

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)

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

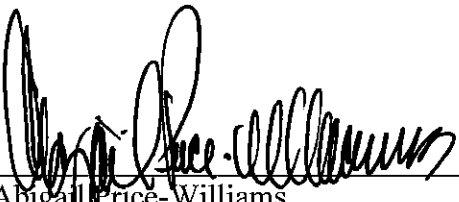
DATE: February 6, 2018

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Federal
Government, United Nations,
and the Organization of
American States not to recognize
any transition of power in Cuba
made without free and multiparty
elections and to support the self-
determination of the Cuban
people

Resolution No. R-151-18

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



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/lmp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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
- ☐ 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)(22)
2-6-18

RESOLUTION NO. R-151-18

RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,
UNITED NATIONS, AND THE ORGANIZATION OF
AMERICAN STATES NOT TO RECOGNIZE ANY
TRANSITION OF POWER IN CUBA MADE WITHOUT FREE
AND MULTIPARTY ELECTIONS AND TO SUPPORT THE
SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE CUBAN PEOPLE

WHEREAS, in March 2018, Cuba is expected to select a new president to replace Raul Castro, Fidel Castro's 86-year old younger brother, who has stated his intentions to step down after serving two five-year terms; and

WHEREAS, Raul Castro will remain head of the ruling Communist Party until at least 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Communist Party is the only legally-recognized political party in Cuba per its constitution; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. State Department determined that initial municipal elections held in November 2017 were flawed because Cuban authorities used "intimidation, arcane technicalities, and false charges" to keep independent candidates off the ballot; and

WHEREAS, according to the State Department, not a single candidate unaffiliated with the Communist party was allowed on ballots in November 2017; and

WHEREAS, Cuba does not allow international observers to monitor its elections; and

WHEREAS, free and open elections are bedrock principles of democracy; and

WHEREAS, though the March election is the first election to be held since a limited election in 1976, there is little confidence within the international committee that the authoritarian regime intends to ensure the election is free and open to all candidates; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports the rights of all Cubans to decide the future of their nation and believes that any transition to a true democracy in Cuba must begin with a free, open, and multiparty presidential election,

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

Section 1. Urges the Federal Government, including the Department of State, the United Nations, and the Organization of American States not to recognize any transition of power in Cuba made without free and multiparty elections and to support the self-determination of the Cuban people.

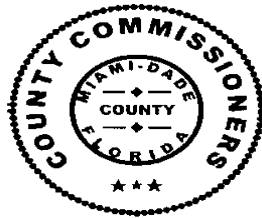
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to President Donald J. Trump, the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, Department of State Secretary Rex W. Tillerson, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, and Organization of American States Secretary General Luis Almagro.

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 2018 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

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

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of February, 2018. 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: ***Christopher Agrippa***
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

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

Javier Zapata