

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-42  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,  
FLORIDA,           HONORING           THE           OUTSTANDING  
CONTRIBUTIONS AND COMMUNITY LEGACY OF  
SENATOR EMILIO OCHOA**

**COMMITTEE:       INSTRUCTIONAL       EXCELLENCE       &       COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN: INCREASE STUDENT EXPOSURE AND UNDERSTANDING  
OF GLOBAL ISSUES AND ECONOMY**

Born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 1907 in the Province of Oriente in the Republic of Cuba, Senator Emilio Ochoa dedicated his life to a vision of democracy and of a more perfect union for the Republic of Cuba. In pursuit of his vision, Senator Emilio Ochoa participated in the political struggle to restore the republic from the Machado regime. In pursuit of a more perfect union, Senator Emilio Ochoa was one of the designers of the 1940 Cuban Constitution. The 1940 Cuban Constitution that Senator Ochoa helped design was **the first constitution in the world to place education as a fundamental right equivalent to the freedom of speech, making it the most advanced social document of it's time.** Senator Emilio Ochoa was the last living signatory of the Cuban Constitution that served as a model worldwide for social rights, leaving his signature on that sacred document, and on the Cuban nation.

Senator Ochoa served as a Senator in the Republic of Cuba from the Province of Oriente from 1940 to 1948, where he advocated for educational and social rights. Senator Ochoa was a founding father of both major political parties in Cuba; the Authentic Cuban Revolutionary Party, and the Orthodox Cuban Revolutionary Party.

After the 1959 Revolution, Senator Ochoa was exiled to the United States, where he served his community as an educator, and he continued to be an advocate for educational progress. Senator Emilio Ochoa's vision of democracy and of a more perfect union served as an example to all.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA:** The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution No. 07-42 honoring the outstanding contributions and community legacy of Senator Emilio Ochoa.