

**MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 15, 2011

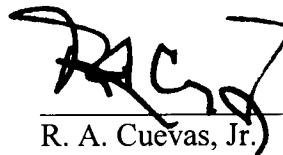
**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging Congress to  
pass legislation opposing  
cultural and commercial  
exchange between Cuba and  
the United States until the  
Cuban government ceases its  
human rights violations and  
denial of basic freedoms to its  
citizens

Resolution No. R-210-11

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz.

  
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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/jls



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** March 15, 2011

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. A. Cuevas, Jr.", is written over the printed name of the County Attorney.

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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)(9)  
3-15-11

RESOLUTION NO. R-210-11

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION  
OPPOSING CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE  
BETWEEN CUBA AND THE UNITED STATES UNTIL THE  
CUBAN GOVERNMENT CEASES ITS HUMAN RIGHTS  
VIOLATIONS AND DENIAL OF BASIC FREEDOMS TO ITS  
CITIZENS

**WHEREAS**, the Cuban people have endured decades of repression and deprivation of their basic human rights by Cuba's totalitarian dictatorship; and

**WHEREAS**, the intensified harassment of the people of Cuba who seek to speak out in the in the interest of justice and freedom is distressing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cuban government must respond to the hopes and needs of the Cuban people, and retreat from its history of torture, imprisonment and execution of those whose only crime is exercising their human rights; and

**WHEREAS**, in April 2009, President Obama directed the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to take such actions as necessary to, among other things: (1) lift certain restrictions on travel related transactions for visits to a person's family member who is a national of Cuba; (2) remove restrictions on remittances to a person's family member in Cuba; (3) authorize U.S. telecommunications network providers to enter into agreements to establish fiber-optic cable and satellite telecommunications facilities linking the United States and Cuba; and (4) expand the scope of humanitarian donations eligible for export; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama has also directed that changes be made to the regulations and policies governing: (1) purposeful travel; (2) non-family remittances; and (3) U.S. airports supporting licensed charter flights to and from Cuba; and

**WHEREAS**, the President's measures will, among other things, increase people-to-people contact and encourage cultural exchange between the United States and Cuba; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been no evidence that the Cuban government has improved its treatment of the Cuban people,

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

Section 1. Urges Congress to pass legislation opposing cultural and commercial exchange between Cuba and the United States, so long as the Cuban government persists as a regime of repression and torture, and continues its denial of basic freedoms and human rights.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the United States Congress, United States Senators Nelson and Rubio, and members of the Miami-Dade Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs that the 2011 Federal Legislative Packages be amended to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz. It was offered by Commissioner **Jose "Pepe" Diaz**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	aye	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	aye	
Bruno A. Barreiro	aye	Lynda Bell
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye	Carlos A. Gimenez
Sally A. Heyman	aye	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	aye	Dennis C. Moss
Natacha Seijas	absent	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2011. 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: **DIANE COLLINS**  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MS", written over a horizontal line.

Martin W. Sybblis

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