

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-142 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING FIU COLLEGE OF LAW, S.W.E.R, AMERICANS FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE, PICO UNITED FLORIDA, AND FLORIDA IMMIGRANT COALITION

} Revised

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

President Barack Obama recently announced that the Department of Homeland Security would stop the deportation of certain DREAM Act-eligible undocumented youths. Through "deferred action," these youths will be given temporary permission to remain in the United States. Individuals who meet all the requirements are exempt from deportation proceedings and will receive a work permit and driver's license. Deferred action benefits are valid for a period of two years.

In order to assist eligible deferred-action students with their application process, the Florida International University (FIU) School of Law is conducting a series of clinics. There are several clinics scheduled to be held at various FIU campuses in September and October. Many other law schools are implementing clinics that mirror FIU's established model.

Instrumental to conducting the clinics are the FIU College of Law, S.W.E.R (Students Working for Equal Rights), Americans for Immigrant Justice, PICO United Florida, and the Florida Immigrant Coalition. Spearheading FIU's efforts are law professors Ediberto Roman and Juan Carlos Gomez, and College of Law Dean R. Alexander Acosta. In addition, between 30-50 students from S.W.E.R. participate in each clinic. S.W.E.R. is an organization founded by undocumented immigrant youth that works to raise awareness in our communities about social justice and equal access to education. Also lending their support were members from Americans for Immigrant Justice, PICO United Florida, and the Florida Immigrant Coalition. Americans for Immigrant Justice works to protect and promote the basic human rights of immigrants through free direct services, impact litigation, policy reform, and public education at local, state, and national levels. PICO United Florida is a network of faith-based organizations working to create solutions to problems that cause poverty for families, especially children. The Florida Immigrant Coalition seeks equal rights for immigrants and integration into the civic and cultural life of our communities through coordination of immigrant organizations and community education, organizing and advocacy.

} Revised

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. RAQUEL REGALADO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-142 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing FIU College of Law, S.W.E.R, Americans for Immigrant Justice, PICO United Florida, and Florida Immigrant Coalition.

} Revised

Revised Replacement

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RESOLUTION NO. 12-142
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING FIU COLLEGE OF LAW, S.W.E.R, AMERICANS FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE,
PICO UNITED FLORIDA, AND FLORIDA IMMIGRANT COALITION

} Revised

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama recently announced that the Department of Homeland Security would stop the deportation of certain DREAM Act-eligible undocumented youths. Through "deferred action," these youths will be given temporary permission to remain in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in order to assist eligible deferred-action students with their application process, the Florida International University (FIU) School of Law is conducting a series of clinics. Instrumental to conducting the clinics are the FIU College of Law, S.W.E.R, Americans for Immigrant Justice, PICO United Florida, and the Florida Immigrant Coalition; and

WHEREAS, spearheading FIU's efforts are law professors Ediberto Roman and Juan Carlos Gomez, and College of Law Dean R. Alexander Acosta; and

WHEREAS, between 30-50 students from S.W.E.R. participate in each clinic. S.W.E.R. is an organization founded by undocumented immigrant youth that works to raise awareness in our communities about social justice and equal access to education; and

WHEREAS, Americans for Immigrant Justice works to protect and promote the basic human rights of immigrants through free direct services, impact litigation, policy reform, and public education at local, state, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, PICO United Florida is a network of faith-based organizations working to create solutions to problems that cause poverty for families, especially children; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Immigrant Coalition seeks equal rights for immigrants and integration into the civic and cultural life of our communities through coordination of immigrant organizations and community education, organizing and advocacy;

} Revised

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-142 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing FIU College of Law, S.W.E.R, Americans For Immigrant Justice, PICO United Florida, and Florida Immigrant Coalition.

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

Presented this fifth day of September, A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary