

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(25)

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

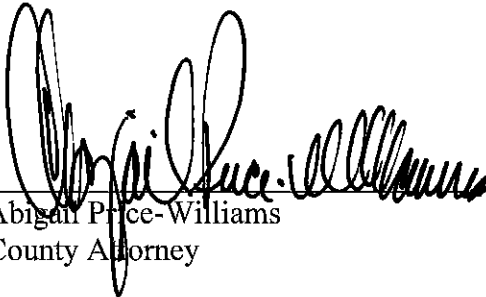
DATE: October 3, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to provide funding
for the Miami Military Museum
Education Center

Resolution No. R-898-17

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Dennis C. Moss.



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm

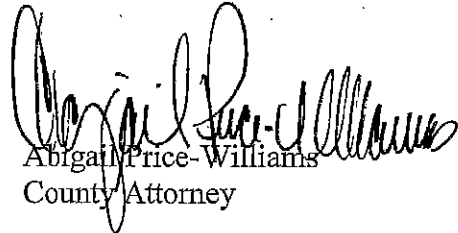


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(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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 _____

Veto _____

Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(25)

10-3-17

RESOLUTION NO. R-898-17

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE MIAMI MILITARY MUSEUM
EDUCATION CENTER

WHEREAS, during World War II, Naval Air Station Richmond in Miami-Dade County became the world's largest military blimp base; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Naval Air Station Richmond was a critical United States base from which Navy blimps fought against the attack of Nazi U-boats which sunk 42 ships near the Florida coast, 27 in the Gulf of Mexico, and 20 more in the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, blimps were housed in giant 16-story wooden hangars at Naval Air Station Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Building No. 25 was the headquarters for the blimp base at Naval Air Station Richmond and is the only remaining wood-frame building from the blimp base; and

WHEREAS, the base is the namesake for the historic neighborhood of Richmond Heights now located one mile away; and

WHEREAS, Building No. 25 continued to be used after World War II for various functions, including serving as the Central Intelligence Agency's headquarters for JM-WAVE, a covert operation against Fidel Castro during the Cuban Missile Crisis; and

WHEREAS, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, Building No. 25 was also a command site and location of a fully-operational battery of Hawk Missiles manned by the United States Army Air Defense Artillery; and

WHEREAS, Building No. 25 subsequently served as a reserve center for the United States Army, and as a reserve center for the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Miami-Dade County residents voted to save the building as part of the General Obligation Bond Referendum; and

WHEREAS, Building No. 25 has been relocated to county-owned land near Zoo Miami and the Gold Coast Railroad Museum for use as the Miami Military Museum and Memorial (the “museum”); and

WHEREAS, starting in 2008, Miami-Dade County has provided \$3 million dollars in funding to stabilize the building and commence restoration; and

WHEREAS, because of its historical significance, the Miami-Dade Historic Preservation Board, in 2010, named Building No. 25 a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the museum, after many years, received sufficient restorative funding from the Florida Legislature and Miami-Dade County to open its doors for a soft opening to the public in the summer of 2017; and

WHEREAS, benefits to the public from the completion of the museum include, but are not limited to, increased tourism, economic stimulus, military recognition, historic preservation, and public education; and

WHEREAS, the museum now plans to create an Education Center on the premises designed to educate young students on a wide range of topics including United States history and civics; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (“MDCPS”) issued a proclamation in May 2017 endorsing the Miami Military Museum for its educational value; and

WHEREAS, the museum plans to partner with MDCPS curriculum developers to create grade school student tours at the facility and co-host said tours with Zoo Miami, which is located next door; and

WHEREAS, the Education Center will also feature oral history projects created for the Library of Congress Veterans History Project; and

WHEREAS, the museum, through its Education Center, also plans on collaborating with Florida State University's Institute on WWII and the Human Experience to host joint exhibitions, military history conferences, and collegiate academic seminars; and

WHEREAS, there is no such facility in existence in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County have each invested \$3 million dollars to the development of the museum; and

WHEREAS, this Board again urges the Florida Legislature to continue to support the Miami Military Museum by providing additional funding to assist in the development of an Education Center,

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 provide funding for the Miami Military Museum Education Center.

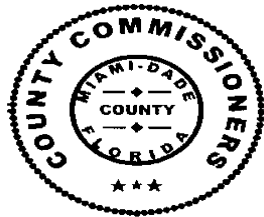
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the issue set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental affairs to include this item in the 2018 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss. It was offered by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of October, 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: **Christopher Agrippa**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

MSM for

Javier Zapata