

MEMORANDUM

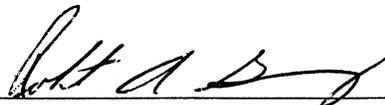
ED&HS
Agenda Item No. 2(A)

TO: Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed. D. **DATE:** April 21, 2004
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution Urging
Congress for French Creole
Interpreters on Coast Guard
Cutters

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle.



Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

RAG/dc



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Hon. Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 11, 2004

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No.

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor

Agenda Item No.

Veto _____

5-11-04

Override _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
MANDATE THAT INTERPRETERS FLUENT IN FRENCH
CREOLE LANGUAGE BE AVAILABLE ON ALL UNITED
STATES COAST GUARD CUTTERS IN DETERMINING THE
IMMIGRATION STATUS OF HAITIAN NATIONALS

WHEREAS, Haitian people who desire to leave the Haitian country and come to the United States are often times interdicted by the United States Coast Guard and the United States Customs; and

WHEREAS, some of these Haitian people have legitimate fears of prosecution and/or persecution which would entitle them to seek asylum in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the predominant language spoken by Haitian people is French Creole; and

WHEREAS, in order to have an adequate opportunity to present the facts and circumstances which would entitle these Haitian people to asylum in this country they need to be able to effectively communicate to the United States Coast Guard or the United States Customs Officers; and

WHEREAS, communication can only occur if there is a person fluent in French Creole available to interpret for these Haitian people,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. This Board hereby recommends and urges the United States Congress to mandate that there be an interpreter fluent in the French Creole language on all United States Coast Guard cutters and that this interpreter be freely available to Haitian nationals fleeing the country of Haiti when asylum determinations are made.

Section 2. The Clerk of the Board is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Miami-Dade County Congressional Legislative Delegation.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle and offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Chairperson | |
| Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson | |
| Bruno A. Barreiro | Jose "Pepe" Diaz |
| Betty T. Ferguson | Sally A. Heyman |
| Joe A. Martinez | Jimmy L. Morales |
| Dennis C. Moss | Dorrin D. Rolle |
| Natacha Seijas | Rebeca Sosa |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto | |

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The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 11th day of May, 2004. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Thomas H. Robertson