

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT SENATE BILL 172, WHICH SEEKS TO CREATE A VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS, WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE HOME BUYING CAPABILITIES OF FLORIDA'S DISABLED VETERANS; AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO SEND A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE SPEAKER OF THE FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA SENATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach recognizes the invaluable service and sacrifices made by veterans in defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 172 ("SB 172") has been filed for consideration during the Florida Legislature's 2024 session by Senators Tina Polsky and Rosalind Osgood; and

WHEREAS, SB 172 seeks to create a verification of eligibility for the homestead exemption for certain disabled veterans, which would enhance the home buying capabilities of Florida's disabled veterans; and

WHEREAS, the current system creates a timing issue for disabled veterans, as they are required to apply for an real estate tax exemption only after taking ownership of their homes, causing temporary financial challenges during the mortgage underwriting process; and

WHEREAS, SB 172 seeks to rectify this issue by allowing certain disabled veterans to apply for their exemption after entering into a contract to purchase a home, ensuring approval subject to home ownership, thereby eliminating unnecessary hurdles during the mortgage qualification process; and

WHEREAS, this adjustment enables disabled veterans to access the benefits they have rightfully earned precisely when they need them most, facilitating their journey to homeownership without imposing any additional financial burdens on the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission strongly endorse and support Senate Bill 172, which aims to streamline the real estate tax exemption process for disabled veterans in Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City

Commission hereby urge the Florida Legislature to enact Senate Bill 172, which seeks to create a verification of eligibility for the homestead exemption for certain disabled veterans, which would enhance the home buying capabilities of Florida's disabled veterans by adjusting the process for real estate tax exemptions; and direct the City Clerk to send a copy of this Resolution to the members of the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the President of the Florida Senate.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2023.


ATTEST:

Steven Meiner, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Vice-Mayor Kristen Rosen Gonzalez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney *RA*

12-4-23
Date