

Item #67-A

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 20, 2026

SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF

**HOUSING OPTIONS, SOLUTIONS
AND SUPPORTS DIVISION**



BROWARD COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS BOARD
(Advisory Board)

115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 427 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

August 12, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Commissioners
Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: Patrice Paldino, Esq., M.S.Ed., Division Director
Housing Options, Solutions, and Supports Division

FROM: Michael Emanuel Rajner, Chair 
Broward County Human Rights Board

RE: **August 20, 2026 County Commission Meeting, Support for Agenda Item No. 67,
Resolution Regarding Haitian Temporary Protected Status**

The Broward County Human Rights Board respectfully supports Agenda Item No. 67 on the County Commission's August 20, 2026, agenda, and the proposed resolution urging federal action to protect Haitian nationals affected by the termination of Temporary Protected Status ("TPS").

The Human Rights Board shares the County Commission's concern regarding the significant humanitarian, family, and economic consequences of terminating Haitian TPS. As the proposed resolution recognizes, Haiti continues to experience "widespread armed violence, gang activity, political instability, mass displacement, severe food insecurity, weakened governmental institutions, and limited access to essential services." Many affected Haitian nationals have lived in the United States for years and established families, homes, businesses, employment, and longstanding community relationships.

The impact is particularly significant in Broward County, which is home to a vibrant Haitian and Haitian American community. The resolution recognizes the important contributions of Haitian nationals to healthcare, caregiving, hospitality, transportation, construction, education, and other essential sectors, and that their removal may result in workforce disruption, family separation, and broader economic and social consequences.

Recent reporting by the South Florida Sun Sentinel demonstrates that these impacts are already being felt locally. At Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, a labor representative reported that "'we've lost approximately 50 employees,' including longtime janitors, wheelchair agents, and cabin cleaners, with additional losses among concessions and retail workers." The

article also reports that Florida has approximately 93,000 TPS holders in the workforce who contribute \$2.6 billion annually to the state economy.

The Human Rights Board supports the resolution's emphasis on "family unity," "longstanding residence and substantial community ties," and recognition of the contributions Haitian nationals have made to the workforce and economy. The resolution calls upon Congress to provide eligible affected Haitian nationals with protection from removal and a pathway to lawful permanent resident status, while urging lawful temporary protections pending congressional action.

For these reasons, the Broward County Human Rights Board respectfully urges the Board of County Commissioners to approve Item No. 67 at its August 20, 2026 meeting. Supporting the resolution recognizes both the human consequences of the termination of Haitian TPS and the important role Haitian residents and families play in the economic, civic, and cultural life of Broward County.

C: Monica M. Cepero, County Administrator
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney
Robert Melton, County Auditor
Adam Katzman, Deputy County Attorney
Tara Williams, Director, Human Services Department
Human Rights Board