

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

TO: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 16, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution declaring May 20,
2023, and every third Saturday of
every May thereafter as Military
Appreciation Day in Miami-
Dade County

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw

MDC001



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(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 present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____) 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)(3)
5-16-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 20, 2023, AND EVERY
THIRD SATURDAY OF EVERY MAY THEREAFTER AS
MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, as of 2021, an estimated 46,642 veterans reside in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has a lengthy history as an important community to the United States Armed Forces, spanning from at least the Second Seminole War in 1835 through the present; and

WHEREAS, in between, Miami-Dade County served an important role during the Spanish-American War in 1898, when Miami served as a staging area for the thousands of personnel of United States Armed Forces stationed in downtown Miami and at the Royal Palm Hotel before their departure to fight in Cuba and then returning, after a decisive victory over Spain, with prisoners of war who were brought to the area in the vicinity of present-day PortMiami; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County was also of critical importance in World War II, during which German U-boats attacked and sank dozens of vessels in Florida waters, leading to the development of a blimp-led counteroffensive managed from South Florida; and

WHEREAS, in that vein, the United States Navy established a blimp base at Richmond Air Station, at present-day ZooMiami, from which blimps were dispatched to patrol the Florida coastline, identifying and bombing German U-boats; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County also played an important role in the Cold War that followed World War II, particularly during the Bay of Pigs effort in the early 1960s, in which the Assault Brigade 2506 trained for its offensive against the Cuban communist regime at military bases in South Florida, including Homestead Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, remnants of Miami-Dade County's Cold War history are visible to this day at Everglades National Park, where the United States Army maintained a Nike Hercules missile site until 1979 for the purpose of protecting the United States from a possible Soviet air attack; and

WHEREAS, apart from its historical military significance, present-day Miami-Dade County has an important connection with the United States Armed Forces, which, according to the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, have an impact of more than \$5,000,000,000.00 annually in Miami-Dade County, employing over 56,000 people with average job earnings of \$70,100.00 per job; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County currently serves as the home of the United States Southern Command (Southcom), United States Special Operations Command South (SOC-South), Homestead Air Reserve Base, United States Coast Guard District Seven, the Florida National Guard, and a hospital of the United States Veterans Health Administration; and

WHEREAS, as a result, Miami-Dade County takes special pride in honoring active duty and veteran members of the United States Armed Forces who have dedicated at least a portion of their lives in service of the cause of freedom; and

WHEREAS, consequently, this Board desires to declare May 20, 2023, and every third Saturday of every May thereafter as Military Appreciation Day in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, in recognizing Military Appreciation Day, Miami-Dade County joins other communities in the United States that have set aside at least one day of the month of May to recognize and honor the dedication and commitment of the members of the United States Armed Forces,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board declares May 20, 2023, and every third Saturday of every May thereafter as Military Appreciation Day in Miami-Dade County.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee. 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:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Kevin Marino Cabrera	Sen. René García
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Eileen Higgins
Kionne L. McGhee	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of May, 2023. 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

LUIS G. MONTALDO, CLERK AD INTERIM

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

MAG

Miguel A. Gonzalez