

Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDE  
RESOURCES, LOGISTICS, AND FUNDING NECESSARY TO  
ADDRESS THE PENDING INFLUX OF CUBAN REFUGEES.**

**COMMITTEE:               INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS & COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC  
BLUEPRINT:               EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

Historically, Miami-Dade County has been the preferred locale for the resettlement of immigrants from the Caribbean basin, including Cuba. The arrival of immigrants on a large scale places significant strain on local and state resources, often without any additional federal support. However, immigration policy is a federal responsibility and therefore, it is incumbent upon the federal administration to provide resources and funding required to manage and support a large scale influx of immigrants.

Currently, it is estimated that as many as 8,000 Cuban immigrants are en route from Costa Rica as the result of a recently brokered agreement between that nation and El Salvador to transport refugees between their countries in an effort to facilitate the Cubans' journey to the U.S. There are many more refugees throughout Latin America and still thousands more which have already arrived. Since July 1, 2015 alone, M-DCPS has enrolled 3,934 Cuban-born students and more are expected.

On January 7, 2016, members of the Miami-Dade Congressional delegation sent a letter to the White House requesting a plan, inclusive of the distribution of funding and resources to local jurisdictions such as Miami-Dade, be implemented to address the needs of these incoming refugees. M-DCPS itself, has previously requested federal funds to support the additional costs associated with educating foreign-born students. In consultation with Chair Perla Tabares Hantman, it was determined that it is appropriate that Miami-Dade County Public Schools join with our Congressional delegation members in their request to the federal government to proactively address this impending influx of immigrants to our community.

This item does not appear in the published agenda. There is good cause to vary from the published agenda due to the immediacy of the potential influx of Cuban immigrants.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MR. ALBERTO M. CARVALHO:**

That Miami-Dade County Public Schools join with Miami-Dade's Congressional delegation in calling on the federal government to provide resources, logistics, and funding necessary to address the pending influx of Cuban refugees.

**Good Cause**

**A-2**