

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(26)

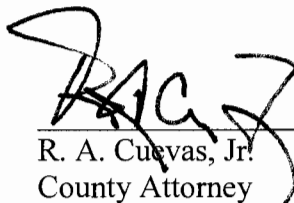
TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 2, 2010

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging Congress to
provide federal reimbursement
to JMH and other charity care
hospitals for the healthcare
treatment needs of anticipated
Haitian migrants following the
January 12 earthquake

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor
Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/up



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(Revised)

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Please note any items checked.

- "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
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (26)
2-2-10

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PROVIDE FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT TO JACKSON HEALTH SYSTEM AND OTHER CHARITY CARE HOSPITALS FOR THE HEALTH CARE TREATMENT NEEDS OF ANTICIPATED HAITIAN MIGRANTS FOLLOWING THE JANUARY 12 EARTHQUAKE

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2010 a devastating earthquake hit the Republic of Haiti approximately 10 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince; and

WHEREAS, more than three million people -- a third of Haiti's population -- have been affected by the earthquake, including hundreds of thousands of deaths and injuries; and

WHEREAS, the earthquake is the latest in a series of events that have hit Haiti in recent years, including four deadly storms that struck Haiti in 2008; and

WHEREAS, even before the earthquake, Haiti was one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere; and

WHEREAS, in the U.S., no county has a larger Haitian-American community than Miami-Dade County, with Kings County (Brooklyn), New York, having the second largest Haitian-American community and Broward County, Florida having the third largest; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 95,669 Haitian-Americans living in Miami-Dade County at the last U.S. census in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is likely to see a large and rapid influx of Haitian migrants into our community as a result of the recent earthquake; and

WHEREAS, Haitian migrants coming to our community and other communities in the U.S. are likely to quickly need health care treatment for injuries and illnesses resulting from the January 12 earthquake; and

WHEREAS, Jackson Health System (“Jackson”) is the State of Florida’s largest provider of charity care, serving Florida as the only safety net hospital in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Jackson consists of Jackson Memorial Hospital, 10 primary care centers, 17 school-based clinics, two long-term care nursing facilities, an outpatient diagnostic center, a children’s hospital, a rehabilitation hospital, a mental health hospital and two community hospitals; and

WHEREAS, a significant part of the charity care that Jackson provides is for undocumented migrants, who often lack an ability to pay for health care and are generally not eligible for government programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, more than 77,000 migrants visited Jackson at a total cost of \$38 million in unpaid care; and

WHEREAS, many newly-arrived Haitian migrants are likely to visit Jackson in 2010, substantially increasing the number of migrants Jackson treats this year, with corresponding financial burdens on a hospital system that is already under great financial stress; and

WHEREAS, Congress needs to provide funding to Jackson and other charity care hospitals to help offset the financial impact the anticipated migration of Haitian people to the U.S. with significant need for health care and treatment,

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

Section 1. Urges Congress to provide federal reimbursement to Jackson Health System and other charity care hospitals for the health care treatment needs of anticipated Haitian migrants following the January 12 earthquake.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Miami-Dade Congressional Delegation and the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Broward County.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs that the 2010 Federal Legislative Package be amended to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson. It was 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:

Dennis C. Moss, Chairman	
Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Vice-Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Dorin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 2nd day of February, 2010. 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.



Jess M. McCarty