

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(17)

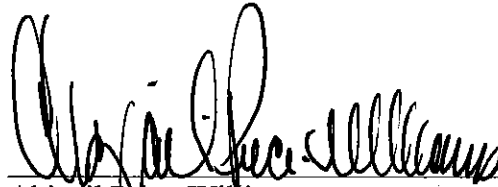
TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 6, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to adopt an annual
sales tax holiday for Veterans of
the United States Armed Forces
and their families

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz.


Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/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
- Statement of social equity 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)(17)
12-6-16

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
ADOPT AN ANNUAL SALES TAX HOLIDAY FOR
VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES
AND THEIR FAMILIES

WHEREAS, Florida has the third largest population of veterans in the nation with more than 1.6 million veterans, comprising 12 percent of the state's 18-and-over population; and

WHEREAS, of those veterans, more than 731,000 are over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, according to statistics from the United States Census Bureau, the veteran population in Miami-Dade County was 60,168 in the years between 2009 and 2013; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the inflation-adjusted median household income for veterans in Florida was \$58,190, compared with \$61,884 nationwide; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate for the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County to express their appreciation to those individuals who valiantly served in the United States Armed Forces defending this nation and its interests and protecting the liberty which we all enjoy; and

WHEREAS, one way in which that appreciation may be demonstrated, and which will also provide a well-deserved benefit and privilege to veterans, is through the adoption of a sales tax holiday for veterans; and

WHEREAS, sales tax holidays have been utilized in the past to great effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, for instance, on January 20, 2005 and February 20, 2007, respectively, this Board adopted Resolution Nos. R-99-05 and R-191-07, which urged the Florida Legislature to expand sales tax holidays for the purchase of personal hurricane supplies to encourage Florida residents to prepare for hurricane season; and

WHEREAS, those efforts proved highly successful and Floridians saved approximately \$10 million and \$41 million in 2005 and 2006, respectively; and

WHEREAS, this Board believes a similar sales tax holiday should be created for the benefit of veterans and their families, who all too often do not receive the recognition, gratitude and assistance they deserve; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 session of the Florida Legislature, companion Senate and House Bills—SB 538 by Senator Christopher Smith (D – Fort Lauderdale) and HB 279 by Representative Kionne McGhee (D – Cutler Bay)—were filed that would have created an annual sales tax holiday for veterans for the purchase of certain retail items during November 1 through December 31; and

WHEREAS, both SB 538 and HB 279 died in committee; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to urge the Florida Legislature to adopt a similar sales tax holiday for veterans and their families,

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

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature to adopt an annual sales tax holiday for veterans of the United States Armed Forces and their families.

Section 2. 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 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2017 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz. 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:

Jean Monestime, Chairman	
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Joe A. Martinez	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of December, 2016. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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.

MSM

Michael J. Mastrucci

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