

Ms. Ana Rivas Logan, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION No. 07-43 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO, A BI-PARTISAN INITIATIVE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: DEVELOP OUR STUDENTS SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

The National Museum of the American Latino will create a home for the historical artifacts, images, and personal stories documenting the contributions of over 500 years of Latino Americans to the United States. The Museum will serve as an educational tool for the thousands who visit the museums each year as well as instilling a sense of pride in Latino youth today and in the future.

Latinos share a heritage drawn from a combination of old world and new world culture. Among America's ethnic groups, Latinos are unique in the fact that there are strains of influence from European, African, and Arabic cultures, as well as the indigenous cultures of the pre-Colombian Americas. There are more than 45 million Latinos across this great nation. Latinos have been an integral part of the history and culture of this country. The story begins with the people and cultures whose scientific, mathematical, and artistic contributions are still considered incredible achievements.

Representative Xavier Becerra's (CA-31) vision of a national museum in Washington, D.C., which will focus on the history, culture and art of American Latinos, came one major step closer to reality with the unanimous passage of H.R. 512, the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2007, in the House of Representatives. H.R. 512, which was co-authored by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18), sets up a 23 member commission charged with producing a national conference to bring stakeholders, experts, policymakers and other interested parties together to discuss the museum's viability; a fundraising plan to create an extensive public-private partnership; and a report to Congress detailing a recommended plan of action on how to move forward with taking the museum from concept to reality. All of this will happen within 24 months of being signed into law.

"Walk through the National Mall in Washington, D.C., visit our outstanding national museums and you can learn a lot about who Americans are and where we have been," Rep. Becerra said. "Yet the official narrative still fails to recognize the significant contributions made by Latinos to the culture and history of the United States. Today we take an important step toward rectifying this omission and ensuring that the mosaic portrayed in Washington's museums truly reflects America."

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. ANA RIVAS LOGAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 07-43 supporting the National Museum of the American Latino, a Bi-partisan initiative in Washington, D.C.

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-43
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO, A BI-PARTISAN
INITIATIVE IN WASHINGTON, D.C**

WHEREAS, efforts are underway to establish a national museum to highlight the successes of the Latino community, the largest demographic minority population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the National Museum of the American Latino will create a home for the historical artifacts, images, and personal stories documenting the contributions of over 500 years of Latino Americans to the United States; and

WHEREAS, Representative Xavier Becerra's (CA-31) vision of a national museum in Washington, D.C., which will focus on the history, culture and art of American Latinos, came one major step closer to reality with the unanimous passage of H.R. 512, the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino Act of 2007, in the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 512, which was co-authored by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18), sets up a 23 member commission charged with producing a national conference to bring stakeholders, experts, policymakers and other interested parties together to discuss the museum's viability; a fundraising plan to create an extensive public-private partnership; and a report to Congress detailing a recommended plan of action on how to move forward with taking the museum from concept to reality; and

WHEREAS, regardless of nation of origin, Hispanics share common experiences and a common bond in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County supports the National Museum of the
American Latino, a Bi-partisan initiative in Washington, D.C

Presented this eleventh day of July, A.D. 2007

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY