Agenda Report



2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera, FL 32940

Consent

8/26/2025 F.21.

Subject:

Resolution to Adopt the Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Program Guidelines

Fiscal Impact:

None

Dept/Office:

County Manager's Office

Requested Action:

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast requests the Board of County Commissioners to adopt a Resolution acknowledging the guidelines for the Brevard County Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Program as recommended by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast's Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Council.

Summary Explanation and Background:

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast's Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Council (the Council), in its advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners (the Board) met on June 10, 2025, to review the Tax Abatement Program's Guidelines.

Each year, the Council meets to review and discuss the Program guidelines along with the most recent published Average Annual Wage reported by the Florida Department of Commerce, Labor Market Statistics Center, Quarterly Census of Employment Wages Program, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The reported Average Annual Wage effective for January 1, 2025, is \$65,001, an increase of 5.21 percent from January 1, 2024, of \$61,784, and reflects that Brevard County has the sixthhighest wage in Florida for the reported period.

Based on this review, the Council concluded that, due to the uncertainty of the local economy and consideration for smaller companies, the Tax Abatement Program's Guidelines should remain unchanged from the prior year.

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast requests that the Board accept the Council's recommendation to continue using the current Tax Abatement Program Guidelines.

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

Please provide an executed copy of the Resolution to the County Manager's Office.



FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST

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August 27, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jim Liesenfelt, County Manager

RE: Item F.21., Resolution to Adopt the Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Program

Guidelines

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on August 26, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 25-091, acknowledging the guidelines for the Brevard County Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Program, as recommended by the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast's Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Council. Enclosed is the fully-executed Resolution.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

Kimberly Powell, Clerk to the Board

/ds

Encl. (1)

RESOLUTION 2025- <u>091</u>

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Ordinance No. 2024-32 of Brevard County, Florida, the voters of Brevard County authorized the offering of ad valorem tax exemptions, as evidenced by the successful passage of a Brevard County Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Referendum held on November 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance provides the Board of County Commissioners the ability to offer Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Abatements for new businesses and expansion of existing businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners intends to provide incentives to new or expanded businesses that demonstrate an economic benefit to the County.

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Ordinance established the degree and length of an Ad Valorem Exemption as adopted by Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast has recommended select changes, from time to time, to the Tax Abatement Program guidelines; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, as follows:

- 1. The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast's Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Council (the Council) met on June 10, 2025, to review the Tax Abatement Program's Guidelines.
- 2. The Brevard County Ad Valorem Tax Abatement program guidelines as specified in Attachment A to this Resolution.
- 3. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida, and shall constitute a public record.
- 4. This Resolution shall take effect on August 26, 2025.

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ATTEST:

Rachel M. Sadoff, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Rob Feltner, Chairman

As approved by the Board on 08/26/2025



ATTACHEMENT A

BREVARD COUNTY AD VALOREM TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Program Guidelines - as of August 26, 2025

| NUMBER OF NEW EMPLOYEES | OR (EXISTING BUSINESS EXPANSION OPTION) | POINTS | |
|-------------------------|--|--------|--|
| 10 – 20 | (25% increase in employees) | 3 | |
| 21 – 60 | (50% increase in employees) | 6 | |
| 61 – 99 | (75% increase in employees) | 9 | |
| 100 and up | (100% increase in employees) | 10 | |

| PAYROLL | POINTS |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Below Average | 0 |
| Average (\$61,784) * | 4 |
| 25% Above Average (\$77,230) | 8 |
| 50% Above Average (\$92,676) | 10 |
| 100% Above Average (\$123,568) | 12 |

| CAPITAL INVESTMENT | POINTS |
|----------------------------|--------|
| \$ 150,000 - \$1,000,000 | 1 |
| \$ 1,000,001 - \$8,000,000 | 2 |
| \$ 8,000,001 and up | 3 |

TOTAL POINTS**

SCORING

| TOTAL POINTS | PERCENTAGE OF EXEMPTION | LENGTH OF EXEMPTION |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 9 – 12 points | 60% exemption | 6 years |
| 13 - 15 points | 70% exemption | 7 years |
| 16 – 19 points | 80% exemption | 8 years |
| 20 - 22 points | 90% exemption | 9 years |
| 23 - 25 points | 100% exemption | 10 years |

Adjustment Consideration: The Brevard County Board of County Commissioners may consider individual or company documentation indicating that the business is going to be critical to attracting other key businesses of that industry cluster; in those incidences, program guidelines may be adjusted on a case-by-case basis.

^{*} The Average Annual Wage figure shall be reviewed at the beginning of each calendar year as provided by Enterprise Florida, Inc.

^{**} Minimum of 9 points required to qualify for exemption as authorized by Brevard County Board of County Commissioners on April 13, 2000.