

RESOLUTION No. 15-203

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, CONDEMNING THE PERSECUTORY TARGETING OF COLOMBIANS ALONG VENEZUELA'S BORDER BY THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT; URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS AND RENDER AID TO COLOMBIAN VICTIMS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2015, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro ordered the border between Venezuela and Colombia closed; and

WHEREAS, in so doing, Maduro dispatched thousands of police officers soldiers to the border; and

WHEREAS, Venezuelan police and national guard troops have carried out mass arrests, deported over 1,400 Colombians and have bulldozed some of their homes on the Venezuelan side of the border; and

WHEREAS, the persecutory actions by the Venezuelan government have created a humanitarian crisis, causing an estimated 17,000 Colombians living in Venezuela to flee back to Colombia through dangerous territory, including through rivers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council believe that this tragedy in Venezuela, which represents one in a long chain of human rights violations by the Venezuelan government, needs to be condemned and brought to the attention of the public.

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Doral may only present officially sanctioned positions of the City to the International Affairs Committee of the United States Conference of Mayors for its consideration and support.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by this reference.

Section 2. Recommended Position. The Mayor and City Council for the City of Doral, Florida, hereby condemn the persecutory targeting of Colombians along Venezuela's border by the Venezuelan government and the senseless manner with which the Venezuelan government has treated Colombians peaceably living in Venezuela. The Mayor and City Council call on President Obama and his administration to enforce the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act, apply sanctions on the officials in the Venezuelan government for the humanitarian crisis they have created, and send aid to Colombia to support those individuals fleeing for their lives.

Section 3. Transmittal. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit this Resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the leadership of the United States Congress, the members of the Florida Congressional delegation, the United States Representative to the United States Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States, and such other elected leaders as deemed appropriate by the City Manager to ensure that the City's position with this regard is clearly received and understood.

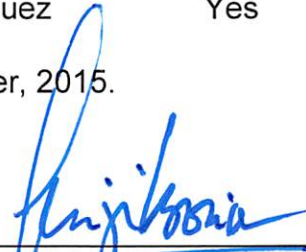
The Mayor is hereby directed to transmit this resolution to the International Affairs Committee of the United States Conference of Mayors.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Cabrera, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Luigi Boria	Yes
Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz	Yes
Councilman Pete Cabrera	Yes
Councilwoman Christi Fraga	Yes
Councilwoman Ana Maria Rodriguez	Yes

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13 day of October, 2015.



LUIGI BORIA, MAYOR

ATTEST:



CONNIE DIAZ, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE SOLE USE OF THE CITY OF DORAL:



WEISS, SEROTA, HELFMAN, COLE & BIERMANN, PL
CITY ATTORNEY