

Florida House of Representatives

Representatives Eddy Gonzalez and Jose Felix Diaz

District(s) 111 and 116

District Office: 7901 S.W. 24th Street Miami, FL 33155 (305) 442-6800 Tallahassee Office: Florida House of Reps 400 House Office Building Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 488-3616

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July 9, 2013

VIA UNITED STATES MAIL

Honorable Commissioner Marc Sarnoff Chairman City of Miami Commission City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive Miami, FL 33133

Re: Miami Dade Delegation Support of Marine Stadium

Dear Chairman Sarnoff:

We write to you today in our capacities as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation. We understand that you have an item before you on Thursday, July 11th confirming and approving the site plan needed to generate sufficient revenue for the viable operation and maintenance of the Miami Marine Stadium in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 15, 2012 by and between the City of Miami, The Miami Sports and Exhibit Authority and the Friends of the Marine Stadium. The approval of this resolution will empower the Friends of the Marine Stadium to raise the money necessary by private means for the upgrading and updating of that landmark site which we all value so much.

The Marine Stadium site has invaluable historic and cultural significance for our community including the recent designation as a National Treasure by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the first for a Cuban-born architect in America. It hosted many world class events from powerboat races to boxing matches to legendary concerts by the likes of Jimmy Buffet, Bonnie Raitt, Queen, and Ray Charles. The Marine Stadium was also used for annual multi-denominational Easter sunrise services and flotillas for "La Virgen de la Caridad del Cobre" (The Virgin of Charity), the patroness of Cuba and protector of mariners. We sincerely hope that you decide to support this project so that our community's legacy can be preserved for



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the appreciation by future generations of Floridians and restored for the economic development of the City of Miami.

It is for all these reasons that we support the Friends of the Marine Stadium in their request for this very important approval.

Kind regards,

Eduardo "Eddy" Gonzalez State Representative, District 111

Jose Felix Diaz

State Representative, District 116