June 9, 1999

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Member

SUBJECT: FEASIBILITY STUDY TO DETERMINE THE BENEFITS OF RETRO-FITTING SCHOOL BUSES WITH SAFETY BELTS

Just as safety at the school site has become a major priority for our system, so should safety in transporting our students to and from school.

Serious transportation experts have noted the importance of wearing safety belts when traveling by car, regardless of the destination. Every year, thousands of lives could be saved if everyone would wear safety belts.

Student safety being of paramount concern to our district, this is the time when we should be researching the feasibility of retro-fitting our school buses with safety belts. Recent estimates have placed the price of retro-fitting at about \$3,000 per bus.

A feasibility study would provide the district with a cost-benefit analysis and would bring our safety guidelines up to date as established by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MRS. MORSE:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to conduct a feasibility study on the benefits of retro-fitting school buses with safety belts.