



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 20, 2011

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature and the Florida
Department of Education to pass
legislation and promulgate
regulations, respectively, requiring
that public schools be authorized
and directed to award high school
diplomas to students participating
in a Home Education Program
("home schooled students")

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Lynda Bell, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/up



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez **DATE:** September 20, 2011
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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County Attorney

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)
9-20-11

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PASS LEGISLATION AND PROMULGATE REGULATIONS, RESPECTIVELY, REQUIRING THAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS BE AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO AWARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS TO STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN A HOME EDUCATION PROGRAM (“HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS”) MEETING CERTAIN CRITERIA SET FORTH BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE; AND FURTHER URGING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE FOR THE AWARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS TO HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS HAVING MET THE CRITERIA SET FORTH BY THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has passed legislation in Florida which allows parents to allow their children to participate in Home Education Programs; and

WHEREAS, the legislations sets forth standards that must be met for the parents and students participating in these programs; and

WHEREAS, the legislation also provides for coordination with and review by the superintendent of the school board of the students work and progress in the county where the parents and children reside; and

WHEREAS, although the legislation sets forth standards to be met the legislation does not provide students who have met or surpassed the standards to receive a high school diploma from the school district which has monitored their progress; and

WHEREAS, a home education student currently must take and pass the General Educational Development (GED) test at an education center to be awarded a Florida GED diploma; and

WHEREAS, the award of a high school diploma would be in the best interest of those students participating in a home education program and would be a proper, fair, and fitting reward and inducement to these students,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature and the Florida Department of Education to pass legislation and promulgate regulations respectively requiring that public schools be authorized and directed to award high school diplomas to students participating in a Home Education Program, as defined by Florida law, (“home schooled students”), who meet certain criteria set forth by the Florida Legislature; and further urging Miami-Dade County Schools to provide for the award of Miami-Dade County School Board high school diplomas to home schooled students having met the criteria set forth by the Florida Legislature.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Delegation, the Florida Commissioner of Education, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County School Board and the Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Section 3. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of legislation and the promulgation of rules as set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2012 State Legislative Package.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Lynda Bell, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson. It was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of September, 2011. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Shannon D. Summerset