

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)


**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 4, 2014

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution supporting SB 378 or similar legislation requiring local governments to provide discounts at parks for active duty military and veterans so long as the Legislature provides funding for such discounts so that property taxes do not have to be increased to offset the cost; directing the Mayor to provide a report to the Board estimating the fiscal impact associated with SB 378

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/cp



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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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 Mayor'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 \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(14)  
3-4-14

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

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SB 378 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION REQUIRING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE DISCOUNTS AT PARKS FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND VETERANS SO LONG AS THE LEGISLATURE PROVIDES FUNDING FOR SUCH DISCOUNTS SO THAT PROPERTY TAXES DO NOT HAVE TO BE INCREASED TO OFFSET THE COST; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO THE BOARD ESTIMATING THE FISCAL IMPACT ASSOCIATED WITH SB 378

**WHEREAS**, on November 6, 2013, Senator Joe Abruzzo (D – Wellington) filed SB 378 for the Florida Legislature’s consideration during the 2014 session; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 378 would require counties and municipalities to provide 25 percent discounts on annual entrance passes to parks for active duty military and veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 378 also would require counties and municipalities to provide annual entrance passes at no charge to disabled veterans and their families, surviving spouses or parents of members of the military killed in combat and surviving spouses or parents of law enforcement and firefighters killed in the line of duty; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County already offers certain discounts at County parks for active duty military and veterans with service-connected disabilities in recognition of their service to our country; and

**WHEREAS**, if passed, SB 378 may require such discounts to be extended and increased, resulting in a fiscal impact on County taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would like to express its support and gratitude for active duty military and veterans, and would like to support SB 378 so long as the Legislature provides

funding for such discounts so that property taxes do not have to be increased to offset the fiscal impact associated with SB 378,

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

**Section 1.** Supports SB 378 or similar legislation requiring local governments to provide discounts to parks for active duty military and veterans so long as the Legislature provides funding for such discounts so that property taxes do not have to be increased to offset the fiscal impact.

**Section 2.** Urges the Florida Legislature to enact such legislation based on the conditions set forth in section 1 above.

**Section 3.** Directs the Mayor or designee to provide a report estimating the additional annual fiscal impact associated with SB 378 within 10 days of the effective date of this resolution for placement on an agenda of the full Board, without committee review.

**Section 4.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 5.** Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2014 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. 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:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman  
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

Bruno A. Barreiro  
Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
Sally A. Heyman  
Jean Monestime  
Sen. Javier D. Souto  
Juan C. Zapata

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
Audrey M. Edmonson  
Barbara J. Jordan  
Dennis C. Moss  
Xavier L. Suarez

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014. 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.

JMM

Jess M. McCarty