

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: City Attorney Ricardo J. Dopico

DATE: April 23, 2025 1:40 p.m. First Reading Public Hearing

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 102 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ENTITLED "TAXATION," BY AMENDING ARTICLE IV, ENTITLED "LOCAL BUSINESS TAX," BY AMENDING SECTION 102-368 THEREOF, ENTITLED "POSTING OF BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT AND DECAL; DISPLAY OF BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT NUMBER IN ADVERTISEMENTS," BY REQUIRING THAT COMMERCIAL VESSEL-RELATED BUSINESSES PROMINENTLY DISPLAY A CITY-ISSUED BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT DECAL ON EACH COMMERCIAL VESSEL IN THEIR FLEET; AND PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECOMMENDATION

Click or tap here to enter text.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

ANALYSIS

The proposed ordinance, sponsored by Vice-Mayor David Suarez, is submitted for consideration by the Mayor and City Commission.

The City has many vessels (including charter boats, rental boats, and jet skis) operating within its jurisdictional limits and the sizeable number of individuals boating has posed numerous challenges for the City.

Presently, the City Code requires commercial vessel businesses operating on, or from, any real property in the City to obtain a business tax receipt ("BTR") and abide by all state and local regulations in conducting their business operations. However, the City has received complaints concerning potentially unauthorized commercial vessel activity taking place in the City wherein such unpermitted and unregulated activity is illegal and causes numerous public safety, noise, sanitation, and other issues.

In order to allow for more effective and efficient enforcement of unauthorized commercial vessel activity, the proposed Ordinance (which, if adopted, would take effect on October 1, 2025) would require commercial vessel-related businesses to prominently display a City-issued decal (with a machine-readable code linking the vessel to a specific BTR) on each commercial vessel in their fleet. This would aid the City's enforcement efforts by enabling its Code Compliance Officers and Police Officers to readily identify any vessel as a commercial vessel and, moreover, to quickly determine whether any such vessel is operating pursuant to a valid BTR.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The sponsor of this item requests that the Administration be prepared to address the fiscal impact of this proposed measure, if any, at the City Commission meeting.

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate? Yes
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

If applicable, the Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on:
See BIE at: <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notices/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

No

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

City Attorney

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner David Suarez

Co-sponsor(s)

Condensed Title

1:40 p.m. 1st Rdg PH, BTR Decal Required for Commercial Vessel-Related Businesses.
(Suarez) CA

Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)