May 15, 2002

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA AND ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH THE "HISTORY MYSTERIES" FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM

The Historical Museum of Southern Florida has partnered with Miami-Dade County Public Schools since 1974 in exposing the school children of our community to their local history and its diverse communities. Through various programs and museum visits, this partnership has created an excitement for history and supplemented the social studies curriculum inside the classroom with hands-on experiential activities.

In 1984, this relationship was formalized with the development of "History Mysteries", a curriculum program for fourth-graders which serves 12,500 students annually and has served 250,000 since its inception. This exposure has left an indelible imprint in the minds of our youth and will ensure that our citizens have a strong understanding and appreciation for our community's history and culture.

This partnership, facilitated by the Social Studies staff, has sought creative ways to educate our fourth graders in four distinct areas: Lifestyles of Southern Florida, Transportation in Southern Florida, Making a Living in Southern Florida, and Five Flags. It is in the interest of the school district to continue to recognize our community's history by educating its future- our schoolchildren through this exciting partnership.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MR. FRANK J. BOLANOS:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County recognize its valuable partnership with the Historical Museum of Southern Florida and direct the Superintendent to continue to collaborate on the dissemination of the "History Mysteries" curriculum for fourth graders.