

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Agenda Item #: 4A-2

MCB / MM 7-0

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

R-2017-1706

Meeting Date: November 7, 2017

☐ Consent

☒ Regular

☐ Ordinance

☐ Public Hearing

Department: Administration

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: Resolution to urge the extension of the Temporary Protected Status designation of more than 50,000 Haitians granted by the Department of Homeland Security, for no less than 18 months beyond its current expiration date of January 22, 2018.

Summary: On May 22, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) extended its Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation of more than 50,000 Haitians for six months and informed the recipients of their impending return to Haiti, effective January 22, 2018. It is the intention of this resolution to urge DHS to extend the TPS for no less than 18 months beyond its current expiration date of January 22, 2018. Countywide (DW)

Background and Justification: Over 50,000 Haitians were granted TPS and are currently living in the United States due to catastrophic devastation associated with an earthquake in 2010, a cholera epidemic, and further destruction caused by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. Haiti's government has asked the United States to extend the TPS beyond the current expiration date of January 22, 2018, for a minimum of 18 months, since much of the island continues to be uninhabitable.

Attachments:

1. Resolution

N/A

Recommended by: _____
Department Director Date

Approved By:  11/2/17
Assistant County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues					
Program Income(County)					
In-Kind Match(County)	*				
NET FISCAL IMPACT					
#ADDITIONAL FTE					
POSITIONS (CUMULATIVE					

Is Item Included in Current Budget?

Does this item include the use of federal funds?

Yes

No

Yes

No

Budget Account No:

Fund

Agency

Organization

Object

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

* No fiscal impact.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS:

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

10/30/17

OFMB

10/30

10/31/17

Contract Dev. & Control

10/31/17

B. Legal Sufficiency

11/1/17

Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review

Department Director

RESOLUTION NO. 2017- 1706

**RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT TRUMP TO EXTEND
HAITI'S TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS
DESIGNATION FOR NO LESS THAN 18 MONTHS
BEYOND JANUARY 22, 2018**

WHEREAS, President Trump on September 16, 2016 told Haitian Americans he would be their “greatest champion,” praising their “perseverance, entrepreneurship, creativity, [and] faith” and saying “the Haitian American community deserves our gratitude and our respect”; and

WHEREAS, President Trump continued, “The 2010 Haitian earthquake unleashed a horrible and catastrophic devastation: over 300,000 dead, millions displaced or injured, homes, businesses, schools reduced to rubble; amid the suffering Haiti showed the world so much heart and so much incredible resilience, but the truth is Haiti is still suffering”; and

WHEREAS, an issue of great concern and shared value in Haitian American communities is that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) should extend Haiti’s Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation for no less than 18 months beyond its current January 22, 2018 expiration date due to, and until it has recovered from, recent extraordinary calamities, including the 2010 earthquake from which recovery remains incomplete; the cholera epidemic which has killed at least 10,000 and sickened over 800,000, and last October’s devastating Hurricane Matthew, a Category 4 hurricane with 145 mph winds and the worst to hit Haiti in 52 years, which killed 1,000 people, left hundreds of thousands without safe water or food, inundated vast areas and towns and destroyed crops, livestock, and infrastructure in broad areas; including Haiti’s southern peninsula, one of the nation’s key breadbaskets, greatly exacerbating the nation’s food insecurity crisis; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2017, DHS extended Haiti’s Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation for only six months, warning recipients to be prepared to return to Haiti, and it is now scheduled to end on January 22, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Haiti’s government is requesting an extension of no less than 18 months to enable it to deal with the overwhelming challenges facing the nation due to these calamities, and DHS by November 23 must decide whether to terminate or extend Haiti’s TPS designation, and

WHEREAS, Haiti's government, overwhelmed by the extraordinary recent calamities of earthquake, cholera epidemic, Hurricane Matthew, and food insecurity, is struggling to cope; and

WHEREAS, the 58,000 Haitians with TPS have been in the US and regularly send remittances which sustain about 320,000 to 500,000 relatives in Haiti, which in 2015 received from Haitians in the United States \$1.3 billion in remittances, which are Haiti's chief source of foreign assistance; and

WHEREAS, bipartisan support for a generous extension of Haiti's TPS designation includes U.S. Senators Rubio and Nelson joined by eight US congresspersons from Florida and resolutions by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, all urging an 18 months' extension;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY OF PALM BEACH STRONGLY:

Section 1. Urges President Donald Trump to instruct DHS to extend Haiti's TPS designation for no less than 18 months beyond its current January 22, 2018 expiration date; and

Section 2. Urges Secretary of State Rex Tillerson to recommend to President Trump and to DHS that conditions in Haiti fully warrant that DHS should extend Haiti's TPS designation for no less than 18 months beyond its current January 22, 2018 expiration date; and

Section 3. Urges DHS Acting Secretary Elaine Duke to extend Haiti's TPS designation for no less than 18 months beyond its current January 22, 2018 expiration date; and

Section 4. Authorizes transmission of this Resolution to President Donald F. Trump, White House Chief of Staff John F. Kelly, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, and Acting DHS Secretary Elaine Duke.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

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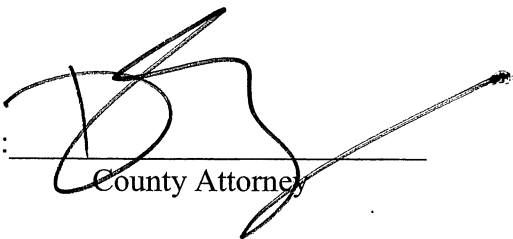
The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner Bernard, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McKinlay, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

COMM. PAULETTE BURDICK, Mayor	<u>Aye</u>
COMM. MELISSA MCKINLAY, Vice Mayor	<u>Aye</u>
COMM. HAL R. VALECHE	<u>Aye</u>
COMM. DAVID KERNER	<u>Aye</u>
COMM. STEVEN L. ABRAMS	<u>Aye</u>
COMM. MARY LOU BERGER	<u>Aye</u>
COMM. MACK BERNARD	<u>Aye</u>

The Mayor thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of November, 2017.

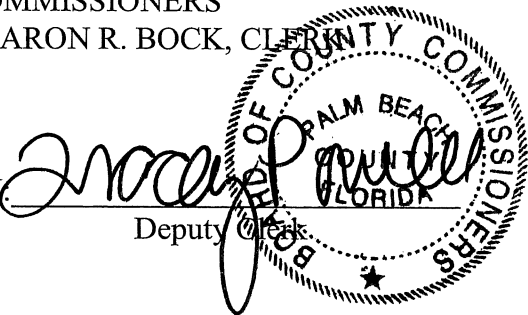
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

BY:


County Attorney

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK

BY:


Deputy Clerk

