

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-086  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,  
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIP J.  
BRUTUS**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL   EXCELLENCE    AND   COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC  
FRAMEWORK:               STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

State Representative Phillip J. Brutus has a sterling reputation in the community as an activist and public servant. A veteran lawyer of 23 years, Mr. Brutus made history as the first Haitian American voted into the Florida Legislature in 2000. During his time in office, he served as the Vice Chair of the Banking and Finance, Judiciary and Claims committees. He was also the Parliamentarian of the Conference of Black State Legislators. He has championed such issues as discrimination, human rights and education through his work as a public servant. In addition, he secured \$2.3 million to build the first health clinic in Little Haiti. Under his leadership, several streets in Northeast Miami-Dade County were named after Haitian revolutionary heroes.

Prior to his work in the state legislature, Mr. Brutus was a community activist. In 1990, he represented 350 Haitians pro bono who were arrested while they were demonstrating the beating of a Haitian shopper. Two years later, he went on a 21-day hunger strike to protest the disparity between the policies of Cubans and Haitians entering this country. Also, he volunteered at Guantanamo Naval Base to assist Haitians seeking asylum in the U.S. following the military coup in Haiti. In 1994, he was appointed to the Steering Committee for the Summit of Americas by President Bill Clinton. Mr. Brutus currently serves the community through his law practice in North Miami Beach.

Phillip J. Brutus is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to the people of South Florida. His quest for equality and spirit of cooperation has enriched the lives of those he touched.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-086, of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Representative Phillip J. Brutus.

**Replacement  
H-21**

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-086  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIP J. BRUTUS**

**WHEREAS**, State Representative Phillip J. Brutus has a sterling reputation in the community as an activist and public servant. A veteran lawyer of 23 years, Mr. Brutus made history as the first Haitian American voted into the Florida Legislature in 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, during his time in office, he served as the Vice Chair of the Banking and Finance, Judiciary and Claims committees. He was also the Parliamentarian of the Conference of Black State Legislators. He has championed such issues as discrimination, human rights and education through his work as a public servant; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, he secured \$2.3 million to build the first health clinic in Little Haiti. Under his leadership, several streets in Northeast Miami-Dade County were named after Haitian revolutionary heroes; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to his work in the state legislature, Mr. Brutus was a community activist. In 1990, he represented 350 Haitians pro bono who were arrested while they were demonstrating the beating of a Haitian shopper. In 1994, he was appointed to the Steering Committee for the Summit of Americas by President Bill Clinton; and

**WHEREAS**, Phillip J. Brutus is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to the people of South Florida. His quest for equality and spirit of cooperation has enriched the lives of those he touched;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 13-086 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Representative Phillip J. Brutus.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

**Presented this eighth day of May, A.D. 2013**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary