

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, CONDEMNING THE DENIAL OF ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO IMMIGRATION DETENTION FACILITIES OR SHELTER FOR CHILDREN FOR HUMANITARIAN INSPECTIONS AND PURPOSES AND IMPOSING, AS OF THE DATE OF THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION, A MORATORIUM ON THE CITY CONTRACTING WITH ANY ENTITY, OR SUBSIDIARY THEREOF, OPERATING DETENTION FACILITIES OR SHELTERS FOR CHILDREN DETAINED BY UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES UNTIL SUCH ENTITIES, OR SUBSIDIARIES THEREOF, PERMIT ACCESS TO SUCH FACILITIES BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SEEKING ENTRY FOR INSPECTIONS AND HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, between April 2018 and the signing of an Executive Order on June 20, 2018, the Trump Administration, under a “zero tolerance” immigration policy, separated children, including infants, from their parents who were being criminally detained for unlawfully crossing the U.S. border with Mexico; and

WHEREAS, although the policy and practice of family separation has purportedly been amended to prospectively prevent the separation of infants and children from their parents when detained at the U.S. border, many questions still remain with regard to how children that are already detained will be reunited with their families, and the conditions under which children will be detained in the future; and

WHEREAS, in a recent attempt to verify the adequacy of the housing, education, nutrition, and care being provided to immigrant children that had been separated from their families, U.S. Senator Bill Nelson and U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz recently sought access to the Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children, operated by Comprehensive Health Services, and were denied entrance; and

WHEREAS, any entity, or subsidiary thereof, that is managing or operating a shelter or detention facility for immigrant children that does not allow access to such facility by elected government officials that represent the interests of the public welfare, is in contradiction to our nation’s democratic values, and is so compelling of a nature as to seriously and directly affect the responsibility of such entity relative to a City of Miami Beach contract or subcontract; and

WHEREAS, any entity, or subsidiary thereof, that is operating an immigration detention center or shelter for children and that denies access to such facility by government officials for the humanitarian purposes of evaluating whether adequate and proper standards of housing, education, nutrition, and health care are being provided, should be prohibited from contracting with the City of Miami Beach until access by government officials seeking entry for inspections and humanitarian purposes is permitted.

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 condemn the denial of access to government officials to immigration detention facilities and shelters for children for humanitarian inspections and purposes and hereby impose, as of the date of the adoption of this Resolution, a moratorium on the City contracting with any entity, or subsidiary thereof, operating detention facilities or shelters for children detained by United States immigration authorities until such entities, or their subsidiaries, permit access to such facilities or shelters by government officials seeking entry for humanitarian inspection purposes.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2018.

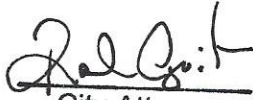
ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Ricky Arriola)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

 6-22-18
City Attorney Date