

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 4, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County
Mayor to work with America's
Heroes Golf Program to expand
eligibility to all combat veterans

Resolution No. R-247-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 4, 2025

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

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 ____, majority plus one ____, 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) ____, 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)(1)
3-4-25

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-247-25

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR
COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO WORK WITH
AMERICA'S HEROES GOLF PROGRAM TO EXPAND
ELIGIBILITY TO ALL COMBAT VETERANS

WHEREAS, for more than 200 years, individuals from all walks of life have taken up arms and sworn an oath to support and defend the principles upon which our country was founded; and

WHEREAS, throughout our nation's history, courageous men and women have donned the uniform of our Armed Forces and built a noble tradition of faithful and dedicated service to the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the commitment of our soldiers, Marines, sailors, airmen, coast guardsmen, and guardsmen has preserved our freedoms and saved millions around the world from tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we can never fully repay our debt of gratitude to those heroic men and women who served, particularly those who served in combat; and

WHEREAS, combat veterans are those who served on active duty in a designated military conflict, including World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, one way the County can provide a small token of appreciation to combat veterans is to remove any potential barriers to indulging in the joy of golf at the County's public courses; and

WHEREAS, currently under Implementing Order 04-119 there are various fees associated with golfing at County golf courses; and

WHEREAS, since 2008, the Golf Division of the County's Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department, in conjunction with the Miami VA Healthcare System, has offered veterans who have served in the combat theaters of either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom and are current residents of Miami-Dade County the recreational opportunity to learn and play the game of golf at no charge through America's Heroes Golf Program (the "Program"); and

WHEREAS, the Program includes use of golf equipment and facilities, greens fees, and golf cart fees at four County golf courses—Palmetto Golf Course, Country Club of Miami, Greynolds Park Golf Course, and Briar Bay Golf Course—as well as golf lessons at Palmetto Golf Course and Country Club of Miami; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, Program members played a total of 1,186 complimentary rounds; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to recognize the sacrifice of all the combat veterans living in our community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall work with America's Heroes Golf Program leadership to expand eligibility to include all current or former members of the United States Armed Forces (i.e., Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, or National Guard) whose military service records indicate they served in a designated combat zone (i.e., World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom), received hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay, or earned a

combat service medal, and have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, in addition to any other criteria to be determined in the sole discretion of the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera. It was offered by Commissioner **Raquel A. Regalado**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of March, 2025. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: **Basia Pruna**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

BED

Brianna E. Donet