



**MEMORANDUM**

Special Item No. 3

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 24, 2011

**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution calling a special election for the purpose of submitting the question to the electors of whether to amend the Home Rule Charter to provide that no person elected shall serve more than three consecutive four-year terms in office

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/up



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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**SUBJECT:** Special Item No. 3

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous\_\_\_\_) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Special Item No. 3  
3-24-11

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION CALLING A COUNTYWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, [ \_\_\_\_\_ ], 2011, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO AMEND THE HOME RULE CHARTER TO PROVIDE THAT, EFFECTIVE WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS IN 2012, NO PERSON ELECTED FOR MORE THAN THREE CONSECUTIVE FOUR-YEAR TERMS AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO QUALIFY FOR, NOR SHALL BE ELECTED AS, A COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR THE NEXT SUCCEEDING TERM WITH TERMS OF OFFICE COMMENCING BEFORE 2012 EXCLUDED FROM THE TERM LIMIT CALCULATION

**WHEREAS**, Article VIII, Section 6 of the Florida Constitution provides that the electors of Miami-Dade County may impose limitations on the number of consecutive terms in office of the County Commission through the Home Rule Charter; and

**WHEREAS**, term limits will increase voter choice by allowing more candidates to participate in the democratic process in the County,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

Section 1. A countywide special election is hereby called and shall be held in Miami-Dade County, Florida on Tuesday, [ \_\_\_\_\_ ], 2011, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of Miami-Dade County the proposal for amendment to the Home Rule Charter in the form attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Section 2. Notice of such election shall be published in accordance with Section 100.342, Florida Statutes.

Section 3. The result of such election shall be determined by a majority of the qualified electors of Miami-Dade County voting upon the proposal. The polls at such election shall be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on the day of such election. All qualified electors of Miami-Dade County, Florida shall be entitled to vote at said election. The County registration books shall remain open at the Office of the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections until twenty-nine (29) days prior to the date of such election, at which time the registration books will close in accordance with the provisions of general election laws. The question shall appear on the ballot in substantially the following form:

HOME RULE CHARTER AMENDMENT  
ESTABLISHING PROSPECTIVE TERM LIMITS FOR  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SHALL THE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE TERM LIMITS, COMMENCING WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSION ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR 2012, SO THAT NO PERSON WHO HAS SERVED THREE CONSECUTIVE FOUR-YEAR TERMS AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO QUALIFY AS A CANDIDATE FOR, NOR MAY BE ELECTED AS, COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR THE NEXT SUCCEEDING TERM WITH TERMS OF OFFICE COMMENCING BEFORE 2012 EXCLUDED FROM THE TERM LIMIT CALCULATION?

YES

NO

Section 4. The form of the ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 5. Early voting shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 6. Absentee paper ballots may be used by qualified electors of Miami-Dade County for voting on this question. The form of such absentee ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements prescribed by general election laws.

Section 7. A sample ballot showing the manner in which the question or proposal aforesaid will appear at this election shall be published and provided in accordance with the applicable provisions of general election laws.

Section 8. This special election on the proposal aforesaid shall be held and conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the general laws relating to elections and the provisions of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter. The County Mayor or his or her designee, the Finance Director, and the Clerk of the County Commission are hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions necessary to carry into effect and accomplish the provisions of this resolution. This election shall be a nonpartisan election. Election officials in connection with this election shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of general election laws.

Section 9. This election shall be canvassed by the County Canvassing Board, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.07 of the Home Rule Charter.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson. It was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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Joe A. Martinez, Chairman

Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman

Bruno A. Barreiro

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Sally A. Heyman

Jean Monestime

Rebeca Sosa

Lynda Bell

Carlos A. Gimenez

Barbara J. Jordan

Dennis C. Moss

Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2011. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Oren Rosenthal

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER

ARTICLE-3<sup>1</sup>

ELECTIONS

Section 3.01 ELECTION AND COMMENCEMENT  
OF TERMS OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS.

\* \* \*

>>E. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, from and after the election of Commissioners scheduled to occur in 2012, no person who has served three consecutive four-year terms as a County Commissioner shall be eligible to qualify as a candidate for, nor may be elected as, a County Commissioner for the next succeeding term. No service as a Commissioner for a term commencing before 2012 shall be considered a part of or counted toward the restriction on qualification in this section.<<

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<sup>1</sup>Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted. Words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.

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