

Dr. Lawrence Feldman, Chair

2017 JUN 21 AM 11:22

**SUBJECT: HB 7069 FISCAL IMPACT AND CONSTITUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

On June 15, 2017, Governor Rick Scott signed Education omnibus House Bill 7069 (HB 7069) into law after a particularly contentious legislative session. The ensuing, well-covered debate has brought to light HB 7069's detrimental impact to public school districts throughout Florida. Miami-Dade County Public Schools, in particular, sought to educate the public regarding the proposed legislation and organized town halls aimed at raising awareness in communities throughout the District. The projected adverse effects of HB 7069 have been well established and will have a lasting influence on the educational landscape of the District; a landscape that this Board, Superintendent and every member of the community has worked to elevate to one of national prominence. Briefly, our communities can expect to see the negative impacts of this bill in restrained capital projects, increased interest rates, the challenges of maintaining 300-plus facilities with a diminishing budget, and weakened District direction and oversight of educational services provided to students most in need of support.

This item proposes the Superintendent outline the projected five-year fiscal impact of HB 7069 prior to the initial budget hearing. As constitutionally-elected officials and stewards of public tax dollars, it is incumbent upon us to fully understand the long term impact of HB 7069 in the areas of facilities, capital, student services, academic programs, debt service, personnel, benefits, etc. and the long term ramifications of our budgetary decisions this year as we look to increasingly difficult financial scenarios in the years to come. The opportunity to proactively engage in thoughtful discussion and provide meaningful direction, prior to the fully realized catastrophic conditions we may need to operate under, is a practice that will allow us to continue to function under the Superintendent's tenet of values-based budgeting. Notwithstanding the possible legal actions planned by mobilized organizations throughout the state, we must act responsibly to have full awareness of the effect of our decisions during this budgetary cycle, in light of projected deteriorating financial conditions.

This item further seeks to request that the School Board Attorney provide The School Board of Miami-Dade County with any legal options available in response to HB 7069 prior to the July 5, 2017, Board Committee meetings.

This item does not appear on the published agenda. Good cause exists to vary from the published agenda as HB 7069 was signed into law after publication and the first public budget hearing is scheduled for July 26, 2017.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**Good Cause  
H-1**

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County authorize the Superintendent to convene a special meeting to:

- a) outline the projected five-year fiscal impact of HB 7069 prior to the initial budget hearing; and further
- b) authorize the School Board Attorney to provide The School Board of Miami-Dade County with any legal options available in response to HB 7069 prior to the next Board Committee meetings on July 6, 2017.