

Tony, thank you for your leadership at SAVE and for inviting me here for this important evening.

Dear friends, I want to thank all of you for coming and joining up for this important evening.

On behalf of Mayor Carlos Gimenez, it's truly a pleasure to be here with you and I know this is a cocktail reception, and a movie premier, so I will be very brief...

Let me start by congratulating SAVE for the work you do to expand equality not only in our community, but throughout the state.

You deserve a big round of applause for that!

You know, part of what we do in the Mayor's office is to welcome many groups visiting our community and to highlight the positives and benefits of Miami-Dade County...

And whenever we speak to these groups, especially business people who are considering whether to locate here, we always mention how in Miami-Dade County, we take pride in our diversity.

When you look around our community, you see people from all over the world, from all walks of life, and we have all learned to live and work together to make Miami the special place that it is.

We are proud of our openness, and we are a welcoming community.

Mayor Gimenez has been a supporter of SAVE and has received your endorsement both times he ran for Mayor.

In fact, as a County Commissioner, Mayor Gimenez was a co-sponsor of the ordinance that extended health insurance benefits to the domestic partners of our employees.

Your support means a lot to us.

This administration believes in equality for all – and this is why I am happy to be here in support of your efforts.

There is no room for discrimination or prejudice in Miami-Dade County, and we will work together with all of you to put an end to it, so that everyone in our community can enjoy the benefits of our diversity, and from everything that makes Miami-Dade such a great place to live.

Thank you again for having me and please enjoy the movie!