

March 11, 2003

Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DEVELOP ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF MINORITY, WOMEN, AND SMALL BUSINESSES

COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, through the adoption of the Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Program, committed to M/WBEs in 1985, that they would have optimum opportunities to compete for and perform on district contracts. In 1991, the Board enhanced the M/WBE Program by incorporating recommendations of a 1990 disparity study. In addition, the Office of MBE was renamed to the "Division of Business Development and Assistance," to more aptly reflect the functions of the program, which includes providing technical assistance to vendors irrespective of the race or ethnicity of business owners. Many minority and women businesses have experienced success through the M/WBE Program; however, there is a need to ensure that the success is experienced by many more.

Inasmuch, this item directs the Superintendent to develop additional procedures through which minority, women, and small businesses can be awarded and perform Board contracts to a greater extent. These procedures shall include implementing a Small Business Program and prequalifying minority, women, and small businesses according to business industry/trade, license type, and product/service, so that such businesses, through an established rotation system, are assigned work or invited to bid. These procedures shall not be inconsistent with existing state statutes and School Board rules.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. ROBERT B. INGRAM:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to develop additional procedures that include but are not limited to implementing a Small Business Program and prequalifying minority, women, and small businesses according to business industry/trade, license type, and product/service, so that such businesses, through an established rotation system, are assigned work or invited to bid on work, in order to increase their participation. These procedures shall not be inconsistent with existing state statutes and School Board rules.

RBI:pf

REPLACEMENT
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