



**City of Coral Gables  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
September 28, 2016**

**ITEM TITLE:**

A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, Censuring American Airlines, JetBlue, Spirit and all airlines engaging in National Origin Discrimination by flying to Cuba, and urging them to discontinue these flights, given that Cuba does not allow Cuban-born flight crew members to stay overnight on the Island, and urging the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners to consider denying these Airlines access to and use of the Miami International Airport for any flights where National Origin Discrimination is occurring (Sponsored by Commissioner Vince Lago)

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

American Airlines launched the first of 12 daily commercial flights from Miami to six cities in Cuba. Upon arrival to the island-nation, Cuban authorities refused to allow a Cuban-born crew members to enter the country. After certain hours of flight time, crews are required to rest overnight for safety reasons.

In response to the discriminatory action by the Cuban government, American Airlines issued a memorandum to all managers stating, “[p]lease remember that those who are Cuban born should be removed with pay from Cuba flights until we can verify what requirements the Cuban government has for those crewmembers.”

In continuing to fly to Cuba, American Airlines is engaging in national origin discrimination against its Cuban-born flight crew members. JetBlue, Spirit and any other airlines that fly to Cuba are made to abide by the same requirements, causing them to discriminate against their crew members.

This resolution expresses that the City of Coral Gables Commission feels strongly that American Airlines, JetBlue, Spirit and any other airline flying to Cuba should cease the operation of those flights immediately, as the regulation set by the Cuban government has the result of discriminating against United States citizens and residents, born on the island of Cuba, based on national origin. It also expresses that the City of Coral Gables Commission feels strongly that if these airlines do not reconsider and stop the Miami-Cuba routes while these discriminatory regulations are in effect, that Miami-Dade County should review whether it may prohibit use of the Miami International Airport for this route until the discriminatory regulation is removed.

**APPROVED BY:**

City Attorney	City Manager
	

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Draft Resolution