

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2174

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING AND UNITING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM OF SPEECH, EXPRESSION, ASSEMBLY, AND OF THE PRESS; RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY; SUPPORTING THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN ADVOCATING FOR CUBAN SOVEREIGNTY AND PEOPLES RIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY; PROVIDING FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TOWN CLERK; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Dieguez, Morera, Fernandez, Cuadra Garcia, Garcia, Herzberg, Sanchez)

WHEREAS, Cuba's communist dictatorship has wrought decades of oppression, starvation, murder, and economic instability on the island nation ever since the 1959 revolution; and

WHEREAS, Cuba's longstanding humanitarian crisis has resulted from the incompetence and brutality of its communist regime, whose mismanagement of the nation's political and economic institutions has added countless victims to the list of those who have suffered under its rule; and

WHEREAS, Cuba's healthcare system has been overwhelmed to the point of collapse, most medical supplies and medicines have run out, and food has become increasingly scarce; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban government does not have the resources nor the ability to improve the situation yet continues to reject meaningful humanitarian aid and reforms that would alleviate the suffering of the Cuban people; and

WHEREAS, in response to the Cuban government's oppression and incompetence, the Cuban people have risen up against the communist regime by taking to the streets to demand freedom in a manner not seen before, calling for fundamental political, economic, and social change; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban government has responded in typical autocratic fashion by continuing to arrest those who oppose it, firing live rounds at unarmed protestors, shutting down the internet and mobile communication among the public to conceal the truth, and shutting down electricity, thereby worsening living conditions in the country; and

WHEREAS, May 20 is recognized as Cuban Independence Day, commemorating Cuba's formal emergence as an independent republic in 1902, and serving as a powerful symbol of the Cuban people's historic and enduring aspiration for self-determination, national sovereignty, and freedom; and

WHEREAS, on the eve of Cuban Independence Day, May 20, the Town Council of the Town of Miami Lakes recognizes that, notwithstanding the continuing repression by the communist regime, the spirit of the Cuban people and the growing momentum of their demands for liberty, democratic governance, economic opportunity, and respect for fundamental human rights have brought Cuba closer to reclaiming her sovereignty than ever before; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Miami Lakes is comprised of a significant population of Cubans and those of Cuban heritage, as well as those from other countries that have become victims of repression by communist and socialist regimes such as those in Nicaragua and Venezuela, and these residents have a direct, personal, and historic connection to the struggle for freedom and democracy in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Miami Lakes seeks to express its solidarity with the Cuban people in their hour of need, to honor the sacrifices of those who have suffered and died under the communist regime, and to support the legitimate aspirations of the Cuban people for freedom, dignity, and democratic self-governance; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Town Council of the Town of Miami Lakes to encourage other municipalities in Miami-Dade County, throughout the State of Florida, and across the United States to express solidarity with the Cuban people in their struggle for independence, democracy, and fundamental human rights; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Miami Lakes urges our federal elected officials and other key federal officials to exercise the federal government's power and influence such that it provides robust and sustained support to the democratic movement in Cuba through all diplomatic, political, judicial, informational, and economic means available to it; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes and supports the actions taken by the President of the United States in supporting free and open elections in Cuba, including advocacy for a genuine multiparty democratic system, the abolition of one-party rule, the establishment of independent electoral institutions, and the protection of the right of all Cuban citizens to vote and to run for office in free, fair, competitive, and transparent elections conducted under international standards; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes that the realization of freedom of speech, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, a free and open economy, and free and open elections are essential and indivisible components of a free and democratic Cuba, and that sustained support from the United States, including the President and other federal officials, is critical to achieve these objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Miami Lakes desires to formally state its position on these matters and to call upon the President of the United States, the Congress of the United States, and all relevant federal officials and agencies to continue and intensify their support for the Cuban people's just and democratic aspirations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MIAMI LAKES, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference as the legislative findings and policy determinations of the Town Council of the Town of Miami Lakes.

Section 2. Expression of Support, Recognition of Cuban Independence Day, Supporting Cubans Right to Freedom of Expression, and Support for Actions taken by the U.S. Government. The Mayor and Council of the Town approve this resolution and provide their support to the Cuban people, the actions of the U.S. government in support of Cuban sovereignty.

Section 3. Instructions to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk is hereby instructed and directed to provide a certified copy of this Resolution to the following officials and entities, and to take any and all additional administrative actions necessary to implement the intent of this Section: The President of the United States, The United States Secretary of State; Senator Ashley Moody; Senator Rick Scott; Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Miami Lakes.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Mayor Dieguez who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fernandez and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Joshua Dieguez	Yes
Vice Mayor Bryan Morera	Yes
Councilmember Juan Carlos Fernandez	Yes
Councilmember Angelo Cuadra Garcia	Yes
Councilmember Ray Garcia	Yes
Councilmember Steven Herzberg	Yes
Councilmember Alex Sanchez	Yes

Passed and adopted this 19th day of May 2026.


Joshua Dieguez
MAYOR

Attest:


Gina M. Inguanzo
TOWN CLERK

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:


Raul Gastesi
Gastesi, Lopez, Mestre, and Cobiella, PLLC
TOWN ATTORNEY