

Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of April 18, 2012

April 16, 2012

Mr. Carlos L. Curbelo, Board Member

SUBJECT: PROPERTY TAXES

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY

In recent weeks media outlets have given coverage to allegations regarding rampant property tax fraud in Miami-Dade County in connection with homestead exemption claims.

By some accounts, this type of fraud could be costing local governments in Miami-Dade County nearly \$200 million a year in revenues. Approximately one-third of this total represents revenues that would otherwise flow into Miami-Dade County Public Schools' capital budget.

Beyond our disconcerting deferred maintenance schedule that a recovery of these funds would help allay, it is the responsibility of all governments to ensure that tax policies are being enforced across the board.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. CARLOS L. CURBELO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to advocate to stakeholders such as the State Attorney, the Property Tax Appraiser, and others to develop a process by which to investigate allegations of broad property tax fraud in Miami-Dade County.

} Revised

**Revised Replacement
H-29**