

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(5)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 4, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution expressing sympathy
and condolences to the Díaz-
Balart family on the recent
passing of former-congressman
Lincoln Díaz-Balart

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp

MDC001



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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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 present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3) (h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c) (2) ____) 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. 14(A)(5)
3-4-25

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND
CONDOLENCES TO THE DÍAZ-BALART FAMILY ON THE
RECENT PASSING OF FORMER-CONGRESSMAN LINCOLN
DÍAZ-BALART

WHEREAS, Lincoln Díaz-Balart was born in Havana, Cuba, on August 13, 1954, to the late Rafael Díaz-Balart and Hilda Caballero Brunet; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart and his family immigrated to United States following the communist revolution in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the Díaz-Balart family settled in South Florida, where they would go on to make great contributions to the local community; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart earned an undergraduate degree from New College of Florida, and then he proceeded to earn a Juris Doctor degree from Case Western Reserve University; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart married Cristina Fernandez, and the couple had two children: Lincoln Jr. and Daniel; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart practiced law for several years before his election to public office; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1986 to 1989, and in the Florida Senate from 1989 to 1992; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart then served as U.S. Representative for Florida's 21st Congressional District from 1993 to 2011; and

WHEREAS, during his time in Congress, Díaz-Balart sought to advance democracy in Cuba and fought for refugees fleeing repressive regimes; and

WHEREAS, one of his most notable legislative achievements was his authorship of a democracy requirement for the lifting of U.S. sanctions against Cuba, ensuring that sanctions would not be lifted unless the Cuban government satisfied certain specific democratic conditions; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Díaz-Balart played a crucial role in creating the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act (“NACARA”), which facilitated legal residency status for thousands of immigrants fleeing crises in their home countries; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart also co-founded the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute (“CHLI”), an organization dedicated to promoting Hispanic leadership and public policy engagement; and

WHEREAS, Díaz-Balart kept fighting for freedom after his time in office, as he continued to advocate for human rights and democracy throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln Díaz-Balart passed away on March 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to express its sympathy and condolences to the Díaz-Balart family; and

WHEREAS, by adopting this resolution expressing the Board’s sympathy and condolences, the Board also wishes to honor Lincoln Díaz-Balart and his numerous accomplishments and contributions to the South Florida community and the United States,

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

Section 1. Expresses its sympathy and condolences to the Díaz-Balart family on the recent passing of former-congressman Lincoln Díaz-Balart.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the family of Lincoln Díaz-Balart.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez. 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:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Kevin Marino Cabrera	Sen. René García
Oliver G. Gilbert, III	Roberto J. Gonzalez
Keon Hardemon	Danielle Cohen Higgins
Eileen Higgins	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of March, 2025. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Chrisitan Fernandez-Andes