

Resolution No.45

Submitted by:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Juan Carlos Bermudez
Mayor of Doral

The Honorable Martin J. Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Raul G. Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

The Honorable Angel L. Malave Zayas
Mayor of Cidra

The Honorable Jorge A. Santini
Mayor of San Juan

TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR HAITIAN NATIONALS

1. **WHEREAS**, the country of Haiti was severely impacted by successive hurricane and tropical storm strikes during a compressed period in 2008; and
2. **WHEREAS**, already tenuous conditions in Haiti were exacerbated by the magnitude and scale of these natural disasters, and tens of thousands remain homeless and displaced, food shortages continue, malnutrition rates are rising, and joblessness continues to climb in Haiti; and
3. **WHEREAS**, these natural disasters have had a devastating effect on infrastructure and essential and public services remain inadequate, including electrical power and clean drinking water, and many areas of the country remain isolated and uninhabitable while many roads and highways remain impassable; and
4. **WHEREAS**, these tragic conditions are not conducive to successful repatriation, repatriation under these conditions is inconsistent with our values as a country, and deportations of Haitian nationals were temporarily suspended in the wake of these natural disasters; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the government of Haiti continues to work towards recovery from these disasters and improve and remediate the exceptionally difficult living conditions that these disasters have caused, yet the people of Haiti continue to suffer under these extreme conditions; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the Obama Administration has expressed concerns for nationals of Haiti affected by the recurring natural disasters that have befallen Haiti over several years and their economic consequences; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the Obama Administration is in the process of formulating an overall Haiti policy and has expressed its continued commitment to working closely with the U.S. Congress, the Government of Haiti, the Organization of American States, the United Nations and the international community to address the humanitarian and security concerns that continue to face the people of Haiti; and

8. **WHEREAS**, the designation of Temporary Protected Status for Haiti and Haitian nationals would provide needed relief to those affected and the Government of Haiti as it works to stabilize conditions and recover from the damage inflicted by this environmental disaster; and

9. **WHEREAS**, Temporary Protected Status has been afforded to El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua in the wake of conditions in those countries resulting from natural disasters, and conditions in Haiti clearly meet the statutory requirements necessary for designation of Temporary Protected Status,

10. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on the Secretary of Homeland Security, with whom such authority lies, to designate Haiti and Haitian nationals for Temporary Protected Status; and

11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on the Secretary of Homeland Security to promptly suspend deportations of Haitian nationals.