

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, RE-AFFIRMING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH'S FIRMLY ESTABLISHED POLICIES OF DIVERSITY, INCLUSIVENESS, AND NON-DISCRIMINATION, AND SUPPORTING COLLABORATION AMONG ITS MUNICIPAL, COUNTY, STATE, AND FEDERAL PARTNERS TO ENSURE THAT POLICIES INSTITUTED RESPECT THE DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach celebrates its ethnic diversity and its multicultural community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach supports the values and principles of our American democracy as set forth in the United States Constitution and The Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach has a long history of anti-discrimination legislation, and is committed to supporting inclusiveness in its laws and policies; and

WHEREAS, as stated in Section 62-33 of the City of Miami Beach Human Rights Ordinance, the City finds and declares that prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and discrimination, and the disorder occasioned thereby, threaten the rights and proper privileges of its inhabitants and menace the very institutions, foundations, and bedrock of a free, democratic society; and

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2017, President Trump issued Executive Order 13,768 directing that the Federal Government withhold federal funds from "sanctuary" jurisdictions that willfully refuse to comply with the enforcement of federal immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Police Department utilizes the best practices of community policing and relies on all members of the community it serves—visitors and residents alike—to continuously build trust and to partner in solving crimes, thereby improving quality of life, and maintaining a safe City; and

WHEREAS, any policy or practice that makes any person fearful of contact with the Miami Beach Police Department is inconsistent with the Department's vision and the City's interest to ensure witnesses and victims of criminal conduct fully cooperate with the police so that criminals can be arrested and successfully prosecuted and that justice is administered and served in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Police Department is determined to provide quality police services to all residents and visitors, regardless of their immigration status with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Miami Beach Police Department maintains an excellent working relationship with its federal law enforcement counterparts and, through this collegial relationship, works cooperatively to investigate crime, track down fugitives, and prevent terrorism; and

WHEREAS, it must be acknowledged, however, that the Miami Beach Police Department merely transports those individuals taken into custody to the Corrections and Rehabilitation Department of Miami-Dade County, and the City of Miami Beach neither controls nor maintains any detention facilities for holding those persons which may have an immigration detainer; and

WHEREAS, furthermore, the International Association of Chiefs of Police strongly opposes any initiative that mandates that state and local law enforcement agencies play a role in the enforcement of federal immigration law; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2017, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez issued a Memorandum directing the Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Director to honor all immigration detainer requests received from the Department of Homeland Security; and, in a Statement issued on January 27, 2017, Mayor Gimenez re-affirmed that Miami-Dade County has never been a sanctuary community; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach encourage Miami-Dade County to seek input from community stakeholders, and County residents with regard to the adverse implications, and possible unintended consequences, that the Mayor's January 26, 2017 Memorandum could have in Miami-Dade County—particularly with regard to the fostering of a negative perception among the County's diverse residents and visitors.

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 re-affirm the City of Miami Beach's firmly established policies of diversity, inclusiveness, and non-discrimination, and seek to foster collaboration among its municipal, county, state, and federal partners to ensure that policies instituted respect the diversity of our communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of February, 2017.

ATTEST:

Philip Levine, Mayor.

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

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APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

R. E. Os. L. 2-6-17
City Attorney Date