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FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION:
June 25, 2009

Mayor Manny Diaz Urges Congressional Support for the American Clean Energy and Security Act

(Miami, FL.) - Mayor Manny Diaz today sent a letter to the members of the South Florida Congressional Delegation calling for their support for The American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES) (H.R. 2454), pending in the House of Representatives.

Mayor Diaz also urged the delegation to help strengthen the bill with the inclusion of funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program which provides a vital nexus for emissions reduction at the local level.

This legislation, currently scheduled for floor action in the House on Friday June 26th, will set our country on the path to energy independence from fossil fuel consumption, and will significantly help to promote the deployment of renewable energy resources, thereby mitigating the dangers of global climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Mayor Diaz is sending this letter during the City of Miami's Green Week, dedicated to the environment with events centered on education, investment, and our parks during which all Miamians are challenged to adopt green practices and do their part to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Attached please find a copy of the letter sent to US House of Representatives members Kendrick Meek, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Lincoln Diaz-Balart, Mario Diaz-Balart, Ron Klein and Alcee Hastings.

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City of Miami, Florida

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June 25, 2009

The Honorable Kendrick Meek
United States House of Representatives
1039 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Meek:

On behalf of the City of Miami and supporters throughout South Florida, the state and the country, I am writing to urge your urgent and immediate support for H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACESA). This legislation is currently scheduled for floor action in the House on Friday June 26th and as the legislative process advances I urge you to help strengthen the bill with the inclusion of funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program which provides a vital nexus for emissions reduction at the local level. I ask that you remain steadfast against attempts to weaken this landmark piece of legislation.

The American Clean Energy and Security Act is a milestone bill. Importantly, it will set our country on the path to energy independence from fossil fuel consumption, and will significantly help to promote the deployment of renewable energy resources, thereby mitigating the dangers of global climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This very week, the City of Miami celebrates Green Week, dedicated to the environment with events centered on education, investment, and our parks during which all Miamians are challenged to adopt green practices and do their part to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Your leadership by example in supporting the passage of this legislation is imperative to strengthening these local efforts in Miami and throughout the region and state.

ACESA will establish a national renewable energy standard of 20% by 2020 by promoting weatherization, efficiency and renewable energy technologies including solar energy, biomass and wind; all resources that Florida enjoys in abundance. Other vital elements of the bill include transitioning the country to a clean energy economy to create hundreds of thousands of clean energy jobs in Florida's hardest hit sectors. By employing these measures, the United States will be able to successfully combat the dangers of climate change while at the same time strengthening our economy. As a city and state hard hit by the economic downturn, and on the frontlines of climate change, Miami and Florida cannot afford to wait to enact such measures.

This historic legislation needs your urgent support and strong leadership. H.R. 2454 has passed through the Energy and Commerce Committee and as stated earlier, is currently scheduled for a floor vote on Friday June 26th. With your support, Florida can guide the environmental leadership of the United States. Your leadership and support of the American Clean Energy and Security Act is vital to the successful passage of this legislation and will emphasize its importance to Miami, the State of Florida and our country.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter and your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Manuel Delgado". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.