

RESOLUTION No. 2008-234-922

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, URGING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO GRANT TEMPORARY **PROTECTED** STATUS TO UNDOCUMENTED HAITIANS; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, since August of 2008, Haiti has been struck by four (4) storms which have devastated the Country, and

WHEREAS, in addition to wiping out roads and bridges and obliterating buildings, schools and homes, hundreds have died and thousands have been **displaced** as a result of these natural disasters, including children, and

WHEREAS, Haiti is currently in a state of political unrest, and

WHEREAS, many undocumented Haitian Nationals live in the United States and are undocumented, and

WHEREAS, allowing Haitian Nationals to reside in the United States on a temporary basis while enjoying a **protected** status, will permit them to earn money that they will be able to send home to help their families and their Country,

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Miami Gardens is urging the Bush Administration to grant temporary **protected** status to Haitian Nationals living in this country, to prevent them from having to return to devastating circumstances, and

WHEREAS, there is precedent for the Bush Administration to extend the temporary protective **protected** status of Haitian Nationals, because it has done so for an estimated 300,000 Honduran, Nicaraguan and Salvadoran nationals who have been allowed to stay for years following national disasters that struck their countries, and

WHEREAS, it would be unfair and prejudicial to not provide the same level of assistance to Haitians who are residing in this Country, and

WHEREAS, it would be inhumane to deport Haitians to a country that is fledgling, whose infrastructure has been destroyed, and that is experiencing a period of political unrest, and

WHEREAS, the City Council would like to urge the Bush Administration to treat Haitians residing in the United States on an equal playing field with other undocumented Nationals from other countries,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

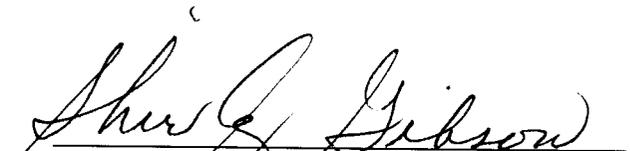
Section 1. ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS: The foregoing Whereas paragraphs are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true, and the same are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2. REQUEST: The City Council of the City of Miami Gardens hereby makes this request to the Bush Administration that it immediately grant temporary protective (**protected**) status to undocumented Haitian Nationals residing in the United States.

Section 3. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK: The City Council hereby instructs the City Clerk to send a certified copy of this Resolution to President Bush.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its final passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2008.


SHIRLEY GIBSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:


RONETTA TAYLOR, MMC, CITY CLERK

PREPARED BY: SONJA KNIGHTON DICKENS, ESQ.
City Attorney

SPONSORED BY: ~~DANNY CREW, CITY MANAGER~~

MOVED BY: Councilman Gilbert
SECONDED BY: Vice Mayor Watson

VOTE: 7-0

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|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Mayor Shirley Gibson | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |
| Vice Mayor Barbara Watson | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |
| Councilman Melvin L. Bratton | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |
| Councilman Aaron Campbell | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |
| Councilman Oliver Gilbert, III | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |
| Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |
| Councilman André Williams | <u> x </u> (Yes) | <u> </u> (No) |

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City of Miami Gardens

1515 NW 167th Street
Bldg 5., Suite 200
Miami Gardens, Florida 33169



Mayor Shirley Gibson
Vice Mayor Barbara Watson
Councilman Melvin L. Bratton
Councilman Aaron Campbell Jr.
Councilman Oliver Gilbert III
Councilwoman Sharon Pritchett
Councilman André Williams

Agenda Cover Page

Date: December 10, 2008

Fiscal Impact: No Yes

(If yes, explain in Staff Summary)

Funding Source:

Contract/P.O. Requirement: Yes No

Sponsor Name/Department:

Councilman André Williams

Public hearing

Ordinance

1st Reading

Advertising requirement: Yes No

RFP/RFQ # _____

Quasi-Judicial

Resolution

2nd Reading

Yes No

Yes No

TITLE

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, FLORIDA, URGING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO GRANT TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE STATUS TO UNDOCUMENTED HAITIANS; PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF REPRESENTATIONS; PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Staff Summary

This past hurricane season, the small island of Haiti was hit with four major storms; leaving the surviving islanders both desolate and desperate. They suffered major damages to their infrastructure which has severely affected their quality of life; affecting their ability to survive without the basic necessities like food, potable water and shelter. Providing temporary relief in the form of a protective status will afford an opportunity to the undocumented Haitians currently in the United States, to temporarily live and work in the US and also to send food and money back home to support their families still residing in Haiti.

The proposed resolution, urges President George W. Bush and his administration to temporarily allow the Haitian immigrants to work and live freely; provide for their families in Haiti; prevent them from returning to a country suffering from several natural disasters which affected the entire nation.

Recommendation

That the City Council support the attached resolution urging President Bush to grant temporary protective status to undocumented Haitians.