

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(19)

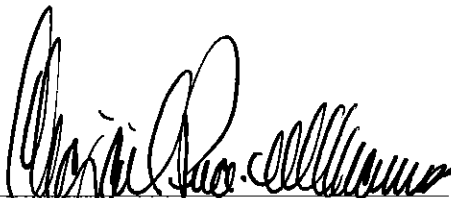
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 10, 2018

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution calling a countywide special election in Miami-Dade County, Florida, to be held in conjunction with a general election on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, for the purpose of submitting to the electors of Miami-Dade County the question of whether to amend the Home Rule Charter to prohibit any person circulating an initiatory petition from paying or offering to pay any individual or organization, or receive payment or agree to receive payment, on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained for circulating the petition and invalidate any petitions collected in violation of this prohibition

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/cp

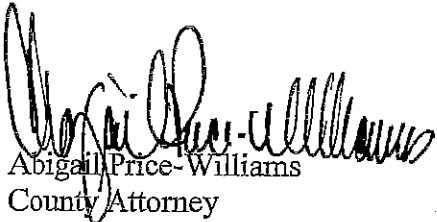


MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: July 10, 2018

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County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(19)

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)(19)
7-10-18

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION CALLING A COUNTYWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH A GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO AMEND THE HOME RULE CHARTER TO PROHIBIT ANY PERSON CIRCULATING AN INITIATORY PETITION FROM PAYING OR OFFERING TO PAY ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION, OR RECEIVE PAYMENT OR AGREE TO RECEIVE PAYMENT, ON A BASIS RELATED TO THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES OBTAINED FOR CIRCULATING THE PETITION AND INVALIDATE ANY PETITIONS COLLECTED IN VIOLATION OF THIS PROHIBITION

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2017, this Board approved Resolution No. R-304-17 creating a Charter Review Task Force to review the Home Rule Charter of Miami-Dade County in its entirety and prepare and submit to the Board of County Commissioners written recommendations setting forth any proposed amendments or revisions to the Charter; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2018 the Charter Review Task Force transmitted a final report recommending that this Board place proposed changes to the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter before the electorate of the County; and

WHEREAS, among the issues studied by the Charter Review Task Force was whether the Charter should prohibit person or persons circulating initiatory petitions from paying or offering to pay any individual or organization, or receive payment or agree to receive payment, on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained for circulating the petition; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Task Force believed that such a method of payment gives a strong incentive to gatherers to forge signatures or otherwise use fraudulent methods in order to up their total number of signatures submitted and thus their payment; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Task force, by a vote of seven in favor and one against, recommends that the circulators of initiatory petitions be prohibited from paying or offering to pay any individual or organization, or receive payment or agree to receive payment, on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained for circulating the petition; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to place this issue before the voters on the November 6, 2018 General Election Ballot,

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

Section 1. A countywide special election is hereby called and shall be held in Miami-Dade County, Florida in conjunction with a General Election on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of Miami-Dade County the proposal for amendment to the Home Rule Charter in the form attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Section 2. Notice of such election shall be published in accordance with Section 100.342, Florida Statutes.

Section 3. The result of such election shall be determined by a majority of the qualified electors of Miami-Dade County voting upon the proposal. The polls at such election shall be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on the day of such election. All qualified electors of Miami-Dade County, Florida shall be entitled to vote at said election. The County registration books shall

remain open at the Office of the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections until twenty-nine (29) days prior to the date of such election, at which time the registration books will close in accordance with the provisions of general election laws. The question shall appear on the ballot in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT
PROHIBITING CERTAIN PAYMENTS CIRCULATORS OF
INITIATORY PETITIONS

SHALL THE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO PROHIBIT ANY PERSON CIRCULATING AN INITIATORY PETITION FROM PAYING OR OFFERING TO PAY ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION, OR RECEIVE PAYMENT OR AGREE TO RECEIVE PAYMENT, ON A BASIS RELATED TO THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES OBTAINED FOR CIRCULATING THE PETITION AND INVALIDATE ANY PETITIONS COLLECTED IN VIOLATION OF THIS PROHIBITION?

YES ☐

NO ☐

Section 4. The form of the ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 5. Early voting shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of general election laws.

Section 6. Absentee paper ballots may be used by qualified electors of Miami-Dade County for voting on this question. The form of such absentee ballot shall be in accordance with the requirements prescribed by general election laws.

Section 7. A sample ballot showing the manner in which the question or proposal aforesaid will appear at this election shall be published and provided in accordance with the applicable provisions of general election laws.

Section 8. This special election on the proposal aforesaid shall be held and conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the general laws relating to elections and the provisions of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter. The County Mayor or his or her designee, the Finance Director, and the Clerk of the County Commission are hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate actions necessary to carry into effect and accomplish the provisions of this resolution. This election shall be a nonpartisan election. Election officials in connection with this election shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of general election laws.

Section 9. This election shall be canvassed by the County Canvassing Board, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.07 of the Home Rule Charter.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss. 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	
Daniella Levine Cava	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Eileen Higgins
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 10th day of July, 2018. 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.



Oren Rosenthal

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER

ARTICLE-8¹

INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

* * *

SECTION 8.01. – INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

* * *

2. The person or persons circulating the petition shall, within 120 days of the approval of the form of the petition, obtain the valid signatures of voters in the county in numbers at least equal to four percent of the registered voters in the county on the day on which the petition is approved, according to the official records of the County Supervisor of Elections. In determining the sufficiency of the petition, no more than 25 percent of the valid signatures required shall come from voters registered in any single county commission district. Each signer of a petition shall place thereon, after his name, the date, and his place of residence or precinct number. Each person circulating a copy of the petition shall attach to it a sworn affidavit stating the number of signers and the fact that each signature was made in the presence of the circulator of the petition. >>The person or persons circulating the petition shall not pay or offer to pay any individual or organization, or receive payment or agree to receive payment, on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained for circulating the petition. Any signed petitions collected by a circulator paid on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained shall be invalid.<<

* * *

¹Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted. Words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.