

Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of May 8, 2013

May 1, 2013

Mr. Carlos L. Curbelo, Board Member

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD REGISTRATION POLICY FOR PUBLIC SPEAKERS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

In an effort to encourage greater public discourse and engagement in our school system, the Miami-Dade County School Board should remove unnecessary financial or administrative barriers for individuals who wish to speak before the Board during the monthly School Board meeting.

The rightful goal of our lobbyist registration policies is to ensure transparency in the school district's decisions and operations. The public should have the opportunity to be fully aware of entities that have hired individuals or firms to advocate for them regarding school district business. However, individuals seeking to petition the School Board and the Administration in the Sunshine, should not be discouraged in any way.

This item therefore seeks to amend School Board Policies to waive monetary charges or fees associated with addressing the Board so as to lift unnecessary obstacles currently faced by individuals seeking to address the Board. Such amendments will send a message that the Board welcomes all who wish to address it.

This exception would only apply to speakers addressing the School Board at its regular meeting and/or public hearings. This amendment would not apply to a speaker if he or she engages in other activities or presentations that would require him to register or pay fees.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. CARLOS L. CURBELO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to initiate rule making procedures to amend School Board policies that require individuals who wish to address the School Board at its regular meeting and/or public hearings to pay a "registration" fee.

**Replacement
H-18**

(Withdrawn - - 05/03/2013)