

ORDINANCE #2013-25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA ENACTING ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD AD VALOREM TAX DISCOUNT FOR VETERANS AGED 65 OR OLDER WHO ARE PARTIALLY OR TOTALLY PERMANENTLY DISABLED AS A RESULT OF COMBAT-RELATED INJURIES AS PERMITTED UNDER ARTICLE VII, SECTION 6(E) OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, CITY CLERK AND CITY ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS TO EFFECT THIS ORDINANCE, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, veterans returning from overseas combat missions often bear life-long, grievous bodily injuries that require significant assistance; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Doral believe the City should assist veterans in whatever way it can; and,

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 6(e) of the Constitution of the State of Florida authorizes municipalities to grant additional ad valorem tax exemptions to veterans aged 65 or older who are partially or totally disabled as a result of combat-related injuries; and,

WHEREAS, the above subsection is by its own terms self-executing and does not require implementing state legislation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The following Ordinance is hereby enacted:

1. The City hereby enacts the additional ad valorem tax exemption provided in Article VII, Section 6(e) of the Constitution of the State of Florida as provided below.
2. Each veteran who is age 65 or older who is partially or totally permanently disabled shall receive a discount from the amount of the ad valorem tax otherwise owed the City on homestead property the veteran owns and resides in if the disability was combat related and the veteran was honorably discharged upon separation from military service.

3. The discount shall be in a percentage equal to the percentage of the veteran's permanent, service-connected disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

4. To qualify for the discount granted by this subsection, an applicant must submit to the county property appraiser, by March 1, an official letter from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the percentage of the veteran's service-connected disability and such evidence that reasonably identifies the disability as combat related and a copy of the veteran's honorable discharge, unless the Legislature has, by general law, waived the annual application requirement in subsequent years.

Section 2. All ordinances or portions of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Doral in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall be repealed upon the effective date hereof.

Section 3. It is the intention of the Mayor and the City Council that the provisions of this ordinance be incorporated into the Code of Ordinances; to effect such intention codifiers may change the words "ordinance" or "section" to other appropriate words.

Section 4. If any portion of this ordinance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance.

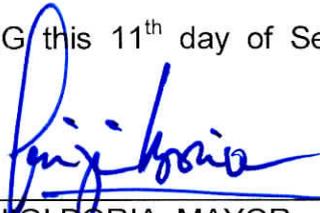
Section 5. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption..

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Vice Mayor Rodriguez Aguilera who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Luigi Boria	Yes
Vice Mayor Bettina Rodríguez Aguilera	Yes
Councilwoman Ana Maria Rodriguez	Yes
Councilwoman Christi Fraga	Yes
Councilwoman Sandra Ruiz	Yes

PASSED and APPROVED on FIRST READING this 21st day of August, 2013.

PASSED and ADOPTED on SECOND READING this 11th day of September, 2013.



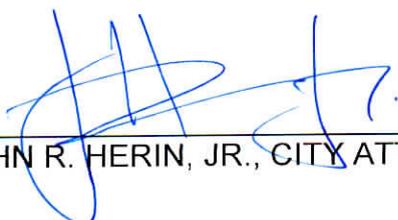
LUGI BORIA, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BARBARA HERRERA, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:



JOHN R. HERIN, JR., CITY ATTORNEY