RESOLUTION NO. 2013-69

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, VOICING SUPPORT FOR THE CUBAN REFUGEES DETAINED BY THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT; DENOUNCING AND DEMANDING A HALT TO THEIR MISTREATMENT AND ABUSE, AND CALLING FOR THEIR HUMANE TREATMENT; AND URGING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE U.N. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE THE TREATMENT OF THE REFUGEES, SUPPORT THEIR DESIGNATION AS POLITICAL REFUGEES, AND GRANT THEM POLITICAL ASYLUM.

WHEREAS, recently a group of Cuban refugees seeking freedom from the brutal and repressive Castro regime made landfall in the Bahamas; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban refugees were taken into custody by the Bahamian government, and are currently at risk of repatriation to Cuba, notwithstanding their public statements as to their fear of harm if they were to be returned to Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah wish to voice their support of and solidarity with the refugees, and urge the U.S. Department of State and the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to intervene on behalf of the refugees by investigating their treatment, supporting their designation as political refugees, and assisting them in obtaining political asylum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Hialeah, Florida, voice their support of and solidarity with the Cuban refugees detained by the Bahamian government, and urge the U.S. Department of State and the U.N. Commission on Human Rights to intervene on behalf of the refugees by investigating their treatment, supporting their designation as political refugees, and granting them political asylum.

Section 2. The City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13 day of August, 2013.

Isis Garcia-Martinez
Council President

Attest: Approved on this 16 day of August, 2013.

Marbelys Rubio, Acting City Clerk

Mayor Carlos Hernandez

Approved as to legal sufficiency and form:

William Grodnick K.C.
William M. Grodnick, City Attorney

S:\KC\Legislation\CUBANS DETAINED IN BAHAMAS.doc

Resolution was adopted by a 6-0-1 vote with Councilmembers, Caragol, Cue-Fuente, Garcia-Martinez, Gonzalez, Hernandez and Lozano voting "Yes", Councilmember Casals-Munoz absent.