

Joe Sanchez

For City of Miami Mayor 2009

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CHAIRMAN JOE SANCHEZ VOICES STRONG SUPPORT FOR ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BILL IN FLORIDA LEGISLATURE

(Miami, FL)- City Commission Chairman Joe Sanchez introduced a resolution -- passed unanimously at today's City Commission meeting -- expressing full support for state legislation that would prohibit discrimination against several groups of people.

If approved, companion State Senate and House bills pending in Florida's legislative session will update protection to individuals based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy or familial status. The civil rights protection would cover employment, housing and public accommodations.

"I wish we lived in a world where we didn't need to have laws to protect people from discrimination," Chairman Joe Sanchez said. "Unfortunately, there are far too many who would deny a job, housing or public accommodation based on discriminatory views."

Save Dade Executive Director C.J. Ortuno commended the Miami City Commission "under the leadership of Chairman Joe Sanchez, to pass a powerful statement of support for providing equal rights to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people at the state-level. "It is clear the City of Miami practices a profound level of acceptance that strengthens the social experiment we call America."

Chairman Sanchez said "In Miami, in all of America, our diversity is our strength -- it is what we must embrace," "Instead of discriminating against people, we need to be unified in our effort to make this world a better place to live in."

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