

**ITEM #88**

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL**

**Regular Meeting**

**JUNE 11, 2019**

**SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF**

**COMMISSIONER NAN RICH**

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-

1  
2 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
3 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
4 ~~COMMENDING~~ ACKNOWLEDGING AIRBNB, INC.'S  
5 ("AIRBNB") REVERSAL OF ITS PRIOR DECISION TO  
6 REMOVE LISTINGS OF RENTAL PROPERTIES LOCATED  
7 WITHIN ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED IN  
8 DISPUTED TERRITORY WITHIN THE WEST BANK;  
9 REVERSING THE BOARD'S PRIOR DECISION TO PROHIBIT  
10 REIMBURSEMENT OF ANY EMPLOYEE LODGING  
11 EXPENSES BOOKED THROUGH AIRBNB; AND PROVIDING  
12 FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by Senator Steve Geller)

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

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

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

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

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

24

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~~ acknowledge Airbnb's on-reversing  
14 reversal of this prior decision, NOW, THEREFORE,

15  
16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
17 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

18  
19 Section 1. The Board hereby ~~commends~~ acknowledges Airbnb's decision to  
20 reverse its prior policy concerning the listing of properties within Israeli settlements in the  
21 West Bank.

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

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.

8  
9           Section 4.   Effective Date.

10          This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

11  
12          ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 2019.

13  
14  
15          Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:  
16          Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

17          By /s/ Rocio Blanco Garcia    06/10/19  
18                    Rocio Blanco Garcia    (date)  
19                    Assistant County Attorney

20  
21  
22  
23          RBG/  
24          06/10/19  
            Airbnb Resolution  
            99265