

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST PERMISSION FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO ACCEPT TWO METRO K-9 BOMB DETECTION DOGS FOR USE BY MDCPS POLICE

Recent terrorist attacks on our population have awakened concerns for the physical safety of our students. According to intelligence reports reported by the media, a new wave of attacks is expected affecting many of our traditional American institutions. Public schools are an integral part of our traditional American culture. Thus, they are vulnerable to possible attacks in the future. It should be noted that even prior to the terrorist attack on September 11th, MDCPS has been subjected to numerous bomb scares, sometimes several in one day.

At the October 24, 2001 School Board Meeting, at my request, The School Board approved conducting a feasibility study on the use of bomb detector dogs for weapons and explosives searches. I am informed that MDCPS Police has finished this report and that acquisition of bomb detector dogs is a feasible alternative.

Since our current budget shortfall requires us to be mindful of additional expenditures, I have had conversations with Metro-Dade Canine Services and they are willing to provide MDCPS Police with two bomb detection dogs trained for explosive searches at no cost to the system. Hopefully, as they prove their usefulness, the program could be expanded and possibly funded by other community sponsors.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MANTY SABATÉS MORSE:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, grant permission to accept two Metro K-9 Detector dogs for use by MDCPS Police at no cost to the system.