

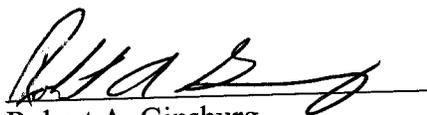
MEMORANDUM

Not On
Agenda Item No. 10(A)(13)

TO: Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D. and Members, Board of County Commissioners **DATE:** October 19, 2004

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney **SUBJECT:** Resolution urging Federal government to provide Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitian nationals

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D.


Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

RAG/bw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 19, 2004

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

Not On

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 10(A)(13)

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
Veto _____
Override _____

Not On
Agenda Item No. 10(A)(13)
10-19-04

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO
PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS) TO
HAITIAN NATIONALS SEEKING REFUGE IN THE UNITED
STATES DURING THE CURRENT PERIOD OF
HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN HAITI

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is home to over 200,000 immigrants from Haiti and over one million persons born in nations throughout the Caribbean and the world; and

WHEREAS, Haiti was recently ravaged by Hurricane Jeanne, which caused the death of over 2,500 people and catastrophic destruction to Haiti's infrastructure and economy; and

WHEREAS, this crisis overlays existing economic and political instability in Haiti, which was trying to recover from major flooding in May 2004 that caused the deaths of over 3,000 people there; and

WHEREAS, there are currently an undetermined number of Haitian citizens who are seeking refuge in the United States and who are being processed for immigration purposes by the Government of the United States in South Florida; and

WHEREAS, Haitian-Americans have joined with other community leaders and immigration advocates in Miami-Dade County to call upon our elected officials to act judiciously to provide refuge to victims of this enormous humanitarian crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Government of the United States has the power to grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitian citizens currently being processed by the federal government as to their immigration status in the United States, most of whom are currently incarcerated for non-criminal reasons, thereby allowing said citizens to remain in the United States without being

incarcerated until their immigration claims are resolved; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of TPS, the repatriation back to Haiti of large numbers of refugees has the potential to create hardships for those involved; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board has voted to encourage the Federal government to temporarily stop sending Haitian refugees back to their country; and

WHEREAS, the Government of the United States has previously granted Temporary Protected Status to citizens of countries experiencing humanitarian or political crises, such as to citizens of Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala after Hurricane Mitch struck Central America in 1998,

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

Section 1. This Board urges President Bush and the U.S. Congress to grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to Haitian Nationals seeking refuge in the United States during this immediate humanitarian crisis.

Section 2. The Clerk of this Board is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to President Bush, the U.S. Congress and the Miami-Dade County federal legislative delegation.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D. 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:

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Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Chairperson
Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson

Bruno A. Barreiro
Betty T. Ferguson
Joe A. Martinez
Dennis C. Moss
Natacha Seijas
Sen. Javier D. Souto

Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman
Jimmy L. Morales
Dorrin D. Rolle
Rebeca Sosa

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of October, 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.

RTS

Ronald J. Bernstein

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