

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(4)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 8, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging President Joseph R. Biden and the United States Congress to allocate \$1,000,000.00 in funding for Temporary Protected Status for Haitian and Venezuelan nationals; or, alternatively directing the County Mayor to allocate at least \$1,000,000.00 in available funding for Temporary Protected Status for Haitian and Venezuelan nationals

Resolution No. R-680-21

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jean Monestime.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 8, 2021

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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 ____, 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) ____, or 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)(4)
7-8-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-680-21

RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOCATE \$1,000,000.00 IN FUNDING FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR HAITIAN AND VENEZUELAN NATIONALS; OR, ALTERNATIVELY DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ALLOCATE AT LEAST \$1,000,000.00 IN AVAILABLE FUNDING FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR HAITIAN AND VENEZUELAN NATIONALS

WHEREAS, Temporary Protected Status ("TPS") may be granted to nationals in the United States who are from countries enduring conditions that temporarily prevent them from returning safely or, in certain circumstances, where countries are unable to handle the return of their nationals adequately; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") may designate a country for TPS due to any of the following temporary conditions in the country: (1) ongoing armed conflict, such as civil war; (2) environmental disaster, such as earthquake or hurricane; or (3) any other extraordinary and temporary condition; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2021, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas announced a new TPS designation for Haiti for 18 months; and

WHEREAS, the new designation enables Haitian nationals (and individuals without nationality who last resided in Haiti) currently residing in the United States as of May 21, 2021 to file initial applications for TPS, so long as they meet eligibility requirements; and

WHEREAS, in support of the decision, Secretary Mayorkas stated that “Haiti is currently experiencing serious security concerns, social unrest, an increase in human rights abuses, crippling poverty, and lack of basic resources, which are exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic;” and

WHEREAS, such conditions will likely now intensify since the assassination of Haiti’s President Jovenel Moise; and

WHEREAS, prior to the president’s assassination, anger and frustration boiled over into the streets of Haiti, leading to incessant violence, destruction, and fear of the rivaling and warring factions and gangs; and

WHEREAS, President Moise claimed his five-year term should end in 2022 arguing that the clock should begin when he took office in February 2017 after long delays caused by claims of voter fraud rather than when he was elected; and

WHEREAS, TPS has also been designated for Venezuelans through September 9, 2022 due to its ongoing conditions; and

WHEREAS, Venezuela is facing a severe humanitarian emergency, with millions unable to access basic healthcare, adequate nutrition, or safe water; and

WHEREAS, with TPS designated for Haiti and Venezuela, many nonprofit organizations have already begun efforts to assist individuals with filing for TPS; and

WHEREAS, such organizations are in need of financial assistance to carryout these efforts; and

WHEREAS, this Board would like to urge President Joseph R. Biden and the United States Congress to allocate funding for Temporary Protected Status for Haitian and Venezuelan nationals, and also direct the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to allocate available funding for same,

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

Section 1. Urges President Joseph R. Biden and the United States Congress to allocate \$1,000,000.00 in funding for Temporary Protected Status for Haitian and Venezuelan nationals.

Section 2. Alternatively, directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to allocate at least \$1,000,000.00 in available funding for Temporary Protected Status for Haitian and Venezuelan nationals.

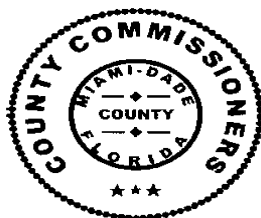
Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and to the Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

Section 4. 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 amend the 2021 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jean Monestime. It was offered by Commissioner **Jean Monestime**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Sen. Rene Garcia** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman	aye		
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	aye		
Sen. René García	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Sally A. Heyman	absent	Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye
Eileen Higgins	absent	Joe A. Martinez	absent
Kionne L. McGhee	absent	Jean Monestime	aye
Raquel A. Regalado	aye	Rebeca Sosa	absent
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 8th day of July, 2021. 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

Melissa Adames

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "APP", is written over a horizontal line.

Altanese Phenelus