

MEMORANDUM

Amended
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; and urging President Donald J. Trump and Governor Ronald D. Desantis to order that the United States and Florida Flags be flown at half-staff, in the appropriate locations and for the traditional amount of time, in mourning for and honor of the late former-congressman Lincoln Díaz-Balart

Resolution No. R-263-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez, Commissioner Marleine Bastien, Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez, Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera, Senator René García, Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins, Vice Chairman Kionne L. McGhee, Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado, Chairman Anthony Rodriguez, Commissioner Micky Steinberg and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Keon Hardemon.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: March 4, 2025

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

Amended
SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 14(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 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 _____

Amended
Agenda Item No. 14(A)(5)
3-4-25

RESOLUTION NO. R-263-25

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND
CONDOLENCES TO THE DÍAZ-BALART FAMILY ON THE
RECENT PASSING OF FORMER-CONGRESSMAN LINCOLN
DÍAZ-BALART; AND URGING PRESIDENT DONALD J.
TRUMP AND GOVERNOR RONALD D. DESANTIS TO
ORDER THAT THE UNITED STATES AND FLORIDA FLAGS
BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF, IN THE APPROPRIATE
LOCATIONS AND FOR THE TRADITIONAL AMOUNT OF
TIME, IN MOURNING FOR AND HONOR OF THE LATE
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, President Donald J. Trump, and Governor Ronald D. DeSantis.

Section 3. Urges President Donald J. Trump and Governor Ronald D. DeSantis to order that the United States and Florida flags be flown at half-staff, in the appropriate locations and for the traditional amount of time, in mourning for and honor of the late former-congressman Lincoln Díaz-Balart.

The Co-Prime Sponsors of the foregoing resolution are Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez, Commissioner Marleine Bastien, Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez, Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera, Senator René García, Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins, Vice Chairman Kionne L. McGhee, Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado, Chairman Anthony Rodriguez, Commissioner Micky Steinberg and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Keon Hardemon. It was offered by Commissioner **Roberto J. Gonzalez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Kionne L. McGhee** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

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: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Chrisitan Fernandez-Andes