



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF OFFICIAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
AGENCIES

REPLY TO:

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A District of Columbia
Nonprofit Corporation

RESOLUTION # 2

ADOPTED BY
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN
RIGHTS AGENCIES
58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
September 14, 2006

TITLE: VOTING RIGHTS FOR THE ELECTED
CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND
THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA

PURPOSE: SUPPORT FOR VOTING RIGHTS FOR THE
ELECTED CONGRESSIONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND THE RESIDENTS
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, our nation is founded on the principles of "one person, one vote" and government by the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provide all citizens of the United States of America with the guarantee of the equal protection of the laws, and gives Congress the power to enforce this guarantee; and

WHEREAS, over 500,000 people living in the District of Columbia, the capital of our democratic nation, are denied Congressional Representatives in the U.S. Senate and only one representative in the U.S. House of Representatives with no voting powers; and

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia residents share all the responsibilities of American citizenship, including the payment of over \$3 billion annually in federal income taxes, but are denied

equal civil rights with their fellow Americans living in the states; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States has found the United States to be in violation of international human rights law for its disenfranchisement of District of Columbia residents; and

WHEREAS, there are serious efforts in many states to re-enfranchise non-citizen immigrants permitting them voting rights in national, state and local elections.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that IAOHRA supports full voting representation for the residents of the District of Columbia by supporting Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and Senator Joseph Lieberman's "No Taxation without Representation Act" (H.R. 398 and S. 195) and similar solutions for full voting representation of District of Columbia residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 58th Annual Conference encourages bipartisan support in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate for the "No Taxation Without Representation Act" and encourage IAOHRA members to contact their representative and ask them to be a co-sponsor of this legislation.

James L. Stowe, President



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RESOLUTION # 3

Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL
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58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
September 14, 2006

TITLE: FUNDING FOR THE ANTI-BIAS
EDUCATION

PURPOSE: REQUEST THE CURRENT
ADMINISTRATION AND FUTURE
ADMINISTRATIONS FUND ANTI-BIAS
EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of Over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution guarantees all citizens regardless of age certain rights; and

WHEREAS, anti-bias laws prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, education and credit; and

WHEREAS, many citizens and residents of our country are the victims of discrimination and hate crimes, and;

WHEREAS, education is an important component for the alleviation of discrimination and bias hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, the current Administration has not included in the budget funding for anti-bias education to ensure inclusion and equality.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) urges the current administration and future administrations to include funding for anti-bias education.

James L. Stowe, President



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RESOLUTION # 4

Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN
RIGHTS AGENCIES
58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
September 14, 2006

TITLE: HURRICANE KATRINA

**PURPOSE: ENCOURAGE FAIR AND EQUITABLE
DISTRIBUTION OF HURRICANE RELIEF**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina finds low-to moderate income communities who suffered great damage and bore the greatest impact from winds and storm surge has drawn little awareness of its plight; and,

WHEREAS, one year later, those low income communities are physically much the same as it was the day after Hurricane Katrina, citizens input in the regional planning for the expenditure of federal and state recovery money is needed to insure recovery.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 58th Annual Conference encourages fair and equitable distribution of Hurricane relief funds for all communities and groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 58th Annual Conference encourages monitoring of impediments to fair housing and to recommend corrective measures.

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RESOLUTION # 5

Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN
RIGHTS AGENCIES
58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY
September 14, 2006

TITLE: SECURE A DECLARATION OF URGENCY FOR
THE COMPENSATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF
HURRICANE KATRINA AND RITA

PURPOSE: JOIN THE NAACP AND OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS
GROUPS ADVOCATING FOR FULL AND PROPER
COMPENSATION FOR GULF COAST RESIDENTS
PARTICULARLY IN THE UNDERSERVED.

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of Katrina and Rita's arrival billions Of dollars of damage were dealt to New Orleans, Louisiana, Gulfport and Biloxi, Mississippi, Mobile County, Alabama and the Gulf Coast Regions; and

WHEREAS, over a quarter of a million people were displaced due to Katrina and Rita's wrath; and

WHEREAS, due to a failure to plan by various agencies within the United States Government, many of the Gulf Coast minorities and poor were left in disparate, unforgiving environments; for as long as 7 days; and

WHEREAS, local and state officials in the region made multiple requests for federal assistance, including military personnel, all of which were not answered within a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, due to a failure of planning and execution of natural disaster policies and procedure, many of the Gulf Coast's poor and minorities did not receive any federal assistance for evacuation or shelter until almost two days after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, the approximate death toll in the wake of Hurricane Katrina has risen to over 1,200 people making this Hurricane one of the deadliest as well as costliest in US history; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has passed legislation appropriating funds for the Hurricane Katrina relief; while also passing legislation that has relaxed hiring procedures that secure fair and just employment practices and also relaxing federal contracting standards to level the playing field for bidding on federal contracts; leaving minority businesses, with little chance to participate in the devastated Gulf Coast economy and workers with little wage; and

WHEREAS, thousands of the Gulf Coast displaced persons have sought shelter and residence throughout America and are seeking federal assistance from FEMA and other government agencies, to return them to being productive and active US citizens; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that IAOHRA urges the United States President and Congress to ensure that all people living in America, in every area that is prone to floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, or any other catastrophic event are made aware of what to do in any and all emergency situations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that IAOHRA work for the fair wages and contracts on behalf of minority business owners and workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IAOHRA will diligently work for full and proper compensation and health-related assistance for minority business owners and residents of color displaced from the Gulf Coast by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that IAOHRA calls for a declaration of urgency in the recovery efforts to restore all underserved citizens affected by Hurricane Katrina and Rita so that rules can be waived or temporarily altered in order to:

1. fairly compensate such citizens for losses;
2. rapidly certify small businesses that wish to become eligible for government contracts (all levels);
3. expeditiously process loans for minority businesses;
4. facilitate prompt acquisition of loans and mortgages to African Americans;

5. waive payment for existing student loans;
6. expand eligibility for educational grants, low interest loans and work study programs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 58th Annual Conference urge the U.S. Senate the House of Representatives to call for a declaration of urgency for full Compensation for Hurricane Katrina and Rita victims.

James L. Stowe, President



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REPLY TO:

RESOLUTION # 6

Adopted by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL
HUMAN RIGHTS AGENCIES
58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
September 14, 2006

TITLE: REBUILDING THE STATE OF LOUISIANA
AND THE GULF COAST REGION

PURPOSE: SUPPORT THE REBUILDING OF THE
STATE OF LOUISIANA AND THE GULF
COAST REGION

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WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2005 the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States devastated the State of Louisiana and the Gulf Coast region in the form of Hurricane Katrina; and,

WHEREAS, thereafter, Hurricane Rita compounded the suffering and extended the damages experienced by the people in the Gulf Coast region; and

WHEREAS, the destruction of the faulty levee system was not able to provide adequate protection and led to the decimation of both commercial and residential property, loss of life and displacement of over 900,000 people; and,

WHEREAS, the federal government promised to rebuild Louisiana and the Gulf Coast region; and,

WHEREAS, 329 members of the House of Representatives and 45 U.S. Senators have not traveled to the Gulf Coast to view the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina's devastation; and,

WHEREAS, thousands who survived Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita are still displaced and continue to suffer one year after these catastrophic events; and need to rebuild their

communities in all areas, including, but not limited to, housing, education, healthcare and employment; and,

WHEREAS, there are non-binding, but morally authoritative “Guiding Principles” on internal displacement that include state obligations to protect people from disaster and to provide for their needs as well as for the right to return;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 58th IAOHRA Conference urge and strongly recommend that U.S. Congressional members visit the area devastated by the disasters of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita in order to assist them in understanding the necessity to fully fund the rebuilding of Louisiana and the Gulf Coast region; and,

BE IT FURHTER RESOLVED, that the delegates of the 58th IAOHRA Conference ask Congress to support, without delay, House Bill 4761 entitled “Domestic Energy Production Through Offshore Exploration and Equitable Treatment of State Holdings Act of 2006” to provide a steady stream of funding for the Gulf Coast region from offshore oil and gas revenues for coastal restoration, protection and production.

James L. Stowe, President



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RESOLUTION # G

ADOPTED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN
RIGHTS AGENCIES
58th Annual Conference
Atlantic City, NJ
September 14, 2006

**TITLE: APPRECIATION TO FRANK VESPA-
PAPALEO**

**PURPOSE: TO COMMEND FRANK VESPA-PAPALEO,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY
DIVISION ON CIVIL RIGHTS FOR CO-HOSTING
THE 58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county and local human relations commissions in the United States of America and several statutory agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, the 58th Annual IAOHRA Conference held in Atlantic City, New Jersey beginning September 12 through September 15, 2006; and,

WHEREAS, the delegates and other attendees to this 58th Annual Conference received a warm and gracious welcome to Atlantic City, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the IAOHRA membership thanks Frank Vespa-Papaleo for his commitment to IAOHRA by hosting the 58th Annual Conference; and,

WHEREAS, Frank Vespa-Papaleo and the Local Host Committee did an outstanding job in making the conference educational and enjoyable, and worked hard to meet IAOHRA's requirements of a conference host agency,

Page 2
Frank Vespa-Papaleo

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 58th Annual Conference express sincere thanks and appreciation to Frank Vespa-Papaleo for his dedication and support to ensure a successful 58th Annual Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

James L. Stowe, President



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**RESOLUTION # A
ADOPTED BY
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN
RIGHTS AGENCIES
58TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
September 14, 2006**

TITLE: APPRECIATION TO CARI M. DOMINQUEZ

**PURPOSE: TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND HONOR CARI M.
DOMINQUEZ'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE WITH
THE U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a professional association of over 140 state, county, and local human relations commission in the United States of America and several statutory human rights agencies in Canada that has as its purpose and jurisdiction the elimination of discrimination; and,

WHEREAS, Cari M. Dominguez stepped down August 31, 2006 as the Chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, at the end of a five-year term (2001-2006); and,

WHEREAS, her term has been characterized by an unprecedented number of training and outreach programs; a sharp increase in signed mediation agreements and record number of disputes settled through mediation; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure a number of initiatives were launched, on of which was awarded the Small Business Administration's highest rating for compliance assistance; and,

WHEREAS, Cari M. Dominguez received numerous awards and recognitions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the delegates of the 58th Annual Conference commend Cari M. Dominguez for her dedicated work in the field of civil rights with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

James L. Stowe, President