


Memorandum



Date: September 4, 2007

To: Victor M. Diaz, Chairman
Charter Review Task Force

From: Susanne M. Torriente
Assistant County Manager 

Subject: Information Package for Charter Review Task Force – Issue 5

At its August 1, 2007 meeting, the Charter Review Task Force (CRTF) approved a list of issues, in priority order, for study during this process.

Per your direction, research on Issue 5, the Study of Initiative, Referendum, Petition & Recalls has been performed. Specifically, staff has conducted general research regarding the use of initiatives and recalls in the United States. The attached presentation includes information regarding the history and major pros and cons of these processes, as well as specific strategies used by communities to improve them. Additionally, we have attached detailed findings regarding provisions for initiative and recall in seven Florida counties and thirteen large counties nationwide.

I would like to thank Amy Horton-Tavera, Paul Mauriello, Cara Tuzeo, John Murphey and Tracie Auguste for pulling this data together. Staff will continue to research this issue, as well as the other issues approved by the Task Force.

c: Charter Review Task Force Members and Staff

Direct Democracy: Initiative and Recall

Prepared for the Miami-Dade County Charter Review Task Force

September 2007

