

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Member

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "KNOWLEDGE IS POWER PROGRAM" (KIPP ACADEMY) IN SELECTED DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES**

Started in the mid-1990s by Teach for America alumni Michael Feinberg and David Levin, the "Knowledge is Power Program" (KIPP Academy) is currently operational in 11 states and the District of Columbia. Considered a major educational reform initiative for teaching disadvantaged middle school students, the KIPP Academy offers a rigorous program of demanding academics, longer school days, and stricter discipline. In addition to its limited, but growing presence in public school districts, the KIPP Academy is becoming a model of greater reform of charter school programs.

Based on the preliminary success of the initial KIPP Academies currently in operation, authorization is requested to conduct a feasibility study to consider the implementation of this reform initiative in the District, specifically in selected charter schools and/or other public school choice venues.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to conduct a feasibility study to consider the implementation of the "Knowledge is Power Program" (KIPP Academy) in selected District or charter schools.