

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

TO: Honorable Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: December 18, 2012

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging President
Barack Obama and the United
States Congress to support and
enact comprehensive
immigration reform during the
113th Congress

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Dennis C. Moss.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney


RAC/smm



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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 Mayor'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)(12)
12-18-12

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AND
THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT AND
ENACT COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM
DURING THE 113TH CONGRESS

WHEREAS, the United States has long prided itself as being a nation of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants living in the United States, often in the shadows; and

WHEREAS, few Americans are satisfied with the arbitrariness of the current immigration system; and

WHEREAS, recent polls indicate that a majority of Americans favor comprehensive immigration reform, including a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants currently living and working in the United States; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, a number of efforts to pass comprehensive immigration reform have come close to passing but fallen short; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as president, President George W. Bush supported passage of a comprehensive immigration reform bill; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill passed the U.S. Senate by a vote of 62-39, but thereafter died in the U.S. House; and

WHEREAS, when he was elected in 2008, President Barack Obama campaigned on passing comprehensive immigration reform, but faced difficulties getting such a bill through Congress in his first term; and

WHEREAS, stymied by Congress in his attempts to address immigration, President Obama issued an Executive Order on June 15, 2012 allowing illegal immigrants to avoid deportation and obtain work permits who were under the age of 30, were brought to the United States as children and met certain criteria, such as having a high school diplomas and no criminal record; and

WHEREAS, since his reelection, President Obama has indicated his strong support for passage of a comprehensive immigration bill in 2013 that includes strengthening border security, imposing penalties for employers that hire undocumented workers and providing a pathway for illegal immigrants already in the United States to gain citizenship; and

WHEREAS, advocates that support comprehensive immigration reform include a broad range of groups across a wide spectrum of political views, including religious leaders, who want to create a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants living in the shadows, and business interests, such as the Chamber of Commerce, which want to improve the current immigration system that creates minefields for employers; and

WHEREAS, Senator Charles Schumer (D – New York) and Senator Lindsey Graham (R – South Carolina) already have resumed talks on a comprehensive immigration reform bill, building on a blueprint for such a bill that they first negotiated in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the timing is now right for the United States Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform,

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

Section 1. Urges President Barack Obama and the United States Congress to support and enact comprehensive immigration reform during the 113th Congress that includes

strengthening border security, imposing penalties for employers that hire undocumented workers and providing a pathway for illegal immigrants already in the United States to gain citizenship.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to President Barack Obama, the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Lindsey Graham and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2013 and 2014 Federal Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss. 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:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	Juan C. Zapata

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of December, 2012. 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.

JMM

Jess M. McCarty