

GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 1783.06

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE; DIRECTING THE TOWN MANAGER TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO GOVERNOR JEB BUSH, SENATE PRESIDENT TOM LEE, HOUSE SPEAKER ALLAN BENNE AND MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Florida Constitution provides that the education of children is a fundamental value of the people of Florida and a paramount duty of the State;

WHEREAS, the Constitution creates a clear mandate for a uniform and high quality educational system and for the State to make adequate provision for this purpose;

WHEREAS, Florida is one of the leaders in the nation in mandating public school educational accountability measures and the School Board of Miami-Dade County has improved its overall grade from C to B in the state accountability system;

WHEREAS, the number of schools in Miami-Dade County, Florida, receiving a letter grade of A increased to 48% — highest percentage ever — despite tougher state standards and the number of schools receiving a repeat grade of F was reduced by 66% to 3;

WHEREAS, the number of third graders considered proficient readers in Miami-Dade County Public Schools rose to 61% — the highest percentage ever — and 1,814 fewer third graders are at risk of being held back due to reading scores;

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools has reorganized its central office and eliminated more than 500 positions, freeing up \$38 million for other educational needs;.

WHEREAS, the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has constructed 18,000

new student seats to address overcrowding using local funds — more than three times the number planned by prior administrations— although the majority of state Classrooms for Kids allocations have gone to school districts without documented capital outlay needs;

WHEREAS, the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, will need approximately \$136 million in new monies above current funding levels to continue these initiatives, but the recent change in District Cost Differential could reduce the district's share of annual funding by as much as \$78 million;

WHEREAS, Florida employers consistently rank improving education and workforce development as top concerns to the success of their business, and a highly qualified, trained workforce is critical to strengthening our business climate;

WHEREAS, the education system needs to respond to the workforce needs of Florida's employers, including programs that expand career academies in high schools, aligning career education with industry standards and workforce demands, and expanding options for students to continue their education and enter the workforce;

WHEREAS, ensuring excellence in education and workforce is a top strategic priority to achieve Enterprise Florida's vision of Florida as a global leader in knowledge-based jobs, leading-edge technology and competitive enterprises in the 21st century;

WHEREAS, the pre-K-20 education system is a key foundation for Florida's future providing the talent base for economic diversification and an economic engine for the knowledge economy, and Florida should continue to move its education system at all levels (pre-K-20) into the top quartile in education quality, student rankings and graduation rates based on national standards;

WHEREAS, the Town of Golden Beach believes that funding a high-quality education

system is an investment in the ability to compete nationally and globally in the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Golden Beach believes that adequate funding is needed to achieve a high-quality education system measured by student achievement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Recitals Adopted.** That each of the recitals stated above is hereby adopted and confirmed.

Section 2. That the Town Council of the Town of Golden Beach, Florida, hereby supports the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' legislative initiative and requests that the Florida Legislature:

- Appropriate adequate funding to raise Miami-Dade County's per pupil funding in an amount sufficient to provide a rigorous, high quality educational experience for every student and continue initiatives that are successfully raising student achievement in the District;
- Use non-recurring funds to mitigate 100% of the loss due to the modification to the District Cost Differential; and
- Amend the Classrooms for Kids allocation formula for capital outlay funding to reflect actual capital outlay need.

Section 3. That the Town Manager is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Jeb Bush, Senate President Tom Lee, House Speaker Allan Bense and members of the Florida Legislature.

Section 4. **Effective Date.** That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Sponsored by Mayor Singer.

The Motion to adopt the foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Iglesias,


seconded by Councilmember Lusskin and on roll call the following vote ensued:

Mayor Singer	<u>Aye</u>
Vice Mayor Einstein	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Colella-Battista	<u>out of room</u>
Councilmember Iglesias	<u>Aye</u>
Councilmember Lusskin	<u>Aye</u>

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Golden Beach, Florida,
this 18th day of April, 2006.

ATTEST:


MAYOR GLENN SINGER


BONILYN WILBANKS-FREE
TOWN MANAGER

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:


TOWN ATTORNEY