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Deborah Tyroler

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## **Nicaraguan Exiles In Miami Organize Public Protest Against New U.S. Immigration Law**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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Nicaraguan exiles in Miami organized a protest march on May 2 to express their criticism of the new US immigration law. The legislation, they claimed, prevents a majority of Nicaraguan exiles from remaining in the United States. Placards carried by the protesters said, "We have children. We need to work." Protest organizers said that some 2,000 persons participated in the march, which proceeded from "Little Havana" to the center of the city. Police said the number of protesters was less than 2,000. The immigration reform legislation passed in 1986 and effective on May 5, provides residence and work permits to immigrants who have lived in the United States since before January 1, 1982. The protesters said they wanted special work permits from the US government, since the new law excludes about 80% of the approximately 75,000 Nicaraguans living in southern Florida. (Basic data from AP, 05/02/87)

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