

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Member

**SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR
HISPANIC AMERICANS**

In September, 1994, through Executive Order 12900, President Clinton established the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. As part of the White House Initiative, President Clinton appointed a Commission comprised of national educational leaders from all segments of the educational community. In 1996, the Commission submitted to the President their report, **Our Nation on the Fault Line: Hispanic American Education**. This comprehensive report lays out issues in Hispanic educational attainment from Pre-K through graduate and professional education. The report also includes an action plan for federal, state and local levels.

In February, 1998, Vice-President Gore announced the Clinton Administration's Hispanic Education Action Plan that provides over \$520 million in new educational investments for Hispanic students. In order to advance a national dialogue on the essential role that parents play in supporting the education of their children, the White House Initiative launched a series of five conferences throughout the country. *Excelencia en Educación, The Role of Parents in the Education of Their Children* will be held in Miami on December 3-4, 1999, at Miami Senior High School. This unique event will bring together federal, state, and local agencies, as well as corporate partners, with the common goal of sharing promising practices and educational information so that parents can be more fully engaged in supporting their children's education. Conference sessions will focus on four essential themes: 1) Parents as First Teachers; 2) A Quality Education for All; 3) High Academic Achievement for Hispanic Students; and 4) Heading Toward College.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MRS. MANTY SABATES MORSE: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to:

1. provide information to the Board on how Miami-Dade County Public Schools measures up to the recommendations of the Report, **Our Nation on the Fault Line: Hispanic American Education**; and
2. encourage staff to actively participate in the conference on December 3-4, 1999.