

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENSURE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING REMAINS THE SAME FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR REGARDLESS OF WHETHER STUDENTS ARE ATTENDING SCHOOLS IN-PERSON OR VIRTUALLY; AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO SEND THIS RESOLUTION TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION.

WHEREAS, at its October 27, 2020 meeting, the City of Miami Beach Committee for Quality Education unanimously passed a motion requesting the Mayor and City Commission to urge the local State Representatives to ensure public school funding remains the same for School Year 2020-21 regardless of whether students will be attending schools in-person or virtually; and

WHEREAS, Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-06, issued on July 6, 2020, mandated that all districts open "brick and mortar schools" at least five days a week for families who want to send their students back, or else risk losing already-allocated funding; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Order granted that same funding for students who chose to attend virtual school with live teacher instruction and daily attendance but only guarantees that funding through October but not for the entire year, exposing public schools to potential fiscal liability due to loss in student enrollment; and

WHEREAS, as of October 28, the Florida Health Department's latest report on COVID-19 in schools listed 478 campuses across Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Monroe counties that have had cases among students, staff or both since early September; and

WHEREAS, according to the Miami-Dade County Public Schools dashboard, as of October 30, 2020, there were 329 cases, according to the Miami-Dade County Public Schools dashboard, accounting for 225 students and 104 employees who have tested positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, with the surge of COVID-19 cases across the nation, these numbers are likely to go up within this upcoming month; and

WHEREAS, Florida schools should not be forced to choose between keeping their students safe and receiving adequate funding; and

WHEREAS, as such, the Mayor and City Commission accept and approve the motion passed by the Committee at its October 27, 2020 meeting, and urge the Florida Legislature to ensure public school funding remains the same for the 2020-2021 School year regardless of whether students are attending schools in-person or virtually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby urge the Florida Legislature to ensure public school funding remains the same for the 2020-2021 School year regardless of whether students are attending schools in-person or virtually; and direct the City Clerk to send this Resolution to Miami-Dade County Legislative Delegation.

PASSED and **ADOPTED THIS** ___ day of _____, 2020.

Dan Gelber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

(sponsored by Commissioner Michael Gongora)

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

Raul Quijano 11-10-20
City Attorney Date
GA