

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI-DADE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUPPORTING  
THE EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS) OF HAITIAN IMMIGRANTS

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2010, the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designated Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), permitting Haitian nationals to apply for TPS if they were present in the United States on or before January 12, 2010, the date of Haiti's devastating earthquake; and

WHEREAS, the designation allowed eligible Haitian nationals to temporarily continue living and working in the United States, if they for the requisite fee had applied for and received a work permit; and

WHEREAS, TPS was given for 18 months, from January 12, 2010 to July 22, 2011; appropriately extended in 18-month increments, the latest on January 23, 2016 expiring on July 22, 2017; and a decision was recently made only to extend it for another six months; and

WHEREAS, Haiti has not yet recovered from the 2010 earthquake and numerous disasters since then, including Hurricane Matthew, the cholera epidemic, and rampant Zika and Chikungunya outbreaks; and

WHEREAS, since the 7.0 magnitude earthquake of January 12, 2010 more than 250,000 lives were lost, another 300,000 injured and over 1.5 million displaced, 80% of rural housing were destroyed, and more than 3 million Haitian on the island are still in need of humanitarian aid;

WHEREAS, if current Haitian TPS holders are no longer allowed to live and work in the United States, numerous businesses and organizations across the United States would suffer a loss of almost \$2.8 billion in gross domestic product (GDP) over the next ten years and a loss of almost \$60 million in turnover costs to refill all these positions according to the Immigrant Legal Resource Center;

WHEREAS, Haitian TPS holders contribute an estimated \$428 million in Social Security and Medicare taxes over the course of a decade, all of which would be lost if they are deported or denied employment authorization;

WHEREAS, Haiti is still grappling with the cholera epidemic introduced by United Nations forces with estimates that this year alone, another 30,000 people in Haiti will contract cholera, which has already killed more than 9,000 and sickened 800,000 Haitians;

WHEREAS, famine has ravaged hundreds of thousands leading to malnutrition and deaths;

WHEREAS, following the earthquake, an epidemic case of cholera infected more than 6% of the population killing thousands, thus further weakening the nation's already fragile healthcare system;

WHEREAS, there was an estimated \$8 billion were estimated in damages;

WHEREAS, on October 4, 2016 Haiti was once again affected by natural disaster when Category 4 Hurricane Matthew struck the island, causing 90% of the Southern part of the island was destroyed with a death toll of more than 1,000;

WHEREAS, there was an estimated \$2 billion in damages;

WHEREAS, beneficiaries of TPS have resided in the US for at least 2010 and some for much longer having established meaningful ties to the community and family;

WHEREAS, beneficiaries of TPS are thoroughly screened and have renewed their applications every one and a half years in addition to clearing a criminal background check;

WHEREAS, the past seven (7) years has been excruciatingly difficult for the nation, and Haiti and is still in crisis; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MIAMI-DADE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, THAT:

SECTION 1. The Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee hereby urges the Office of the President of the United States of America, addressing President Donald J. Trump to extend the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) of Haitian Immigrants beyond January 22, 2018, for at least another 18-month period.

SECTION 2. The Miami-Dade Democratic Executive Committee hereby urges the Trump Administration to consider the impact on American families and business, including the hefty costs to United States employers of the TPS-holders, as well as the turmoil on the families that will be affected including American-born children.

SECTION 3. The Miami-Dade Executive Democratic Executive Committee hereby urges the Department of Homeland Security Secretary, John F. Kelly to consider the undeniable hazards and insecurity that Haiti continues to face as deporting 58,000 people to Haiti will in fact be detrimental to the economic infrastructure of the country, and will only increase the numbers of people who will attempt to illegally enter the United States.

SECTION 4. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions herein contained are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby superseded and repealed.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.