

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-98**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, URGING CARNIVAL CORPORATION TO RECONSIDER ITS NEW CRUISE ROUTE TO CUBA, GIVEN THAT CUBA DOES NOT ALLOW CUBAN-BORN PERSONS TO TRAVEL TO THE ISLAND BY SEA VESSEL, AND URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW IF THIS VIOLATES STATE AND FEDERAL LAW AND URGING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO REVIEW DENYING CARNIVAL CORPORATION ACCESS TO AND USE OF THE PORT OF MIAMI FOR ANY CRUISES WHERE NATIONAL ORIGIN DISCRIMINATION OCCURS.

**WHEREAS**, Carnival Corporation has announced that, on May 1, 2016, it will begin sailing to Cuba from the Port of Miami; and

**WHEREAS**, Cuba does not allow Cuban-born individuals living in the United States and elsewhere to travel to the island by sea vessel; and

**WHEREAS**, this prohibition, imposed by the Cuban government, results in Cuban-born, United States citizens and residents not being allowed to purchase tickets for this Carnival cruise route; and

**WHEREAS**, many Cuban-born, United States citizens and residents live in Coral Gables and travel through the Port of Miami; and

**WHEREAS**, United States law generally prohibits discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, color, religion and national origin; and

**WHEREAS**, for example, 42 U.S.C. 2000, specifically prohibits discrimination in “places of public accommodation” based on race, color, religion and national origin and defines a “place of public accommodation” as any establishment which provides lodging to transient guests – a definition which would include a cruise ship; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables Commission feels strongly that Carnival Corporation should not offer the Miami-Cuba route where a regulation set by the Cuban government has the result of discriminating against United States citizens and residents, born on the island of Cuba, based on national origin; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Coral Gables Commission feels strongly that if Carnival Corporation does not reconsider and stop the Miami-Cuba route while these discriminatory regulations are in effect, that Miami-Dade County, the State of Florida and the United States government should review whether such action violates state and federal law, and whether Miami-Dade County may prohibit use of the Port of Miami for this route until the discriminatory regulation is removed;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:**

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Commission hereby urges Carnival Corporation to cancel its Miami-Cuba route until the discriminatory regulation based on national origin is removed. In the event that Carnival Corporation does not do so, the Commission urges Miami-Dade County, the State of Florida and the United States government to review whether such action violates state and federal law. The Commission further urges Miami-Dade County to review whether it may deny Carnival Corporation access to and use of the Port of Miami for this route until such national origin discrimination stops.

**SECTION 3.** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to federal and state elected officials representing the City of Coral Gables, as well as the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners for Miami-Dade County.

**SECTION 4.** That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWELFTH DAY OF APRIL, A.D., 2016.**

(Moved: Keon / Seconded: Quesada)

(Yeas: Slesnick, Keon, Lago, Quesada, Cason)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Non-Agenda Item)

APPROVED:



JIM CASON  
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER J. FOEMAN  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



CRAIG E. LEEN  
CITY ATTORNEY

STATE OF FLORIDA • COUNTY OF MIAMI DADE

I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing  
(Pages 1 - 3, inclusive)  
is a true and correct copy of the original  
on file in this office.

DATE

CITY CLERK

4/13/15  
