

Dr. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 5 AND SENATE BILL 1450, RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

**COMMITTEE: FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS AND INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS**

Sponsored by Representative Ardian Zika, R-Land O' Lakes, and Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, R-Doral, the proposals (HB 5 and SB 1450) are proposed acts relating to civic education curriculum and seek to establish the "Portraits In Patriotism Act." The identical bills aim to bolster civics education, in part by directing the Department of Education to curate a video library sharing first-person accounts of people who lived under foreign governments and stipulate that these resources are based on diverse individuals' personal stories that illustrate civic-minded qualities. Under these identical proposals the social studies credit requirement for high school graduation would also be revised to require that the United States Government course include a comparative discussion of political ideologies such as communism and totalitarianism that conflict with the principles of freedom and democracy in the nation's founding principles.

These bills aim to ensure that Florida's public schools do all that they can to help students understand their roles, rights, and responsibilities as residents of the state and of the nation. These bills also attempt to foster "a sense of civic pride and desire to participate regularly with government at the local, state, and federal levels." Miami-Dade County Public Schools has historically supported efforts to educate students on the importance of civic engagement and about those individuals who have impacted U.S. culture/society in a positive manner throughout various grade levels in history courses. As such, this item seeks approval by the Board of an official position in support of HB 5 and SB 1450 and of the "Portraits in Patriotism Act," or other substantially similar legislation.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. LUBBY NAVARRO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, declare its support for the "Portraits in Patriotism Act," as reflected in House Bill 5 by Representative Ardian Zika and Senate Bill 1450 by Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, or other substantially similar legislation.