

Office of Superintendent of Schools
Board Meeting of January 13, 1999

December 16, 1998

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 1999
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, adopted its 1999 state legislative program on October 28, 1998. In the past, it has been necessary to amend that program to reflect emerging issues or new concerns.

The district has been implementing Florida's Charter School Legislation, Section 228.056, Florida Statutes, since the current statutory requirements were established in 1996. During this time, a number of issues and concerns regarding several areas of the charter school law have been identified by staff. The most significant areas of concern involve: (1) the deadline for charter school applications, and (2) the quality of charter school personnel.

Board approval of the two proposed amendments of the 1999 state legislative program, which are attached, would permit staff lobbyists to seek sponsors to accomplish the changes to Florida's Charter School Legislation, Section 228.056, Florida Statutes.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to proceed with two potential amendments to Florida's Charter School Legislation, Section 228.056, F.S., regarding the application deadline, and the quality of charter school personnel.

**Proposed 1999 State Legislation
Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

Florida's Charter School Legislation Section 228.056, Florida Statutes

Area of Concern	Proposed Amendment
1. application deadline and provision in the law allowing districts to accept applications after the deadline.	1. A district school board shall receive and review all applications for a charter school. A district school board shall receive charter school applications through at least <u>February 1</u> <u>October 1</u> of each calendar year for charter schools to be opened at the beginning of the school district's next school year. A district school board may receive applications later than this date if it chooses.
2. quality of charter school personnel	2. (12) (f) A charter school may not employ an individual to provide instructional services or to serve as a teacher aide if the individual's certification or licensure as an educator is suspended or revoked by this or any other state. <u>A charter school may not employ an individual who has resigned in lieu of disciplinary action or who has been dismissed by any school district.</u>