

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD'S OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEWLY ADOPTED FLORIDA HOUSE BILL (HB) 395 – VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM DAY

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS, & INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

The newly adopted Florida House Bill (HB) 365 – *Victims of Communism Day* sponsored by Representative David Borrero of Sweetwater and its companion Senate Bill (SB) 268, sponsored by Senator Manny Diaz of Hialeah Gardens, requires the Governor to proclaim November 7th annually, starting in 2023, as “Victims of Communism Day.” It further requires the day to be observed in public schools and by public exercise. It further requires that starting in the 2023-2024 school year, “high school students enrolled in the United States government class must receive a minimum of 45 minutes of instruction on *Victims of Communism Day* to include topics such as Mao Zedong and the Cultural Revolution, Joseph Stalin and the Soviet System, Fidel Castro and the Cuban Revolution, Vladimir Lenin and the Russian Revolution, Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, and Nicolas Maduro and the Chavismo movement, and how victims suffered under these regimes through poverty, starvation, migration, systemic lethal violence, and suppression of speech.” Further, “no later than April 1, 2023, the State Board of Education must adopt revised social studies standards for inclusion in the United States Government course which incorporate the requirements of the law.”

Therefore, this agenda item seeks the School Board’s official endorsement and support for the implementation of the newly adopted Florida House Bill (HB) 395 - *Victims of Communism Day* in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, officially endorse and support the implementation of the newly adopted Florida House Bill (HB) 395 - *Victims of Communism Day* in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.