



2014

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES

LEGISLATIVE  
ACTION  
AGENDA



# Executive Board

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Mayor, City of Miami Gardens

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Vice Mayor Manny Cid

Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Assistant Superintendent, MDCPS

Robert Levy, MDCLC-Legislative Consultant

Kevin Crowder, MDCLC Consultant

Richard Kuper, Esq., MDCLC Executive Director

## **Community & Economic Development**

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports legislation that empowers municipalities to expand the economy through job creation and business development. Additionally, infrastructure needs are becoming more critical and fewer infrastructure resources are available from the federal government. This legislation should:

- Support full funding of the Film Industry incentive;
- Support efforts to repeal the pre-emption that prohibits regulation of short-term rentals.
- Support legislation which encourages innovative and creative use of public private partnerships rather than a one size fits all approach.
- Fund programs that create and/or enhance cultural facilities, public parks and public space in cities; energy efficiency programs; and low cost financing for infrastructure projects.

## **Law Enforcement**

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports legislation that expands the criteria and flexibility for the use of law enforcement trust fund dollars to include non-recurring capital expenditures or increase law enforcement service programs and related initiatives.

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities urges the Legislature and Governor to provide additional funding for school resource officers in the public schools.

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities opposes legislation that repeals the authority for municipalities to establish red light camera programs.

## Pension Reform

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports legislation that protects municipalities' home rule powers to set up and fund employee benefit levels and specifically provides comprehensive pension reform and disability presumption reform. The League further supports legislation that provides flexibility in the use of insurance premium taxes as currently interpreted by the Department of Management Services.

## Taxes

The Miami-Dade League of Cities opposes legislation that repeals the Local Business Tax, and urges caution on efforts to restructure the Local Business Tax. The League further opposes reduction or elimination of the Communications Services Tax. Changes to these taxes should be done fairly and reasonably and designed to make the tax sources more stable and spread the impact fairly and equitably and not on the backs of local government.

The Miami-Dade League of Cities supports the authorization of a constitutional amendment exempting municipally owned property from taxation;

## Local Pre-emption

The Miami-Dade League of Cities supports legislation that repeals the local government pre-emption on implementing reasonable gun-related local ordinances.

The Miami-Dade League of Cities supports the repeal of the pre-emption that restricts the ability of cities to regulate smoking in publicly owned playgrounds.

## Insurance

Support efforts to address the significant increases that Floridians are experiencing by the National Flood Insurance Program, including creation of a Florida flood insurance marketplace.

Citizens Property Insurance Corporation. The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports legislation that caps rate increases for new and existing policy holders and allows for a fair system for re-inspections and an accurate assessment for property owners.

## Parking Revenue

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities opposes legislation amending Section 337.408, Florida Statutes, authorizing the installation of parking meters in the right of way of a state road only by FDOT permit while requiring counties and municipalities to provide fifty (50%) of the revenue generated by said meters to FDOT.

## Energy

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports legislation that eliminates the Florida Public Service Commission's ability to approve any Early Cost Recovery measures and that repeals the Early Cost Recovery Statute. Furthermore, if the Early Cost Recovery Statute is not repealed, the League supports legislation that establishes a moratorium on Early Cost Recovery until final approval of a license is issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The Miami-Dade County League of Cities supports legislation that establishes a moratorium on new lines to serve a facility until final approval of a license for said facility is issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The League further supports legislation which requires the undergrounding of transmission lines of the selection of alternative corridors, when meant to lessen health, visual blight and environmental impacts in highly dense urban areas and place the burden of proof on the utility.

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools 2014 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY POSITIONS

## **FUNDING:**

- Restore the state's investment in K-12 education by increasing the Base Student Allocation (BSA) by at least \$200 per student and categorical funding such as Safe Schools, ESE per pupil funding, minimally by the annual inflationary rate and student growth.
- Provide maximum flexibility with the funds appropriated.
- Modify the penalty for non-compliance with the constitutional class size requirement to be based on the schoolwide average for *all* public schools.
- Allow local school districts to locally establish contract provisions inclusive of cost structures with postsecondary institutions related to the delivery of dual enrollment.
- Revise the Safe School Allocation formula so that each district's allocation is equal to fifty percent of prior year eligible district expenditures.
- Oppose further equalization of Discretionary Millage.

## **CAPITAL FUNDING:**

Oppose any diversion of Local Discretionary Capital Outlay levy revenue from traditional public schools to charter schools.

Fully fund the Public Education Capital Outlay Program that involves construction and maintenance programs for public school districts.

## **CHARTER SCHOOLS**

Oppose any changes to current requirements regarding charter conversion of traditional public schools that dilute the role of parents, teachers, and community stakeholders.

Establish a level playing field for traditional public schools by extending the current statutory flexibility such as the exemption from State Education Required Facilities (SREF), categorical funding, accountability, class size reduction compliance and related penalties assessed on charter schools.

**(Charter Schools continued...)**

Improve safeguards of tax payer investments and transparency between traditional public schools and charter schools, including, but not limited to, implementing the following safeguards:

- Require charter school applications and lottery be monitored by the local school board, or an appropriate independent entity, to ensure a fair, equitable, and transparent process for all students;
- Allow local school districts to negotiate an appropriate usage fee based on market comparables;
- Require funding to follow the student when transferring between charter and traditional public schools during the school year;
- Establish financial disclosure standards and requirements for charter school officers and related parties involved in financial decision making, similar to traditional public school standards;
- Establish clear academic and financial standards for the purpose of distribution of charter school capital outlay funds as well as appropriate standards of review prior to distribution.

**SAFETY:**

Amend Florida Statutes 790.22 requiring parents of children that take guns to schools to attend mandatory guns safety and parental education programs.

Increase funding for Safe Schools to implement and expand interventions that focus on reducing disruptive and aggressive behaviors and strengthen emotional and behavioral competencies of students inclusive of early detection of mental health concerns and increased intervention and wrap around services.

**ACCOUNTABILITY REFORM:**

Revise the current assessment system and accountability system to:

- Provide the inclusion of data from multiple forms of assessments;
- Eliminate the practice of using student performance on a standardized test as the sole basis for student and school performance;
- Authorize alternate methods for assessing learning and achievement for special populations such as ESE and English Language Learners (ELL) students; and
- Provide the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), and other statewide assessments in multiple languages as allowed by federal regulations.

Ensure that the state assessments and the state's accountability system are valid, reliable and aligned to the state standards.



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Gaming

Commerce and Tourism

Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Transportation, Tourism, Economic  
Development, **Vice Chair**

Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Finance and Tax

Banking and Insurance

Transportation, **Vice Chair**

Appropriations

Joint Legislative  
Budget Commission

Rules



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Gaming

Ethics and Elections

Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Criminal and Civil Justice

Appropriations Subcommittee on  
General Government

Health Policy

Regulated Industries, **Vice Chair**



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Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Ethics and Elections

Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities, **Chair**

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Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, **Vice Chair**

Health Policy

Regulated Industries



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Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, **Vice Chair**

Agriculture

Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities, **Vice Chair**

Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice

Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services

Health Policy

Transportation



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Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

Agriculture, **Vice Chair**

Education

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Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government

Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security

Environmental Preservation and Conservation



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Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

Ethics and Elections

Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice

Appropriations Subcommittee on Finance and Tax

Banking and Insurance

Rules

Transportation

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Appropriations  
Economic Affairs Committee  
Health and Human Services Committee  
Health Innovation Subcommittee  
Business and Professional Regulation Subcommittee  
Joint Legislative Budget Commission  
Select Committee on Gaming



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Economic Affairs Committee  
Health Innovation Subcommittee  
Healthy Families Subcommittee  
Local and Federal Affairs Committee



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Justice Appropriations Subcommittee  
Education Committee  
Choice and Innovation Subcommittee  
K-12 Subcommittee, **Vice Chair**  
Health Quality Subcommittee



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Select Committee on Health Care Workforce Innovation  
Finance and Tax Subcommittee  
Economic Affairs Subcommittee  
Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee, **Chair**  
Healthy Families Subcommittee  
Business and Professional Regulation Subcommittee  
Select Committee on PPACA



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Transportation and Highway  
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Regulatory Affairs Committee

Energy and Utilities Subcommittee

Rulemaking, Oversight, and  
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Health Quality Subcommittee

Judiciary Committee

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Subcommittee

Joint Legislative Auditing  
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Appropriations

Education Committee

Civil Justice Committee

Business and Professional  
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Health and Human Services Committee

Rules and Calendar Committee



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Subcommittee  
Finance and Tax Subcommittee  
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Education Committee

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Economic Affairs Committee

Veterans and Military Affairs  
Subcommittee

Transportation and Highway  
Safety Subcommittee

Local and Federal Affairs  
Committee



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Mayor, City of Hialeah Gardens

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Councilman, City of Homestead

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Mayor, Village of Indian Creek

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Mayor, Village of Key Biscayne

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Mayor, Town of Medley

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Commissioner, Miami-Dade County

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Board Member  
Miami-Dade County School Board

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