

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: CO-SPONSORSHIP OF SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: SCHOOL/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Often times elected officials of various bodies such as the County Commission and Florida Legislature find that there are issues which merit the strong support of more than one member. Frequently this support is expressed through co-sponsorship of specific legislation and/or resolutions. Through the years, there have been occasions when Board Members have indicated a desire to formally express their support for other Board Members' proposals by requesting to "co-sponsor" an agenda item. Currently, Board Policy does not provide an avenue by which Board Members may co-sponsor agenda items.

Therefore, in order to bring Board practice into alignment with that of other governing bodies, and to provide for a more streamlined agenda, this item proposes the establishment of a formal process permitting the co-sponsorship of Board agenda items. In order to ensure compliance with Florida's Sunshine law it is anticipated that Board Members would publicly express their desire to co-sponsor another Member's item at a Board committee meeting prior to the regular Board meeting in which the item is to be introduced. If co-sponsors are accepted, the prime sponsor would revise the item prior to the Board meeting to indicate the co-sponsorship and resubmit it to the agenda coordinator as a revised item.

Board Members could also express their desire to co-sponsor an item at the regular meeting in which the item is presented for Board approval. If co-sponsorship is requested at a Board meeting, the Board would treat such a request as a motion to amend the item to indicate co-sponsorship. Only Board Member items may be co-sponsored. Finally, co-sponsorship of other Board Member's resolutions and proclamations would be included in the three item limit in current policy.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to initiate rule making procedures to provide an avenue by which School Board Members may co-sponsor agenda items.