

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-33169

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA CALLING FOR A NOVEMBER 5, 2024 CITY OF MIAMI BEACH SPECIAL ELECTION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORATE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH A QUESTION ASKING WHETHER THE CITY CHARTER'S "CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS" SHOULD BE AMENDED REGARDING ITS CIRCUIT COURT FORFEITURE REMEDY FOR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS, TO PROVIDE THAT FORFEITURE IS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS (PER STATE LAW) AND TO ESTABLISH SUCH FORFEITURE REMEDY AS DISCRETIONARY INSTEAD OF MANDATORY BASED UPON COURT'S DETERMINATION THAT THE VIOLATOR HAS COMMITTED REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF BILL OF RIGHTS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH:

SECTION 1.

In accordance with provisions of the Charter of the City of Miami Beach, Florida and the general laws of the State of Florida, a Special Election is hereby called and directed to be held in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the electorate the question as set forth hereinafter.

SECTION 2.

That the appropriate and proper Miami-Dade County election officials shall conduct the said Special Election hereby called, with acceptance of the certification of the results of said Special Election to be performed by the City Commission. The official returns for each precinct shall be furnished to the City Clerk of the City of Miami Beach as soon as the ballots from all precincts have been tabulated.

SECTION 3.

That the said voting precincts in the City of said Special Election shall be as established by the proper and appropriate Miami-Dade County Election Officials. All electors shall vote at the polling places and the voting precincts as determined by the Miami-Dade County Election Officials.¹

¹ Pursuant to City Code Section 38-3(b): "...The City Clerk shall further publish, in a newspaper meeting the requirements set forth in Florida Statute § 50.031 and on the City's website, the polling places for the election twice, once in the third week and once in the first week prior to the week in which the election is to be held."

SECTION 4.

Notice of the adoption of this Resolution and of its provisions calling this Special Election shall be given by publication in the Miami Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Such publication shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, and Section 38-3 of the Code of the City of Miami Beach.

SECTION 5.

The Notice of Election shall be substantially in the following form:

THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A SPECIAL ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AND WILL BE HELD IN SAID CITY FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON THE 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY REGISTERED AND QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

Charter’s “Citizens’ Bill of Rights”: Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy

Shall Bill of Rights at Section (C), “Remedies,” be amended to:

- provide that the “forfeiture of office or employment” judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); and
- establish that such forfeiture remedy is within the Court’s discretion instead of mandatory, based upon the Court’s determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights?

Yes _____

No _____

Said Notice shall further set forth pertinent information regarding eligibility of electors to participate in said elections.

SECTION 6.

That the official ballot to be used in the Special Election to be held on November 5, 2024, hereby called, shall be in substantially the following form, to-wit:

“OFFICIAL BALLOT”

Charter’s “Citizens’ Bill of Rights”: Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy

Shall Bill of Rights at Section (C), “Remedies,” be amended to:

- provide that the “forfeiture of office or employment” judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); and
- establish that such forfeiture remedy is within the Court’s discretion instead of mandatory, based upon the Court’s determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights?

Yes _____

No _____

SECTION 7.

The form of the ballots to be used in this Special Election and their preparation shall be in compliance with all statutory requirements relating to the use of mechanical or other approved voting machines or devices.

SECTION 8.

Registration of persons desiring to vote in the Special Election shall be in accordance with the general law of the State of Florida governing voter registration. Qualified persons may obtain registration forms to vote at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 1700 Convention Center Drive, First Floor, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, during normal business hours, and at such other voter registration centers and during such times as may be provided by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County. The Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections will register voters for this Special Election until October 7, 2024. All persons eligible to vote at this Special Election must be registered by the date set forth herein or have registered previously, as provided by law. Each person desiring to become a registered voter shall be responsible for properly filling out the registration form and returning it to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department. All questions concerning voter registration should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

SECTION 9.

That voters participating via a Vote-by-Mail ballot in said Special Election shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida with respect to such voting. All questions concerning Vote-by-Mail ballots should be directed to the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, 2700 N.W. 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172; Telephone: (305) 499-VOTE (8683).

SECTION 10.

That the City of Miami Beach shall pay all expenses for conducting this Special Election and will pay to Miami-Dade County or directly to all persons or firms, upon receipt of invoice or statement approved by the Supervisor of Elections of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

SECTION 11.

That if the Charter Amendment provided for in Sections 5 and 6 above shall be approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on the subject Charter Amendment, it shall be considered adopted and effective upon the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election results.

SECTION 12.

Upon the Charter Amendment's approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City voting on such measure in the election and the City Commission's acceptance of certification of final election returns, the City Clerk is hereby directed to have the subject Charter amendment incorporated into the City Charter, file such Amendment with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and file the revised Charter with the Department of State.

SECTION 13.

In the event that some, but not all, of the Charter amendments on the City's subject November 5, 2024 Special Election ballot are approved by the electors, conforming amendments shall be deemed to be adopted, and the City Attorney is authorized to reflect and implement such revisions to the Charter, to the extent necessary to assure that all amendments adopted conform to one another and to all remaining Charter provisions. If conflicting amendments are adopted at the same election, the one receiving the greatest number of affirmative votes shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 14.

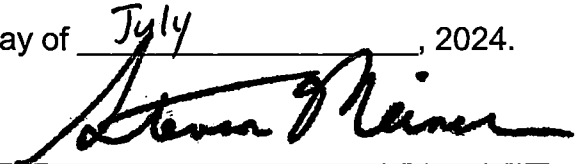
If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution or of the ballot measure or Charter Amendment set forth in Exhibit A and incorporated herein is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, ballot measure or Charter Amendment.

SECTION 15.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 24 day of July, 2024.

ATTEST:



STEVEN MEINER
MAYOR




JUL 25 2024
RAFAEL E. GRANADO
CITY CLERK
NK



(Sponsored by the Mayor and City Commission)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM AND LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney NK 7/16/2024
Date

EXHIBIT "A"

**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT RE:
CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS-AMENDING FORFEITURE REMEDY**

**BALLOT QUESTION AND PROPOSED AMENDED CITY CHARTER TEXT
NOVEMBER 5, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION**

Ballot Question:

Charter's "Citizens' Bill of Rights": Amending Circuit Court Forfeiture Remedy

Shall Bill of Rights at Section (C), "Remedies," be amended to:

- provide that the "forfeiture of office or employment" judicial remedy for willful violations of the Bill of Rights is subject to terms of collective bargaining agreements (per State law); and
- establish that such forfeiture remedy is within the Court's discretion instead of mandatory, based upon the Court's determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights?

**Proposed Amended Charter Text:
CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS**

* * *

(C) Remedies for violations. Except as otherwise provided by law and subject to the rights of employees under the terms of collective bargaining agreements, the following remedies shall apply to violations of the Bill of Rights:

- 1) In any suit by a citizen alleging a violation of this Bill of Rights filed in the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court pursuant to its general equity jurisdiction, the plaintiff, if successful, shall be entitled to recover costs as fixed by the court.
- 2) Any public official or employee who is found by the court to have willfully violated this article Bill of Rights shall forthwith may, at the Court's discretion, be required to forfeit his/her office or employment, based upon the Court's determination that the violator has committed repeated violations of the Bill of Rights.

* * *

² See Resolution No. 2024-_____ at Exhibit "A", setting forth corresponding ballot measure and proposed Charter text amendments to Citizens' Bill of Rights' re: Amending Existing Rights, etc., said Resolution calling City's November 5, 2024 Special Election on said measure.