

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-067
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY,
FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CYNTHIA A. STAFFORD**

**COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

Representative Cynthia A. Stafford represents Florida's 109th Legislative District. First elected to the Florida House in 2010 and subsequently re-elected to a fourth term in 2016, Rep. Stafford is currently the House Minority Policy Chair and serves on the Appropriations Committee, Judiciary Committee (*Democratic Ranking Member*), Rules & Policy Committee and Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee.

In the 2017 Legislative Session, Rep. Stafford sponsored and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 111 (Witness Protection Bill), which creates a public records exemption for criminal intelligence or criminal investigative information that reveals the personal identifying information of a witness to a murder for two years after the date on which the murder was observed. Rep. Stafford has also sponsored legislation to repeal the controversial Stand Your Ground law in the State of Florida, as well as legislation to increase the minimum wage, which she believes will strengthen our economy and help lift working people out of poverty.

Rep. Stafford has served in the community for more than 25 years. She is an Attorney and Adjunct College Professor. For several years, Rep. Stafford worked with the Dade County Bar Legal Aid Society where she represented victims of domestic violence. She was also a Congressional Aide with Former Congresswoman Carrie P. Meek, Development Director for the Family Christian Association of America, and Assoc. VP/Communications Director at Sonshine Communications.

Rep. Stafford's past and present volunteer and community service includes: Casa Valentina Advisory Board Member, Inner City Children's Touring Dance Company Advisory Board Member, and the Family Christian Association of America Advisory Board Member. Rep. Stafford was also a mentor to young girls who had aged out of foster care as well as, a Miami Dade County Teen Court Judge for first time juvenile defendants who had committed nonviolent misdemeanor offenses.

**Replacement
B-3**

Rep. Stafford awards and honors includes: Home Grown Achiever Award, Historic Hampton House Community Trust (2018), Emerging Leader, Women's History Month Honoree, Rising Star Award, and Outstanding Service in Political Awareness & Involvement. Also in 2012, the Mary Kay Foundation awarded a grant in recognition of Rep. Stafford to the Miami Rescue Mission to support housing & services for domestic violence victims and their children. In 2012 - 2016, Rep. Stafford was recognized as a Champion of Florida's Middle Class. In 2013, the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar honored Rep. Stafford with the Legislator Award for her efforts on behalf of Florida's families throughout the legislative session. Also in 2013, she received The National Black Police Association's Lifetime Membership Award.

Rep. Stafford is a native Miamian, born and raised in Liberty City. She attended public schools, graduating from Miami Northwestern Senior High School in 1985 where she is currently recognized in the Hall of Fame. Rep. Stafford earned a BA in Communication Arts from St. Thomas University and a Juris Doctor from St. Thomas University School of Law. Rep. Stafford is a member of the Florida Bar and licensed to practice in the State of Florida.

ACTION PROPOSED BY:

DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-067 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing State Representative Cynthia A. Stafford.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-067
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING
STATE REPRESENTATIVE CYNTHIA A. STAFFORD**

WHEREAS, State Representative Cynthia A. Stafford represents Florida's 109th Legislative District. First elected to the Florida House in 2010 and subsequently re-elected to a fourth term in 2016, Rep. Stafford is currently the House Minority Policy Chair and serves on the Appropriations Committee, Judiciary Committee (*Democratic Ranking Member*), Rules & Policy Committee and Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, in the 2017 Legislative Session, Rep. Stafford sponsored House Bill 111 (Witness Protection Bill), which the Governor signed it into law. The bill creates a public records exemption for criminal intelligence or criminal investigative information that reveals the personal identifying information of a witness to a murder for two years after the date on which the murder was observed. Rep. Stafford has also sponsored legislation to repeal the controversial Stand Your Ground law in the state, as well as legislation to increase the minimum wage; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Stafford has served in the community for more than 25 years. She is an attorney and adjunct college professor. For several years, Rep. Stafford worked with the Dade County Bar Legal Aid Society, where she represented victims of domestic violence. She was also a congressional aide with former Congresswoman Carrie P. Meek, Development Director for the Family Christian Association of America, and Assoc. VP/Communications Director at Sonshine Communications; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Stafford is a native Miamian and graduate of Miami Northwestern Senior High School in 1985. She earned her bachelor's degree in communication arts and a Juris Doctorate at St. Thomas University. She is a member of the Florida Bar and is licensed to practice in Florida;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 18-067 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing State Representative Cynthia A. Stafford.

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

Presented this tenth day of October, A.D. 2018

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary