

RESOLUTION NO. 2022- _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING CITY EMPLOYEES TO DONATE ANNUAL AND SICK LEAVE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 78-3 OF THE CITY CODE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF PERSONS DISPLACED AND/OR ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY RUSSIA'S UNLAWFUL INVASION OF THE SOVEREIGN NATION OF UKRAINE; AND FURTHER DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO REMIT THE DONATED FUNDS TO THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN SUPPORT OF THIS URGENT HUMANITARIAN CRISIS CAUSED BY RUSSIA'S UNLAWFUL INVASION OF UKRAINE.

WHEREAS, on or about February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation ("Russia") launched a full-scale military invasion into the country of Ukraine ("Ukraine"); and

WHEREAS, attacks by Russian armed forces have been reported in major cities across Ukraine, including Berdyansk, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Odesa, Sumy and Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, and Western officials have claimed that, by scope, the war could be the largest in Europe since 1945; and

WHEREAS, despite Russia's claims that there would no attacks on the people of Ukraine or civilian infrastructure, media outlets have reported Russian attacks and strikes on various civilian infrastructure including, but not limited to, schools, hospitals, residential apartment buildings, factories, post offices, museums, houses of worship and even an orphanage; and

WHEREAS, according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as of March 27, 2022, there have been at least 2,909 civilian casualties amid Russia's unlawful invasion of Ukraine, including 1,119 civilian deaths and 1,790 civilian injuries, since the war began; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3.4 million Ukrainians (particularly women, children and the elderly) have been forced to flee to neighboring countries—including over 2 million people seeking refuge in Poland, with many others fleeing to countries such as Hungary, Moldova, Slovakia and Romania, and an additional 6.5 million people have been displaced internally within the country of Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach expresses its grave concern with regard to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which is not only ongoing, but appears to be increasing in scale and severity; and

WHEREAS, in light of the Russian attack on Ukraine, the people of Ukraine are in dire need of humanitarian aid to assist in their safety and well-being, as they face enormous welfare, economic and social challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission approved, at first reading on March 9, 2022, and at second reading on April 6, 2022, an Ordinance (creating Section 78-3 of the City Code) authorizing City employees having at least 260 combined hours of annual and sick leave after any donation, to donate annual and sick leave for humanitarian disaster relief, as authorized via Resolution by the Mayor and City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach prides itself on being a diverse, inclusive international

community with respect for the rule of law and democratic institutions, with the Mayor and City Commission routinely supporting measures that promote human rights and dignity; and

WHEREAS, as such, the Mayor and City Commission desire to allow City employees to voluntarily donate annual and sick leave hours (to be converted into currency at the donating employees' respective hourly rates) in order to provide much needed assistance to the people of Ukraine during this humanitarian disaster.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, hereby authorize City employees to donate Annual and Sick Leave, pursuant to Section 78-3 of the City Code, for the benefit of persons displaced and/or adversely affected by Russia's unlawful invasion of the sovereign nation of Ukraine; and further directing the City Administration to remit the donated funds to the American Red Cross in support of this urgent humanitarian crisis caused by Russia's unlawful invasion of Ukraine.

PASSED and ADOPTED this ____ day of April, 2022.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Alex J. Fernandez)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

City Attorney *MAF*

3-29-22
Date