

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO RESCIND THE LEASE ALLOWING OPERATION OF A FAST-FOOD CHAIN RESTAURANT, CHICK-FIL-A, AT THE MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, DUE TO CHICK-FIL-A'S ON-GOING FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ANTI-LGBTQ CAUSES, AND FURTHER URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO DEVELOP A PROCEDURE TO SCREEN PROSPECTIVE BUSINESSES WISHING TO DO BUSINESS ON THE COUNTY'S PUBLICLY-FUNDED PROPERTY FOR HISTORY OF DISCRIMINATORY BEHAVIOR AND FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE MIAMI DADE COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS ORDINANCE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach (the "City") has learned that Miami-Dade County (the "County") has entered into a lease to allow "Chick-fil-A," a fast-food restaurant chain, to operate a restaurant in the Miami International Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, Chick-fil-A became nationally known for its exclusionary views on the LGBTQ community and gay marriage, when its tax filings revealed donations to organizations and groups that are known for being vehemently anti-LGBTQ, including Focus on the Family and the Family Research Council – the latter being dubbed as an anti-LGBTQ hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center; and

**WHEREAS**, following national backlash, Chick-fil-A announced that it would stay out of the debate on LGBTQ rights and treat every person with honor, dignity and respect — regardless of their beliefs, race, creed, sexual orientation and gender; and

**WHEREAS**, however, most recent available tax filings for Chick-fil-A's tax-exempt foundation revealed that in 2017 alone, the company has donated over 1.8 million dollars to anti-LGBTQ organizations, such as the Paul Anderson Youth Home, the Salvation Army, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and

**WHEREAS**, Chick-fil-A is also one of the largest national companies without a written non-discrimination policy for LGBTQ employees, and has earned a 0 on the Human Rights Commission's Corporate Equality Index for failing to protect their LGBTQ employees from discrimination in the workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, as such, Chick-fil-a's anti-LGBTQ stance has inspired a wide range of boycotts throughout the United States, ranging from schools, universities, businesses, and cities; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2019, the City of San Antonio, banned Chick-fil-A from becoming a concessionaire at the city-operated international airport; and

**WHEREAS**, in March 2019, the Buffalo Niagara International Airport also reneged on plans to open a franchise due to protests against Chick-fil-A from the Western New York community and politicians; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Miami Beach has a long history of protecting and promoting the rights of LGBTQ individuals and has long refused to contract with businesses that support discrimination against the LGBTQ community; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County has a strong interest in disassociating itself from the discriminatory practices of businesses that have donated to anti-LGBTQ causes, as doing business with such companies is inconsistent with both, the County's Human Rights Ordinance and principles of equality that it strives to promote; and

**WHEREAS**, the views of Chick-fil-A do not represent the City or the County, and businesses that have demonstrated history of anti-LGBTQ behavior have no place operating in taxpayer-funded public facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, thus, the City of Miami Beach urges Miami-Dade County to rescind the lease for the Chick-fil-A restaurant, as a publicly funded facility like the Miami International Airport is not the appropriate venue for a business like Chick-fil-A; and

**WHEREAS**, moreover, the City of Miami Beach further urges Miami-Dade County to develop a procedure to screen prospective businesses wishing to do business in the County's publicly funded facilities for history of discriminatory behavior, including behavior that perpetuates unequal treatment of the LGBTQ community, and for compliance with the provisions of Miami-Dade County Human Rights Ordinance; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby urge Miami-Dade County to rescind the lease allowing operation of a fast-food chain restaurant, Chick-fil-A, at the Miami International Airport, due to Chick-fil-A's on-going financial support of anti-LGBTQ causes, and further urging Miami-Dade County to develop a procedure to screen prospective businesses wishing to do business on the County's publicly-funded property for history of discriminatory behavior, and for compliance with the Miami-Dade County Human Rights Ordinance.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

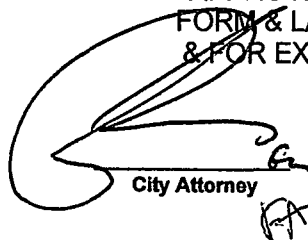
**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Gelber, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Michael Gongora)

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

5/16/19  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date