



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 199-2008

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: August 6, 2008

SUBJECT: Letter from The White House in response to transmittal of Resolution 2008-26825

Attached please find a copy of a letter directed to Robert Parcher, City Clerk, from Janet Weir Creighton, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, in response to the transmittal of Resolution 2008-26825, urging to grant temporary protective status to Haitians in the United States.

MEM
REP/MEM/kah

Attachments: Letter from The White House
Letter from Robert Parcher to President Bush
Resolution 2008-26825

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2008-26825

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

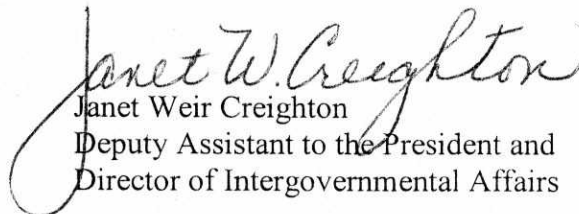
July 24, 2008

Dear Mr. Parcher:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for writing regarding the status of the Haitian community in the United States.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding your letter on to Secretary Rice at the United States Department of State. Please do not hesitate to contact Bill Behrens or me at (202) 456-2896 if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,


Janet Weir Creighton
Deputy Assistant to the President and
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

Mr. Robert E. Parcher
City Clerk
City of Miami Beach
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

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MIAMIBEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

CITY CLERK'S Office

Telephone: 305.673.7411

Facsimile: 305.673.7254

Email: CityClerk@miamibeachfl.gov

June 27, 2008

President George W. Bush
Vice-President Richard Cheney
Secretary of the House of Representative Nancy Pelosi
Senate Majority Leaders
US House of Representatives
Miami Dade League of Cities

At the City of Miami Beach City Commission Meeting of June 25, 2008, the City Commission adopted the attached Resolution 2008-26825, urging to grant temporary protective status to Haitians in the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Parcher
City Clerk

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RESOLUTION NO. 2008-26825

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING PRESIDENT BUSH TO GRANT TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE STATUS TO HAITIANS IN THE UNITED STATES; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE OFFICIALS AS STATED HEREIN.

WHEREAS, Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere and has long suffered through political instability, financial difficulties, violence, hurricanes and earthquakes; and

WHEREAS, Haitian President René Préval has written to President Bush asking the United States government to extend Temporary Protective Status ("TPS") to Haitians; and

WHEREAS, TPS suspends the deportation of undocumented Haitians already in the United States; and

WHEREAS, TPS status also allows the granting of work permits and can last up to 18 months; and

WHEREAS, Haitian workers in the United States support relatives back home with remittances to Haiti from the United States estimated to be more than \$1 billion; and

WHEREAS, TPS would only apply to Haitians already in the United States and could actually combat massive waves of migration by keeping working Haitians in this country so they can continue to earn money to clothe, feed and house relatives in Haiti; and

WHEREAS, TPS has been granted to natives of several Central American and other nations undergoing turmoil similar to Haiti's; and

WHEREAS, No city in America feels Haiti's pain as much as the Greater Miami area, where our hardworking Haitian community has made a positive impact on our diverse city and continues to support fellow countrymen in dire need in Haiti;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Resolution are adopted by reference and incorporated as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The City of Miami Beach Commission urges President George W. Bush and the members of the United States Congress to grant Temporary Protective Status to Haitians in the United States.

Section 3. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of the Resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to the Senators and Representatives from Florida in the Congress of the United States and to the thirty five municipalities that comprise the Miami-Dade League of Cities.

Section 4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption and signature of the Mayor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 25th day of June, 2008



Matti Herrera Bower
MAYOR

ATTEST:



Robert Parcher
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

6/2/08
Date