

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-015 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF FLORIDA SENATE BILL 406 / HOUSE BILL 245 – FLORIDA KIDCARE**

**COMMITTEE:               INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY, AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:               SCHOOL / DISTRICT LEADERSHIP**

Each year, an increasing number of public school students qualify for free and reduced lunch. Of these students, many do not have access to quality health insurance. Lack of access to quality healthcare can have significant negative impacts on a child's overall health and his/her performance in school, as well as their attendance. The Florida Kidcare program is an excellent resource for families who cannot afford high monthly premiums to insure their children.

State Senator Eleanor Sobel has introduced Bill 406 in the Senate, identical to Bill 245 filed by Rep. Ana Logan in the House, requiring that the application form for the school breakfast and lunch programs also allow application for Florida Kidcare or provide information about applying for the program. The bill further requires the Florida Health Kids Corporation to include use of the school breakfast and lunch application form in the corporation's plan for publicizing the program, effective July 1, 2011.

Specifically, the legislation reads: The application form for the lunch program under subsection (4) and the breakfast program under subsection (5) must allow the student to also apply for the Florida Kidcare program under State Statute 409.810-409.821. In the alternative, the application form must provide information about the Kidcare program as well as contact information or a link to the Kidcare online application.

The Miami-Dade County Public School district should support any and all measures designed to facilitate the process for enrolling uninsured students in the Florida Kidcare program.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA:**       That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 11-015, of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, in support of Florida Senate Bill 406/House Bill 245 – Florida Kidcare, and amend the District's legislative program to include said legislation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-015  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
IN SUPPORT OF FLORIDA SENATE BILL 406 / HOUSE BILL 245 – FLORIDA KIDCARE**

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of public school students in Miami-Dade County qualify for free or reduced lunch; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these students do not have access to quality health insurance given their socio-economic status; and

**WHEREAS**, quality health insurance and access to healthcare is paramount to the overall health and wellbeing of all children, and directly impacts school attendance; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 406/House Bill 245 were introduced in the Florida legislature by Senator Eleanor Sobel and Representative Ana Logan for the 2011 legislative session; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill requires that the application form for the school breakfast and lunch programs also allow application for Florida Kidcare or provide information about applying for the program; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill includes provisions requiring the Florida Health Kids Corporation to include use of the school breakfast and lunch application form in the corporation's plan for publicizing the program; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is in support of facilitating the process for enrolling uninsured students in the Florida Kidcare program;

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

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution 11-015 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, in support of Florida Senate Bill 406/House Bill 245 – Florida Kidcare, and amend the District's legislative program to include said legislation.

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

**Presented this ninth day of February, A.D. 2011  
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary