RESOLUTION No. 26-239

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, URGING THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES TO ESTABLISH A VETERAN'S TOLL EXEMPTION PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION SAFEGUARDS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City wishes to recognize military service by supporting relief from toll charges for Florida veterans; and

WHEREAS, section 338.155, Florida Statutes, generally requires toll payment and provides specified exemptions, but not a general exemption for all veterans; and

WHEREAS, Texas and California provide examples of toll relief for limited qualifying military plate categories, subject to operator and facility restrictions; and

WHEREAS, a broader Florida veterans program requires action by competent state and toll authorities and review of revenue, administrative costs and binding financing obligations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. Veterans Toll Exemption. The Mayor and City Council urge the Florida Legislature and Governor to authorize and fund a program eliminating toll charges for eligible Florida veterans on Florida toll facilities. The policy objective includes veterans without a service-connected disability or qualifying combat-award plate. Eligibility shall be defined by state law, with a uniform method to verify veteran status. The City urges the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, the Greater Miami

Expressway Agency and other responsible toll authorities to coordinate implementation within their lawful authority.

Section 3. Funding and Implementation Safeguards. The requested legislation and implementation plan should identify covered facilities, including treatment of express lanes, and establish practical enrollment, vehicle and transponder rules, privacy protections and safeguards against misuse. The responsible authorities should assess participation, toll revenue, administrative costs and effects on maintenance and capital programs. The City urges state funding or reimbursement sufficient to address the program's costs and revenue effects while protecting bond covenants and other binding obligations. Any phased implementation should retain the broader veterans policy objective.

Section 4. Transmittal. The City Clerk shall transmit copies to the Governor; President of the Florida Senate; Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives; Miami-Dade legislative delegation; Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation; Executive Director of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise; Greater Miami Expressway Agency governing board; and Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. City coordination shall occur through the City Manager within existing resources. Any additional City expense requires separate authorization before it is incurred.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Mayor Rafael Pineyro. Councilman Peter Espinosa requested to co-sponsor the item.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Espinosa who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reinoso and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Christi Fraga	Yes
Vice Mayor Rafael Pineyro	Yes
Councilman Peter Espinosa	Yes
Councilwoman Maureen Porras	Yes
Councilwoman Nicole Reinoso	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 18 day of November, 2026.

CHRISTI FRAGA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CONNIE DIAZ, MMC
CITY CLERK

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

LORENZO COBIELLA
GASTESI, LOPEZ, MESTRE & COBIELLA, PLLC
CITY ATTORNEY