RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO CONVENE A GRAND JURY TO INVESTIGATE THE DEATHS OF ARMANDO ALEJANDRE, JR., MARIO DE LA PENA, CARLOS COSTA, AND PABLO MORALES, THE BROTHERS TO THE RESCUE PILOTS WHO WERE SHOT DOWN BY TWO CUBAN AIR FORCE WAR PLANES WHILE FLYING A HUMANITARIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION IN TWO UNARMED U.S. LICENSED CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT IN THE FLORIDA STRAITS ON FEBRUARY 24, 1996; AND STRONGLY URGING CONGRESS TO CONDEMN THESE RUTHLESS AND VIOLENT ACTS.

WHEREAS, on February 24, 1996, the Castro regime ordered the shoot-down of two unarmed civilian aircraft over the Straits of Florida in international airspace that resulted in the deaths of Armando Alejandre, Jr., Mario de la Pena, Carlos Costa, and Pablo Morales, four Brothers to the Rescue pilots on a humanitarian search and rescue mission; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County passed Resolution No. 1386-07 on December 18, 2007, urging the U.S. Department of Justice to convene a grand jury to investigate the role of the Castro regime in the deaths of pilots, and to condemn the aforementioned act of the Cuban regime; and

WHEREAS, several human rights organizations have condemned these acts by the Cuban regime; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Miami has indicted the two Cuban pilots who shot down the civilian planes, and the Cuban General who ordered the shoot-down, but those individuals remain in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, this barbaric act against civilians remains unpunished and unresolved by U.S. authorities, in that no action has been initiated by the U.S. against Fidel Castro, Raul Castro, or any of their accomplices in Cuba and the U.S.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

That the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities urges the U.S. Department of Justice to convene a grand jury to investigate the role of Fidel Castro and Raul Castro in the murders of Armando Alejandre, Jr., Mario de la Pena, Carlos Costa, and Pablo Morales, who were shot down by two Cuban Air Force war planes while flying a humanitarian search and rescue mission in two unarmed U.S. licensed civilian aircraft in the Florida Straits on February 24, 1996.

The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. Section 2. urge Congress to condemn the actions of the Cuban regime in ordering the shoot-down.

This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by Section 3. the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County

League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this Thinday of Fobrowy, 2008.

ATTEST/

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES DURING THE 2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

WHEREAS, as Florida's population continues to increase, cities are challenged to meet the service demands and infrastructure needs to account for new growth; and

WHEREAS, a majority of Florida's municipalities are challenged to meet the increasing infrastructure, affordable housing, transportation, and water quality needs of their citizens; and

WHEREAS, the state has imposed greater accountability in comprehensive planning and fiscal feasibility standards on municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Florida's municipalities are dependent on other governmental entities for financial stability and presently the state, counties, and school districts, control every funding source that has been authorized for implementing growth management capital improvements and complying with concurrency requirements; and

WHEREAS, municipal self-determination and local self-government are constantly under attack from a variety of public and private interests; and

WHEREAS, the role and function of municipal government is constantly evolving from new demands from its citizens and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities urges Governor Charlie Crist and members of the Florida Legislature to support legislation that:

- Reauthorizes the affordable housing trust funds, preserves the documentary stamp fee as the trust funds' funding source and removes the legislative cap on fund distribution;
- Enhances public notice of and participation in state environmental permitting processes;
- Fully funds state growth management mandates and provides municipalities with state and local option revenue sources to meet financial feasibility requirements and infrastructure demands;
- Allows municipalities and counties to reclassify businesses, professions, and occupations and establish new rate structures for local business taxes on a periodic basis;
- Enhances municipal control over municipal employee pension plan management and funding;
- Preserves and protects property rights of mobile home owners, when mobile home parks are rezoned, but not in a manner that requires removal costs to be the responsibility of local governments;
- Broadens municipal home rule and other authority to issue tax-increment financed bonds and other forms of indebtedness without approval by referendum;
- Provides an equitable, dedicated and recurring revenue source for municipal transportation projects and opposes legislation that transfers or diverts state transportation trust fund revenues to balance the state budget;
- Prohibits the Florida Department of Transportation from eliminating, deferring, or delaying capacity improvement projects contained in the 5-year Work Plan when it negatively impacts the comprehensive plan of the local government;
- Authorizes the use of electronic traffic infraction detectors at traffic intersections; and
- Maintains or increases funding of the state Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund.

Section 2. This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

Section 3. That a copy of this Resolution shall be provided to Governor Charlie Crist, Senate President Ken Pruitt, House Speaker Marco Rubio and members of the Florida Legislature. That each member City support the Florida League's legislative proposals wih similar legislation.

# APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County

League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this \_

day of February, 2008.

ATTEST:

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING CONGRESS TO ACT NOW IN RENEWING THE BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS AS A SHARED FEDERAL-LOCAL COMMITMENT TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE AND SECURE; AND, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO LIFT THE PREEMPTION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' REGULATING ASSAULT WEAPONS IN FLORIDA AND TO ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPOSE AN ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN.

WHEREAS, the legislative ban enacted by the U.S. Congress on the distribution and use of automatic assault type weapons and those which can be rendered automatic, except for legitimate use by the U.S. military and federal, local, and state law enforcement agencies, is due to expire; and

WHEREAS, the ban on these types of weapons is an important element in the ongoing battle to combat crime and bloodshed in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities believes that the renewal by Congress of the ban on assault weapons is critical to the safety and security of our populace, as expressed in previously passed by Miami-Dade County League of Cities' Resolution Nos. 98-3 and 2000-12.

## NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

- **Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- Section 2. The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities and membership municipalities hereby urge the U.S. Congress to act immediately and to renew the RESOLUTION NO. 2008-3

ban on the manufacture, sale, importation, transfer, ownership or possession of all automatic assault type weapons and those which can be rendered automatic by modification, except for their legitimate use by the U.S. military and by all legitimate federal, state and local public safety and law enforcement agencies.

Urges the Florida Legislature to institute a state ban on assault weapons. Section 3.

Alternatively, urges the Florida Legislature to lift the preemption presently Section 4. in place and allow local governments to impose an assault weapons ban.

Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is Section 6. hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Florida's representatives in the U.S. Congress, Florida's Governor and Cabinet, and Miami-Dade County's Police Chiefs.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County

League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this day of MRCH, 2008.

ATTEST:

Secretary

CHARD STEINBERG

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., OPPOSING ANY COMPELLED CONSOLIDATION OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

WHEREAS, the diverse municipalities of Miami-Dade County are unique in their character, design, culture, and state mandated charters; and

WHEREAS, this diverse group of municipalities has selected, through the people's charter process, an election date which is unique to that municipal charter and government; and

WHEREAS, there is a movement to attempt to either alter or micromanage independent municipal election dates; and

WHEREAS, any municipality, after a vote of their constituents, can voluntarily elect to alter, change, or align their municipal election date without interference from non-elected employees of Miami-Dade County.

# NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

- Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- **Section 2.** That the hallmark of local self-government has the ability to adhere to their state mandated charter without interference from outside entities.
- **Section 3.** That even Miami-Dade County must respect the people's municipal charters and their chosen election dates.

The attendant cost of a democracy is a small price to pay in light of the people's free will choice of their election dates in their unique and diverse municipal charters.

**Section 4.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

**Section 5.** The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Miami-Dade County Mayor, Board of County Commissioners, County Manager, and County Elections Supervisor.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County

League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this

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ATTEST:

LUIS GONZA

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

WARD B. LENARD

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., OPPOSING ANY INTRODUCTION OR SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL #991, WHICH ATTEMPTS TO AMEND ALREADY ESTABLISHED LOCAL RULES OF PUBLIC MEETING PRESENTATION, DECORUM, AND THE PEOPLES VESTED RIGHT TO SPEAK AT PUBLIC FORUMS.

WHEREAS, municipalities in this great State of Florida have long been the advocates of open meetings and great debate for public forums; and

WHEREAS, the hallmark of all local municipalities is a process and procedure which facilitates and encourages the orderly and polite discourse of ideas and positions; and

WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives House Bill #991, under the guise of uniformity, attempts to interfere and alter municipal governments' policies regarding public debate; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

- **Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- **Section 2.** That the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities opposes any interference by the state legislature which will alter a municipality's policy and procedures on open forum debate and presentation.
- **Section 3.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

**Section 4.** The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to The Florida League of Cities, Inc., Governor Charlie Crist, and the leadership of the Florida House of Representatives.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County

League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this

day of 1

, 2008.

ATTEST:

LUIS GONZALEZ

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

PPRØVED AS TO FORM:

OWARD B. LENARD

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., ACKNOWLEDGING JEWISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH.

WHEREAS, throughout the years, Jewish-Americans have contributed to the strength of our country and the preservation of American family and values; and

WHEREAS, Jewish-Americans have worked to promote civil rights and build bridges of mutual understanding among the world's religions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach has declared May 2, 2008 as "Jewish-American Heritage Month"; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

Section 2. The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities recognizes the contributions of Jewish-Americans and acknowledges Jewish-American Heritage Month.

**Section 3.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., RECOMMENDING A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO MIAMIDADE COUNTY CODE SECTION 20-3.1 ADDRESSING MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY CHANGE PROCEDURES.

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is proposing a time prescribed mediation process to address municipal boundary changes when there are two competing municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 20-3.1 of the proposed County Code recommends a six-month mediation period, at which time, if there is no mediated resolution, the process terminates with no boundary resolution; and

WHEREAS, all good government entities hope to resolve issues in a thoughtful beneficial process to shared constituencies.

## NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

- **Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- **Section 2.** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities requests that the various County committees, administration, and legal staff, review proposed Section 20-3.1 and substitute those processes and procedures, which would bring about a final boundary mediation and/result by and between municipal entities.
- **Section 3.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

**Section 4.** The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Miami-Dade County Manager, County Attorney, Board of County Commissioners, and the Mayor.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County

League of Cities, Inc. at its regular meeting assembled this 1 day of 2008

ATTEST:

LUIS GONZALE

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

HOWARD B. LENARD

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING SUPPORT FOR THE CHILDREN'S TRUST WHICH IS A BALLOT QUESTION ON AUGUST 26, 2008, AND URGING ALL ELECTORS AND THEIR MUNICIPALITIES TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT MISSION.

WHEREAS, The Children's Trust, whose mission is to improve the life of all children and their families in Miami-Dade County was approved by the voters in September 2002; and

WHEREAS, a "sunset provision" requires that the initiative be returned for voters approval, which vote is set for August 26, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Children's Trust has become a recognized leader in planning, advocating, and funding quality services which improve the life of children and their families; and

WHEREAS, The Children's Trust has created efficient, practical and legendary programs which are specifically focused and dedicated to the well-being of our shared community's children.

## NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., as follows:

- **Section 1.** The Miami-Dade County League of Cities urges each voter to vote YES on the continuation of the funding for The Children's Trust.
- **Section 2.** That each member municipality should support this important community initiative by passing a similar supportive resolution.

**Section 3.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and adoption by the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

**Section 4.** The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to: the Miami-Dade County Manager, County Attorney, Board of County Commissioners, and the Mayor.

ATTEST:

LUIS GONZALEZ

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

HOWARD B. LENARD

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMIDADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., ADOPTING AMENDMENTS AND REINSTATING THE CHARTER & BYLAWS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC.

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. was founded in its inception in the early 1950's; and

WHEREAS, from time to time the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors deems it necessary to update the League's Charter & Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the League's Executive Committee has studied, reviewed and debated the Amended Bylaws, attached hereto and incorporated herewith as Exhibit "A".

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.:

Section 1. The foregoing is true and correct.

**Section 2.** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. hereby adopts and reinstates the Charter & Amended Bylaws of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.

ATTEST:

JOSEPH KELLEY

Secretary

SHIRLEY GIBSON

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President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

NOWARD B. LENAR

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 8: LOCAL OPTION COMMUNITY COLLEGE FUNDING, AN INITIATIVE CONTAINED ON THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 ELECTION BALLOT, AND URGING ALL ELECTORS TO SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL FUNDING FOR THEIR COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

WHEREAS, Amendment #8 proposes to strengthen educational and workforce opportunity through education; and

WHEREAS, Amendment #8 offers an option for communities to demonstrate referendum support for their community college; and

WHEREAS, Amendment #8 would, for the first time, grant community colleges constitutional standing; and

WHEREAS, Amendment #8 will only authorize counties to place a local option sales tax referendum on the ballot, subject to voter approval and mandated to sunset after five years. Currently no mechanisms exist that allow a county to place a referendum on the ballot for voter approval of local revenues in support of its community college.

# NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.:

- **Section 1.** The foregoing is true and correct.
- **Section 2.** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports Amendment #8, giving local voters a chance to support their community college and strengthen the community.

**Section 3.** The Executive Director of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to a representative of the Friends of Miami-Dade College, the Chair of the Miami-Dade College Board of Trustees, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and the Miami-Dade County Mayor.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. at regular meeting assembled this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2008.

ATTEST:

LUIS GONZALEZ

Secretary

RICHARD STEINBERG

President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

HOWARD B. LENARD

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING MEMBER CITIES TO PASS SIMILAR RESOLUTIONS ENCOURAGING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COURT SYSTEM TO ESTABLISH A RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE DIVERSION PILOT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, due to the current economic crisis, the number of foreclosures in the State of Florida has risen and Florida now has the second largest number of foreclosures in the nation; and

WHEREAS, an enormous number of Miami-Dade residents are facing foreclosure of their homestead property; and

WHEREAS, a residential mortgage foreclosure diversion pilot program offers homeowners an opportunity for further conciliation conferences prior to final foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities strongly recommends that the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court review the program in the First Judicial District of Philadelphia and establish a similar program for the residents and property owners in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

#### NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc.:

- **Section 1.** The foregoing is true and correct.
- **Section 2.** The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities hereby strongly encourages the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court of Miami-Dade County, Florida to establish

a Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Pilot Program to assist the property owners of Miami-Dade who are facing foreclosure.

**Section 3.** Furthermore, the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities encourages other municipalities of Miami-Dade County to adopt a similar resolution supporting the proposed program.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. at regular meeting assembled this day of November, 2008.

ATTEST:

OSEPH KELLEY

Secretary

SHIRLEY GIBSO

President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

HOWARD B. LENARD