

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN ADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE, NUTRITION, HOUSING, AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS IN, AND TO PERMIT ACCESS BY ELECTED FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES TO, FEDERAL IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTERS AND SHELTERS FOR CHILDREN.

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2018, President Trump signed an Executive Order purportedly ending a previously implemented "zero tolerance" immigration policy under which adults were criminally prosecuted for illegally crossing the U.S. border with Mexico; and

WHEREAS, under the "zero tolerance" policy, detained parents were separated from their children due to federal prohibitions on housing children in facilities for persons criminally detained; and

WHEREAS, although the policy and practice of family separation has been amended to prospectively prevent the separation of infants and children from their parents when detained by U.S. immigration authorities, approximately 2,300 children still remain in federal immigration facilities and continue to be separated from their families with no direction in the President's Executive Order regarding a reuniting process, or how families will be detained together in the future; and

WHEREAS, recently, U.S. Senator Bill Nelson and U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz attempted to enter the Homestead Temporary Shelter for Unaccompanied Children in their humanitarian mission to assess the adequacy of the medical care, housing, education, and nutrition being provided to detained immigrant children, but they were denied access and information relative to the facility; and

WHEREAS, medical organizations in the areas of psychology, psychiatry, and pediatrics issued letters of protest regarding the "zero tolerance" policy noting the negative effects of separating migrant children from their parents and, as stated by the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, "[t]raumatic life experiences in childhood, especially those that involve the loss of a caregiver or parent, cause lifelong risk for cardiovascular and mental health disease"; and, as noted by the president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, "[s]o many of these children know no other adult than the parent who brought them there"; and

WHEREAS, as long as children remain in federal immigration detention and shelter facilities, the honoring of basic human rights requires that the United States Department of Health and Human Resources provide and maintain adequate medical care, housing, nutrition, and educational standards, and allow access to such facilities by federal elected officials to monitor the well-being of the children.

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 strongly urge the United States Department of Health and Human Resources to provide and maintain adequate medical care, nutrition, housing, and educational

standards in, and to permit access by elected federal officials to, federal immigration detention centers and shelters for children.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2018.

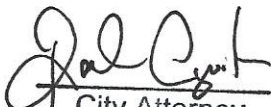
ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(Sponsored by Commissioner Michael Gongora)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

6-22-18

Date