

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(27)

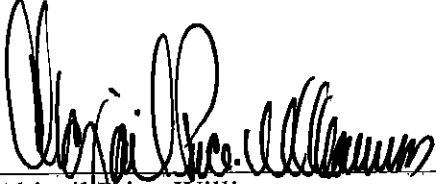
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 7, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution opposing the
cancellation of the Military
Accessions Vital to National
Interest ("MAVNI") program
and urging the United States
Department of Defense to
continue the MAVNI program

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/jls

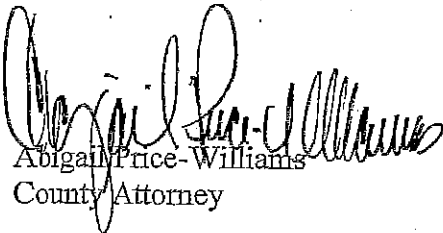


MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: November 7, 2017

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SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(27)

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)(27)
11-7-17

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CANCELLATION OF THE
MILITARY ACCESSIONS VITAL TO NATIONAL INTEREST
("MAVNI") PROGRAM AND URGING THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO CONTINUE THE MAVNI
PROGRAM

WHEREAS, in 2008, the United States Department of Defense ("DOD") established the Military Accessions Vital to National Interest ("MAVNI") program, which recruits legal immigrants with medical and language skills considered vital to the national interest into the military and, in exchange for enlistment, provides expedited naturalization; and

WHEREAS, MAVNI applicants are legal immigrants and must be valid asylees, refugees, have temporary protected status ("TPS"), or be in certain nonimmigrant categories for a period of two years immediately prior to their enlistment date; and

WHEREAS, a MAVNI applicant must not leave the United States for more than 90 cumulative days during the two year period immediately preceding the date of enlistment; and

WHEREAS, under the MAVNI program, the United States Armed Forces gained valuable services from health care professionals and experts in languages that are vital to the ability of the military to operate effectively around the world; and

WHEREAS, the MAVNI program has led to expedited citizenship for 10,400 troops since 2008 and provided the military with special skills from more than 10,000 troops; and

WHEREAS, in September 2016, the DOD issued a memorandum imposing new clearance requirements for enlistees enrolled in the MAVNI program; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Pentagon officials sent a memorandum to DOD Secretary James Mattis requesting a termination of the MAVNI program due to an elevated risk to the DOD and the cost of additional background checks for MAVNI recruits; and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2017, the United States Citizen and Immigration Services (“CIS”) Ombudsman’s report to Congress advised that the clearance requirements imposed on MAVNI recruits has led to substantial delays and caused immigration status issues for those joining the Armed Services through MAVNI who wish to apply for naturalization; and

WHEREAS, canceling the MAVNI program could leave as many as 1,800 MAVNI applicants subject to deportation and leave the military without vital medical and language skills; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports the MAVNI program,

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

Section 1. Opposes the cancellation of the Military Accessions Vital to National Interest (“MAVNI”) program.

Section 2. Urges the United States Department of Defense to continue the MAVNI program.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Miami-Dade County Congressional Delegation and the U.S. Secretary of Defense.

Section 4. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this time in the 2018 Federal 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:

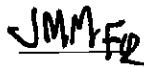
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman | |
| Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman | |
| Bruno A. Barreiro | Daniella Levine Cava |
| Jose "Pepe" Diaz | Sally A. Heyman |
| Barbara J. Jordan | Joe A. Martinez |
| Jean Monestime | Dennis C.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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of November, 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

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Laura E. Wade