

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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

DATE: May 5, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution congratulating
the Republic of Costa Rica and
the Republic of Ecuador for their
recent actions to sever
diplomatic ties with Cuba; and
urging other nations in the
Western Hemisphere to take
similar steps to sever diplomatic
ties with Cuba

Resolution No. R-405-26

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Co-Prime Sponsors Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez and Chairman Anthony Rodriguez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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

DATE: May 5, 2026

FROM: 
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**
- _____ **Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3’s present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5’s ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) _____) 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)(7)
5-5-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-405-26

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR FOR THEIR RECENT ACTIONS TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CUBA; AND URGING OTHER NATIONS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE TO TAKE SIMILAR STEPS TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH CUBA

WHEREAS, for over half a century, the Cuban people have lived under a repressive communist regime that has failed to respect fundamental freedoms, crushed political opposition, and denied the people of their right to self-government; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban government functions as a one-party political system, with all power wielded by the Communist Party of Cuba (“PCC”); and

WHEREAS, a significant number of Miami-Dade County residents are refugees from Cuba or the descendants of refugees who fled the communist regime; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Cuba has faced increasingly serious shortages of food, fuel, and other resources; and

WHEREAS, the progressively dire situation has led to greater instability within the island nation; and

WHEREAS, there is now a substantial likelihood that, given the mismanagement by the Cuban regime and the rapidly deteriorating situation in the country, the Cuban people will successfully take back power from the PCC; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the alleged efforts by the Cuban government to limit the flow of information, the worsening conditions within the country have become evident to the global community; and

WHEREAS, as a result of foreign policy decisions by the Trump administration as well as recent global events, it is reported that Cuba is receiving substantially reduced support from oil-producing countries that had previously aided the regime; and

WHEREAS, in light of this opportunity for change, on March 3, 2026, the Ecuadorian government reportedly cancelled the diplomatic duties of José María Borja, the nation's ambassador to Cuba; and

WHEREAS, furthermore, it has been reported that on March 4, 2026, the government of Ecuador declared Cuba's ambassador, Basilio Antonio Gutiérrez, and his diplomatic staff as "persona non grata" and gave them 48 hours to leave the country; and

WHEREAS, similarly, according to multiple news sources, on March 18, 2026, the government of Costa Rica boldly announced the closure of the nation's embassy in Havana and the downgrade of ties with Cuba to a strictly consular level; and

WHEREAS, it has been further reported that the government of Costa Rica announced that Cuban diplomats would be expelled from the embassy in San José, Costa Rica's capital, and must leave by the end of March; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires that other nations in the Western Hemisphere take similar measures in order to increase the likelihood of much-needed change in Cuba and to cease the legitimization of the PCC; and

WHEREAS, the Board wholeheartedly supports the Cuban people's struggle for freedom and democracy,

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

Section 1. Congratulates the Republic of Costa Rica and the Republic of Ecuador for their recent actions to sever diplomatic ties with Cuba.

Section 2. Urges other nations in the Western Hemisphere to take similar steps to sever diplomatic ties with Cuba.

The Co-Prime Sponsors of the foregoing resolution are Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez and Chairman Anthony Rodriguez. It was offered by Commissioner **Juan Carlos Bermudez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Vicki L. Lopez** 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
Sen. René García	aye	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	aye
Roberto J. Gonzalez	absent	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye	Vicki L. Lopez	aye
Natalie Milian Orbis	aye	Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Micky Steinberg	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of May, 2026. 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.

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

Christian J. Fernandez-Andes