

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

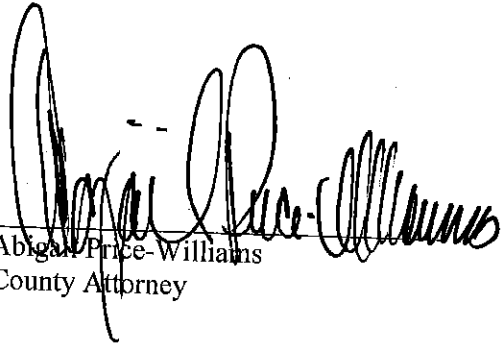
**TO:** Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 21, 2017

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the Florida Legislature to enact SB 276, HB 275 or similar legislation that would create a state work opportunity tax credit to provide an additional credit against the corporate income tax for businesses that hire certain persons convicted of a felony

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan.

  
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

APW/lmp




# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 21, 2017

**FROM:**   
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

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)(5)  
3-21-17

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

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT SB 276, HB 275 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD CREATE A STATE WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL CREDIT AGAINST THE CORPORATE INCOME TAX FOR BUSINESSES THAT HIRE CERTAIN PERSONS CONVICTED OF A FELONY

**WHEREAS**, a growing number of people who have arrest and conviction records are returning to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Department of Corrections reported that 32,921 ex-offenders were released from state correctional facilities and 86,369 ex-offenders were admitted to community control or probation from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, helping ex-offenders obtain employment promotes public safety and decreases the likelihood of recidivism, as employment is crucial to successful re-integration of offenders; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals convicted of a felony face multiple barriers to employment; and

**WHEREAS**, two bills have been filed for consideration during the 2017 session of the Florida Legislature, Senate Bill (SB) 276 by Senator Randolph Bracy (D – Ocoee) and House Bill (HB) 275 by Representatives Ramon Alexander (D – Tallahassee) and Patricia Hawkins-Williams (D – Fort Lauderdale); and

**WHEREAS**, SB 276 and HB 275 would allow a credit against the corporate income tax to any business that hires a person who has been convicted of a felony if the person is hired within three years after release from a state prison, or to any business that hires a person who has been convicted of a felony and who is on community control or probation; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 276 and HB 275 would create a credit to businesses that would equal 40 percent of the wages paid to the employee and permit a business to claim credits up to \$2,400 for up to five eligible employees during each taxable period; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 276 and HB 275 would create additional incentives for small businesses and minority businesses by increasing the credit to equal 50 percent of the wages paid to the employee and permit a business to claim credits up to \$3,000 for up to five eligible employees during each taxable period; and

**WHEREAS**, under SB 276 and HB 275, before filing for the state work opportunity credit, a business must apply for and receive written notification from the Department of Economic Opportunity certifying that each employee for whom the credit is claimed was previously convicted of a felony and has been hired within three years after release from state prison or has been convicted of a felony and is on community control or probation; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 276 and HB 275 would encourage Florida businesses to hire ex-offenders and would further public safety by reducing recidivism and providing an opportunity for ex-offenders to successfully reintegrate in the community as a gainfully employed person; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board supports SB 276 and HB 275 or similar legislation that would create a state work opportunity tax credit that provides an additional credit against the corporate income tax for businesses hiring certain persons convicted of a felony,

**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 enact SB 276, HB 275 or similar legislation that would create a state work opportunity tax credit that provides an additional credit against the corporate income tax for businesses that hire certain persons convicted of a felony.

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, Senator Randolph Bracy, Representative Ramon Alexander, Representative Patricia Hawkins-Williams, 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 passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2017 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan. 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:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017. 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.



Suzanne Villano-Charif