

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

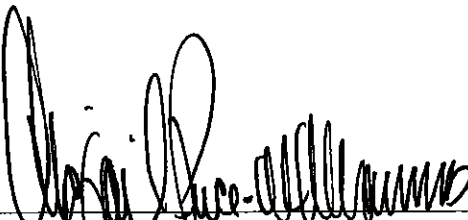
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 18, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging President Donald Trump, the United States Congress, Governor Rick Scott, and the Florida Legislature to support economic sanctions against the Venezuelan government

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro.



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/jls



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 18, 2017

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SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

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**
- Statement of social equity 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)(5)
7-18-17

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP, THE
UNITED STATES CONGRESS, GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT,
AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT
ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST THE VENEZUELAN
GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, Nicolás Maduro, a member of the United Socialist Party, was declared the winner of Venezuela's April 14, 2013 presidential election by an incredibly slim margin with 50.6 percent of votes cast; and

WHEREAS, Maduro, who claims to have been elected democratically, has frequently resorted to dictatorial tactics including silencing the media, jailing political opponents, and postponing elections; and

WHEREAS, the Venezuelan government continuously suppresses the voices of its citizens through political arrests; and

WHEREAS, police and military raids have led to widespread abuse, including extrajudicial killings, mass arbitrary detentions, torture in prisons, forced evictions, and arbitrary deportations; and

WHEREAS, in May 2017, the U.S. Treasury Department froze United States assets of eight members of Venezuela's Supreme Court of Justice and barred American citizens from engaging in financial transactions with those justices; and

WHEREAS, Florida Governor Rick Scott has stated his support for proposals which would ban any organization which does business with the Maduro regime from contracting with the State of Florida, including keeping finance companies with ties to the regime from managing Florida Retirement System funds; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has reportedly considered sanctions on Venezuela's state-run oil company, Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. ("PDVSA"), which accounts for 95 percent of the country's export revenues, including a ban on Venezuelan oil imports in the United States or prohibiting PDVSA from bidding on United States government contracts; and

WHEREAS, this Board has passed Resolution Nos. R-253-14, R-526-17, R-527-17, R-528-17, and R-528-17, all of which are designed to support positive intervention and a rectifying of the crumbling socioeconomic landscape in Venezuela; and

WHEREAS, despite international outcry which has only heightened in the preceding months, the Venezuelan government's rampant disregard for the free speech rights of its citizens has persisted; and

WHEREAS, these are not the actions of a nation that purports to be democratic and governed by the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, this Board believes that further action, including economic sanctions, must be taken in order to hasten Maduro's regime out of office,

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

Section 1. Urges President Donald Trump, the United States Congress, Governor Rick Scott, and the Florida Legislature to support bills, policies, or measures imposing economic sanctions against the Venezuelan government.

Section 2. Continues to express support for those Venezuelans who are valiantly fighting to restore their nation to a peaceful, democratic state.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, Governor Rick Scott, the Florida Senate President, Florida House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's federal and state lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2017 Federal and State Legislative Packages to include this item and to include this item in the 2018 State Legislative Packages when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro. 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:

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

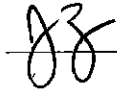
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of July, 2017. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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.



Javier Zapata