next scheduled countywide election?"	
	Against	26,940			
	For	63,741	No.2	"Shall the County Charter be amended to require the Mayor of the County to prepare and deliver a report on the state of the County to the people of the County in November of each year"	
	Against	19,327			
	For	58,305	No.3	"Shall the County Charter be amended to permit the County Manager to submit his preliminary budget to the Board of County Commissioners on or before the date required by State Law in the future rather than by June 1?"	
	Against	19,554			
	For	25,880	No.4	"Shall the name of the County be changed to Miami-Dade County?"	
	Against	51,086			
	For	60,073	No.5	"Shall the Charter be amended to require the Board of County Commissioners to review the Charter at least once in every five (5) year period and, when there appears to be a need for Charter revision, to establish a procedure for revising the Charter?"	
	Against	19,586			



June 7, 1977

For 185,228 No.1 , Shall Subsection (A) 15 of the Citizens' Bill of Rights (an introductory article of the Dade County Home Rule Charter), relating to financial disclosure, be amended to provide for the annual (rather than monthly) filing of outside income reports by all full-time county and municipal employees unless the County Manager or City Manager, for good cause, requires monthly reports from any individual employee or groups of employees?
Against 70,076

For 146,473 No.2 → Shall Article 6 of the Dade County Home Rule Charter relating to the Metropolitan Court be repealed?
Against 60,796

For 208,504 No.3 - Shall Dade County Ordinance No. 71-3 which prohibits discrimination in the areas of housing, public accommodations and employment against persons based on their affectional or sexual preferences be repealed?
Against 92,212

October 9, 1978

For 57,165 No.1 "Should Section 4.03 D of the County Charter be amended to require formal sealed competitive bids whenever the County's purchase will exceed a minimum amount established by the Board of County Commissioners by Ordinance rather than the amount of \$1,000.00 presently established by the Charter?"
Against 52,965

For 70,404 No.2 "Should Section 7.01 6(a) of the County Charter which deals with proposals to be enacted by initiative and referendum be amended to read that 'Any reduction or elimination of existing revenue or any increase in expenditures not provided for by the current budget or by existing bond issues shall not take effect until the beginning of the next succeeding fiscal year?'"
Against 34,601

For 97,682 No.3 "Shall Section 7.01(4) of the County Charter be amended to require that the proposal be submitted to electors in impartial and concise language and in such manner as provides a clear understanding of the proposal?"
Against 14,179

For 67,114 No.4 "Shall Section 7.01(2), (3) and (5) of the County Charter be amended to:
Against 41,588 (a) change the time period for circulating an initiatory petition to 60 days;
(b) increase the number of signatures required on a sufficient initiatory petition from 10,000 to four percent of the registered voters in the County and require that no more than 25 percent of the signatures come from voters registered in any single County Commission district; and
(c) schedule initiatory and referendary elections in the next County-wide election rather than in a special election unless the petition includes the signatures of at least eight percent of the registered voters in the County?"

For 63,754 No.5 "Shall Section 7.02(2) of the County Charter be amended to increase the number of signatures required a sufficient recall petition from 10,000 to at least four percent of the registered voters in the county, district, or municipality?"
Against 45,641

May 8, 1979

For 95,692
Against 96,512

Shall the ordinance

(a) prohibiting smoking in enclosed public places, places of employment, educational facilities and health facilities, but

(b) permitting smoking in bars, retail tobacco stores, hotel and motel rooms, at certain private social gatherings, designated smoking sections in lobbies or waiting areas physically separated by walls or partitions, designated smoking sections in student or faculty lounges in educational facilities, designated smoking areas in employee lounges, enclosed rooms designated as smoking rooms, outdoor areas, private hospital rooms, semiprivate hospital rooms where both patients request that smoking be permitted; designated smoking areas in employee cafeterias, places where boxing or wrestling matches will occur, pool halls, and designated smoking areas in restaurants and cafeterias, and

(c) requiring the posting of signs reading that smoking is prohibited by law in all areas where smoking is prohibited,

be enacted?

September 18, 1979

For 91,423
Against 168,732

Shall the ordinance which reads as follows:

"Ordinance fixing property tax millage for all county operating purposes in Dade County, Florida; providing for inclusion in the Dade County Code; and providing an effective date.

Be it ordained by the people of Dade County, Florida:

Section 1. The county millage for the 1979-1980 fiscal year shall be four mills per \$1,000.00 on all property subject to ad valorem tax in Dade County, Florida, as the millage fixed and determined to be levied for all county operating purposes.

Section 2. This ordinance does not determine the millage for county bonded debt service or the library district fund, or other special district millages.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be included in the Dade County Code.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect at the beginning of the next succeeding fiscal year, on October 1, 1979."

be enacted?

"
March 9, 1980

For 68,029
Against 113,171

Shall Section 1.06 of the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide that the Mayor and County Commissioners receive a salary of \$12,000 per year instead of the current \$6,000 per year?

Date of Election

March 13, 1984

Results of Votes

For 49,189
Against 132,431

Question

Resolution approving proposed amendment to Dade County Charter adding Section 8.02 there- to changing the name of Dade County to Miami-Dade County.

Date of Election

November 6, 1984

Results of Votes

For 286,164
Against 119,407

Shall Section 1.05C of the Home Rule Charter be amended to provide that, instead of forfeiting his or her County employment, a County employee shall be permitted to take a leave of absence upon qualifying as a candidate for election to any federal, state or municipal office?

Date of Election

November 4, 1986

Results of Votes

For 179,679
Against 108,374

Shall Section 1.02 of the Dade County Home Rule Charter be amended to provide that the Board of County Commissioners may authorize the re-funding of debt by resolution after public hearing rather than by ordinance?