Office of School Board Members Board Meeting of April 13, 2011

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT:

REQUEST THE SUPERINTENDENT TO INITIATE RULEMAKING TO PROHIBIT ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD OFFICERS FROM LOBBYING THE SCHOOL BOARD FOR COMPENSATION FOR A PERIOD OF (5) YEARS AFTER

LEAVING OFFICE

COMMITTEE:

INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL

RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

FRAMEWORK:

SCHOOL / DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

There is serious concern in our community regarding undue influence by former elected officials. In an effort to address some of these concerns and promote transparency and accountability, the School Board has strengthened its rules regarding lobbying and lobbyist registration. However, Board rules do not extend these regulations to present and future board members or address the issue of undue influence by former School Board members.

Currently, state law prohibits elected school district officers and employees from lobbying the government body of which the individual was an officer or employee for a period of two (2) years following leaving office or termination of employment. Section 112.313(14), F.S. However, any agency by rule may impose upon its own officers and employees additional or more stringent standards of conduct and disclosure requirements than those specified in the statute. Section 112.326, F.S.

This Item requests the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act that would extend the statutory prohibition on lobbying by former School Board members from 2 to 5 years. This prohibition will promote transparency and benefit the District by elevating the quality of representation at the Board.

This item does not appear on the regular agenda. There is good cause to vary from the published agenda in order to address proposed governance legislation, HB 307/SB 778 that would alter the School Board's governance structure. The bill has passed favorably through the House process and is scheduled to be heard on April 14th in Senate Education Committee Pre-K-12.

Replacement Good Cause H-24

ACTION PROPOSED BY MS. RAQUEL A. REGALADO:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act that would prohibit elected School Board officers from lobbying the School Board for compensation for a period of (5) years after leaving office.