

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2019-

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
3 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA,
4 COMMENDING AIRBNB, INC.'S ("AIRBNB") REVERSAL OF
5 ITS PRIOR DECISION TO REMOVE LISTINGS OF RENTAL
6 PROPERTIES LOCATED WITHIN ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS
7 ESTABLISHED IN DISPUTED TERRITORY WITHIN THE WEST
8 BANK; REVERSING THE BOARD'S PRIOR DECISION TO
9 PROHIBIT REIMBURSEMENT OF ANY EMPLOYEE LODGING
10 EXPENSES BOOKED THROUGH AIRBNB; AND PROVIDING
11 FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

12 (Sponsored by Senator Steve Geller)

13 WHEREAS, Israel is a strong and trusted ally of the United States;

14 WHEREAS, Broward County, which is part of a region that is home to one of the
15 nation's and world's largest Jewish populations, shares democratic values and strategic
16 interests with Israel and its people;

17 WHEREAS, Airbnb, Inc. ("Airbnb") is a privately held global company
18 headquartered in San Francisco, California, that operates an online platform through
19 which people can select lodging accommodations by choosing from among properties
20 listed on the platform;

21 WHEREAS, in November 2018, Airbnb decided to remove from its platform all
22 listings of rentals in Israeli settlements in the disputed area commonly known as the West
23 Bank, while continuing to allow listings for properties in other portions of the disputed
24 West Bank;

WHEREAS, Airbnb's policy singled out disputed territory affecting Israel and did
not apply to other disputed territories around the world, including Northern Cyprus, Tibet,
and Western Sahara;

1 WHEREAS, on January 29, 2019, the Broward County Board of County
2 Commissioners (“Board”) enacted a resolution condemning Airbnb’s discriminatory
3 actions, prohibiting reimbursement for lodging expenses for County employees who book
4 their lodging for public business travel through Airbnb, and encouraging the state and
5 federal governments to penalize Airbnb for its decision to remove listings for rental
6 properties within Israeli settlements established in disputed territories;

7 WHEREAS, as a result of Airbnb’s actions, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis
8 ordered that Airbnb be placed on Florida’s list of scrutinized companies, thereby
9 prohibiting the state and local governments from entering into certain agreements with
10 Airbnb;

11 WHEREAS, Airbnb has since reversed its decision to remove listings of rental
12 properties in Israeli settlements in the West Bank; and

13 WHEREAS, the Board wishes to commend Airbnb on reversing this prior decision,
14 NOW, THEREFORE,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
17 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

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19 Section 1. The Board hereby commends Airbnb’s decision to reverse its prior
20 policy concerning the listing of properties within Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

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22 Section 2. The Board hereby rescinds its prior decision to prohibit employee
23 reimbursement for any lodging for public business travel booked through Airbnb.
24

1 Section 3. Severability.

2 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid
3 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this
4 Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be
5 legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such
6 determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual,
7 group, entity, property, or circumstance.

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9 Section 4. Effective Date.

10 This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

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12 ADOPTED this ____ day of June, 2019.

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15 Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
16 Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

17 By /s/ Rocio Blanco Garcia 05/30/19
18 Rocio Blanco Garcia (date)
19 Assistant County Attorney

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22
23 RBG/
24 05/30/19
Airbnb Resolution
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