RESOLUTION NO. 2010-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC. URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA AND DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY JANET NAPOLITANO TO PROMPTLY PAROLE INTO THE UNITED STATES ALL HAITIAN BENEFICIARIES OF APPROVED IMMIGRANT VISA PETITIONS AND PERMIT THEM TO LEGALLY WORK IN THE UNITED STATES, AND TO EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ALL PENDING BUT NOT YET APPROVED IMMIGRANT VISA PETITIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2010, Haiti was devastated by an unprecedented 7.0 Richter Scale earthquake which has killed at least 250,000 people, left millions homeless and injured, and destroyed important Haitian government and international institutional resources and infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, Haiti is the western hemisphere's poorest nation and one of the poorest in the world; and,

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2010, President Obama said that the disaster in Haiti "is one of those moments that call out for American's leadership"; and,

WHEREAS, it is a policy of the United States to expeditiously assist Haiti's people and government to rebuild and recover from this catastrophe; and,

WHEREAS, the Haitian diaspora is mainly in the United States and remits about \$ 2 billion dollars annually which is crucial to the welfare and survival of Haitians and to Haiti's welfare; and,

WHEREAS, if allowed to work in the United States, the 55,000 beneficiaries would send remittances to Haiti supporting an estimated 550,000 thousand to one million persons in Haiti; and,

WHEREAS, millions made homeless by the earthquake will suffer unnecessarily during Haiti's rain and hurricane seasons; thereby decreasing the window available for action; and,

WHEREAS, immigrant visa petitions for a further 19,000 Haitian beneficiaries are pending but not yet approved; and,

WHEREAS, helping neighbors and succoring the needy are in the highest traditions and values of the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc., hereby urge President Obama and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano to promptly parole into the United States all Haitian beneficiaries of approved immigrant visa petitions and permit them to legally work in the United States, and to expedite consideration and approval of all pending but not yet approved immigrant visa petitions.

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption hereof.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, Inc. at regular meeting assembled this	
ATTEST: MICHAEL BLYNN PRESIDENT APPROVED AS TO FORM: HOWARD-B. LENARD GENERAL COUNSEL	_