

# MEMORANDUM

March 24, 2020

**TO:** The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

**FROM:** Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools 

**SUBJECT: 2020 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – FINAL REPORT**

The Florida Legislature extended the 2020 Legislative Session until Friday, March 20, 2020, for the sole purpose of finalizing the 2020-2021 budget. The Legislature concluded the consideration of substantive bills as scheduled. The General Appropriations Act, HB 5001, and related Implementing Bill, HB 5003, were distributed to the members mid-day Sunday, March 15, 2020. After the required 72-hour cooling-off period, members returned to the state's capital on Thursday, March 19, 2020. At 1:49 p.m. on March 19, 2020, the 2020 Legislative Session was concluded.

The appropriations bill on K-12 education increases funding by approximately \$776 million. A summary of the K-12 budget is provided below.

- There was an increase of \$183.62 per student, from \$7,655.96 to \$7,839.58.
- The Required Local Effort was rolled back by 0.155 mills.
- Approximate 32,038 new students are funded.
- The Base Student Allocation increased by \$40 per student.
- The District Cost Differential (DCD) formula was not changed.
- The Funding Compression Allocation created during the 2018 Legislative Session was reenacted for 2020-2021 and renamed the Funding Compression and Hold Harmless Allocation. The formula was modified adding eligibility criteria to include a school district with a decrease in its DCD compared to the prior year. The funding was increased by \$13.8 million.
- Mental Health funding increased by \$25 million statewide.
- A total of \$169 million in Public Education Capital Outlay funds was provided for charter schools. School districts were not appropriated funds from that source, but they will not have to share their 1.5 mills with charter schools.
- Safe Schools was funded at the same level as last year, \$180 million.
- The Best and Brightest Teacher Program was suspended.
- The Teacher Salary Increase Allocation was created to increase the minimum teacher salary to \$47,500 for traditional public schools and charter school teachers. A total of \$500 million was appropriated for this purpose, with 80 percent, or \$400 million, specifically earmarked to increase the minimum salary of classroom teachers defined in F.S. 1012.01(2)(a) and prekindergarten teachers funded in the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) to \$47,500. The remaining 20 percent is for veteran teachers. The funds are distributed to school districts based on each school district's proportionate share of base funding.

The Republican-led legislature passed a major expansion of private school vouchers and a scaled-down tax package valued at approximately \$48 million, increased state reserves

by \$300 million, but failed to pass bills related to school safety (SB 7065), civic education (HB 581), moment of silence (HB 737), early learning (HB 1013), changes to standards and assessments (HB 7079), or term limits for school boards (HJR 157). Over 3,500 bills were filed during the 2020 session. However, only 201 passed both chambers.

Major legislation that passed and impacts education is summarized below.

**HB 37** increases the minimum civil penalty for failure to stop for a school bus from \$100 to \$200. For a subsequent offense within five years, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) must suspend the driver's license of the driver for not less than six months and not more than one year. The bill also increases the minimum civil penalty for passing a school bus on the side that children enter and exit from \$200 to \$400. For a subsequent offense within five years, DHSMV must suspend the driver's license of the driver for not less than one year and not more than two years. The legislation takes effect January 1, 2021.

**SB 70** creates "Alyssa's Law." Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, the bill requires each public school and charter school to implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responders. For the 2020-2021 fiscal year, subject to legislative appropriation, the bill requires the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), in consultation with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, to develop a competitive solicitation for a statewide mobile panic alert system.

**HB 81** aligns Florida law with the 2014 federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance by eliminating the requirement that Medicaid recipients receiving services through the Florida Medicaid Certified School Match Program qualify for Part B or H of the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA), or for exceptional student services, or have an individualized education plan (IEP) or individualized family service plan (IFSP).

The bill also aligns Medicaid provider enrollment requirements for charter and private schools with those in place for public school districts. Under the bill, practitioners providing services in charter and private schools will not be required to directly enroll as Medicaid providers, so long as the charter or private school in which services occur is enrolled as a Medicaid provider.

**HB 101** reduces the amount that a government entity may retain from a progress payment to a contractor for contracts worth more than \$200,000 from ten percent, when less than 50 percent of the project is complete, and five percent, when 50 percent or more of the project is complete, to five percent for the entire project.

The bill reduces the amount that the state may retain from a progress payment to a contractor, for contracts worth \$200,000 or less, from ten percent to five percent. The bill repeals:

- The ability of a contractor to request the government entity to release up to half of the retained amount after half of the project is completed; and

- The ability of a contractor to withhold more than five percent of each progress payment to his or her subcontractors after half of a project with a government entity is completed.

**SB 156** extends the scheduled expiration of the Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program from June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2022. The bill also modifies the eligibility requirements for the pilot program by changing the requirement from each elementary school in the district having a comprehensive music education program to specified elementary schools in the district having a comprehensive music education program. The bill has no impact on state revenues or expenditures. The pilot program is contingent upon legislative appropriation.

**HB 171** requires the Board of Governors to adopt regulations and the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt rules to create a process that enables servicemembers and veterans of the United States Armed Forces to earn uniform postsecondary credit or career education clock hours across all Florida public postsecondary educational institutions for college-level training and education acquired in the military. The regulations and rules must be developed in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs and include procedures for credential evaluation and the uniform award of postsecondary credit or career education clock hours, including, but not limited to, equivalency and alignment of military coursework with appropriate postsecondary courses and course descriptions.

**SB 226** requires an athletic trainer to work within his or her scope of practice as defined by the Board of Athletic Trainers and revises the educational and internship requirements for licensure.

**HB 279** specifies the manner in which the estimated cost of a public building construction project must be determined when a governing board is deciding whether it is in the local government's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment. Specifically, the bill requires the estimated project cost to fully account for all costs associated with performing and completing the work, including employee compensation and benefits; the cost of direct materials to be used in the construction of the project, including materials to be purchased by the local government; and other direct costs, plus a factor of 20 percent for management, overhead, and other indirect costs. The bill also requires local governments to consider the same costs when determining the estimated cost of road and bridge construction and reconstruction projects performed utilizing proceeds from the constitutional gas tax.

The bill requires local governments issuing bidding documents or other requests for proposals to include a listing of all other governmental entities that may have additional permits or fees generated by the project.

The bill also requires a local government performing a public building construction project using its own services, employees, and equipment to create a report summarizing completed projects constructed by the local government, which must be publicly reviewed each year by the governing body. The Auditor General must review the report as part of his or her audits of local governments.

**SB 348** repeals the \$1 million lifetime benefit maximum on covered expenses for a child enrolled in the Florida Healthy Kids program.

**SB 410** amends various sections of Florida law related to the regulation of land, which is commonly referred to as growth management. The bill:

- Requires all local governments to incorporate a property rights element into their comprehensive plans by the earlier of a local government's next proposed comprehensive plan amendment or July 1, 2023. A local government may adopt its own property rights element or use the model language provided in the bill. The bill specifies that the property rights element is to ensure local governments consider private property rights in local decision-making.
- Amends current law to clarify that all local comprehensive plans effective (rather than adopted) after January 1, 2019, and all land development regulations adopted to implement the plan, must incorporate development orders existing before the plan's effective date.
- Provides that, after January 1, 2020, a county may not: adopt any comprehensive plan, land development regulation, or another form of restriction that limits the use of property located within a municipality, unless the municipality adopts such land use policies through its own ordinances; or limit a municipality from deciding the land uses, density, and intensity allowed on lands annexed into a municipality. This prohibition on counties does not apply to charter counties with a population in excess of 750,000 as of January 1, 2020.
- Provides that, except as otherwise provided in current law governing municipal annexation of geographic areas, a municipality may not annex a territory within another municipal jurisdiction without the other municipality's consent.
- Directs the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, when selecting applications for Community Planning Technical Assistance Grants, to give preference to certain small counties and municipalities located near a proposed multi-use corridor interchange. Such grants may be used to assist those local governments in amending or developing a comprehensive plan to implement appropriate land uses around a proposed multi-use corridor interchange.
- Provides that a development agreement between a local government and a party, or its designated successor in interest, may be amended or cancelled without securing the consent of the parcel owners that were originally subject to the development agreement, unless the amendment directly modifies the land uses of an owner's property.
- Requires the Florida Department of Transportation, when disposing of surplus real property, to give the prior owner of the property the right of first refusal to purchase the property.
- Provides that all permit applications to a county or municipality to use the public right-of-way for any utility must be processed within the expedited timeframe that currently applies to permit applications submitted for communications facilities.
- Allows for the amendment of any Development of Regional Impact agreement previously classified as (or officially determined to be) essentially built out and entered into on or before April 6, 2018. Any such amendment may authorize the developer to exchange approved land uses, so long as the exchange will not increase impacts on public facilities.

**SB 434** modifies the high school acceleration component of the school grading model to add to the calculation students who complete career certificate dual enrollment courses resulting in 300 or more clock hours that are identified by the SBE.

**HB 441** increases the maximum limit for continuing contracts covered by the Consultant's Competitive Negotiation Act from an estimated per-project construction cost of \$2 million to \$4 million. The bill also increases the maximum limit for procuring a study using a continuing contract from \$200,000 per study to \$500,000.

**SB 662** gives greater flexibility to transitioning students from military families by considering a student a resident of the school district at the point in time in which the parent is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation within the state, for purposes of enrollment and preferential treatment in special programs.

The bill also modifies the school grading model for high schools by adding to the calculation the percentage of students who earn a Category II Armed Forces Qualification Test score or higher on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and have earned a minimum of two credits in Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps courses from the same branch of the United States Armed Forces as a school grade college and career acceleration component.

**HB 641** establishes the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation within the FEFP. The allocation:

- Requires school districts and charter schools to use the allocation to increase the minimum base salary for full-time classroom teachers to at least \$47,500, or to the maximum amount achievable and as specified in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).
- Provides for salary increases for full-time classroom teachers who did not receive a salary increase or who received an increase of less than two percent, or as specified in the GAA, and other full-time instructional personnel.
- Establishes reporting requirements for district school boards, charter school governing boards, and the FDOE.
- Repeals the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Program, Florida Best and Brightest Principal Program, and the Florida Best and Brightest Teacher and Principal Allocation.
- Provides the FDOE with flexibility to establish timeframes for the advertisement and submission of bids for the 2020 instructional materials adoption cycle.
- Provides school district bonus funding through the FEFP for students who receive an Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma and meet the requirements for a standard high school diploma.
- Removes the limit of 30 postsecondary semester credit hours that a student may be awarded for successfully completing International Baccalaureate or Advanced International Certificate of Education course examinations.

**HB 646** establishes the right of intercollegiate athletes and the responsibilities for postsecondary educational institutions concerning an intercollegiate athlete's right to be compensated for her or his name, image, or likeness (NIL). Specifically, the bill:

- Authorizes an intercollegiate athlete to earn compensation for the use of her or his NIL.
- Prohibits a postsecondary educational institution from adopting or maintaining a requirement that unduly restricts an intercollegiate athlete from earning compensation for the use of her or his NIL.
- Prohibits a postsecondary educational institution and an entity whose purpose includes benefiting a postsecondary educational institution or its athletic program (or an employee, officer, or director of such entity) from compensating a current or prospective intercollegiate athlete for the use of her or his NIL.
- Requires a postsecondary educational institution to conduct a financial literacy and life skills workshop at the beginning of the intercollegiate athlete's first and third academic years and specifies conditions for the workshop.
- Prohibits a postsecondary educational institution from unduly restricting an intercollegiate athlete from obtaining professional representation by a licensed athlete agent or an attorney in good standing for the purpose of securing compensation for the use of such athlete's NIL.
- Specifies that an intercollegiate athlete may not enter into a contract for compensation for the use of NIL if a term in such contract conflicts with a term in the athlete's team contract.
- Requires an intercollegiate athlete who enters into a contract for compensation for the use of her or his NIL to disclose the contract to the postsecondary educational institution at which she or he is enrolled, in a manner designated by the institution.

**HB 705** requires counties that maintain designated shelters to designate a shelter that can accommodate persons with pets. The shelter must be in compliance with applicable Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Assistance Policies and Procedures and with safety procedures regarding the sheltering of pets established in the shelter component of both local and state comprehensive emergency management plans.

**HB 945** requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to identify children, adolescents, and young adults age 25 and under who are the highest users of crisis stabilization services. The bill also requires DCF to collaboratively take action to meet the behavioral health needs of such children. The bill directs these agencies to jointly submit a quarterly report to the Legislature during Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 on the actions taken by both agencies to better serve these individuals.

The bill requires the behavioral health managing entities (MEs) to create plans that promote the development and implementation of a coordinated system of care for children, adolescents, and young adults to integrate behavioral health services provided through state-funded child serving systems and to facilitate access to mental health and substance abuse treatment and services. The bill requires DCF to contract with the MEs for crisis response services provided through mobile response teams (MRTs) to provide immediate, onsite behavioral health services 24 hours per day, seven days per week within available resources.

When contracting for an MRT, MEs must collaborate with local sheriff's offices and public schools in the selection process. The bill also requires that the MRT establish response

protocols with local law enforcement agencies, community-based care lead agencies, the child welfare system, and the Department of Juvenile Justice, and requires that the MRT provide access to psychiatrists or psychiatric nurse practitioners. The bill requires MRTs to refer children, adolescents, or young adults and their families to an array of crisis response services that address their individual needs.

The bill requires MEs to promote the use of available crisis intervention services. The bill requires contracted providers to give parents and caregivers of children who receive behavioral health services information on how to contact an MRT.

The bill also amends foster parent pre-service training requirements to include local MRT contact information and requires community-based care lead agencies to provide MRT contact information to all individuals that provide care for dependent children.

Additionally, the bill requires principals of public and charter schools to verify de-escalation procedures have been followed and an MRT has been contacted prior to initiating a Baker Act of a student unless the principal or their designee reasonably believes a delay will increase the likelihood of harm to the student or others.

The bill requires DCF and AHCA to assess the quality of care provided in crisis stabilization units to children and adolescents who are high utilizers of such services and submit a joint report on their findings to the Governor and Legislature by November 15, 2020. The bill also requires AHCA to regularly test Medicaid managed care plan provider network databases to ensure that behavioral health providers are accepting enrollees and confirm access to behavioral health systems.

**HB 1066** imposes new requirements related to impact fees. Impact fees are charges imposed by local governments against new development to pay for the cost of capital facilities made necessary by such growth. Impact fees must have a reasonable connection, or rational nexus, between the proposed new development and the need and the impact of additional capital facilities, and the expenditure of funds and the benefits accruing to the proposed new development.

Provisions in the bill prohibit the application of a new or increased impact fee to pending permit applications unless the result is to reduce the total impact fees or mitigation costs imposed on the applicant. In addition, the bill provides that impact fee credits are assignable and transferable at any time after establishment within the same impact fee zone or impact fee district, or an adjoining zone or district within the same local jurisdiction that receives benefits from the improvement or contribution that generated the credits.

**HB 1213** adds the to the required public school instruction policy the definition, examples, and prevention of anti-Semitism regarding the history of the Holocaust. Each school district must annually certify and provide evidence to the FDOE that instructional requirements concerning the history of the Holocaust are met. The bill requires the FDOE to prepare and offer standards and curriculum for the required instruction, and authorizes the FDOE to seek input from the Commissioner of Education's Task Force on Holocaust Education or from recognized Holocaust educational organizations. The FDOE may contract with recognized Holocaust educational organizations to develop training for

instructional personnel and grade-appropriate classroom resources to support the developed curriculum.

The bill designates the second week in November as “Holocaust Education Week” in recognition of the anniversary of “Kristallnacht,” a precipitating event that led to the Holocaust.

Additionally, the bill directs:

- The Commissioner of Education’s African-American History Task Force to examine ways in which the history of the 1920 Ocoee Election Day Riots (riots) will be included in required instruction on African-American history and submit its recommendations to the Commissioner of Education and the SBE by March 1, 2021.
- The Secretary of State to determine ways in which the Museum of Florida History and other state museums will promote the history of the riots through exhibits and educational programs, and collaborate with the National Museum of African-American History and Culture of the Smithsonian Institution to seek inclusion of the history of the riots in the museum’s exhibits.
- The Secretary of Environmental Protection to assess if any state park or facility will be named in recognition of any victim of the riots. Additionally, the bill encourages district school boards to assess opportunities for naming school facilities in recognition of victims of the riots.

**SB 1466** excludes certain acts or omissions by board members or employees of special districts or community development districts from being considered abuse of public position under Article II, section 8(h)(2) of the Florida Constitution if such acts or omissions are authorized under specific provisions of the Florida Code of Ethics.

The bill alters current required reporting of information on a special district’s official website. Specifically, the bill allows a special district to satisfy the required posting of its most recent final, complete audit report on its own website by providing a link to this report maintained on the Auditor General’s website. In addition, the bill removes the requirement for online posting of a special district’s public facilities report and any of a special district’s meeting or workshop materials. Required postings of a special district meeting or workshop, and the agendas of such events, remain.

**HB 5007** increases the employer contribution rates for the Florida Retirement System based on the 2019 Actuarial Valuation.

**HB 7009** implements Amendment 12 passed by Florida voters during the 2018 general election, which amended Article II, section 8 of the Florida Constitution to, among other things, provide a constitutional prohibition on public officers and public employees who abuse their positions to obtain a disproportionate benefit for themselves or other specified persons or entities.

Amendment 12 included an implementation schedule, which provides:

- The abuse of public position provision becomes effective on December 31, 2020;

- The Florida Commission on Ethics (Commission) must, by rule, define the term “disproportionate benefit” and prescribe the intent for finding a violation of the prohibition against abuse of public position by October 1, 2019; and
- Following the adoption of rules by the Commission, the Legislature must establish penalties for violations of the prohibition against abuse of public position to take effect December 31, 2020.

**HB 7011** is cited as the “Zachary Martin Act” and requires each public school that is a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) to make its automated external defibrillator (AED) available on school grounds in a clearly marked, publicized location for each athletic contest, practice, workout, or conditioning session, including those outside of the school year. The bill requires, beginning June 1, 2021, a school employee or volunteer with current training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and AED use to be present at each athletic event during and outside of the school year. Each employee or volunteer expected to use an AED must complete this training and be annually notified in writing of each AED’s location.

The bill specifies that the FHSAA must:

- Make training and resources available to each member school for the effective monitoring of heat stress;
- Require member schools to monitor heat stress and modify athletic activities based on heat stress guidelines, including making cooling zones available;
- Establish hydration guidelines, including appropriate introduction of electrolytes; and
- Require each school’s emergency action plan to include a procedure for onsite cooling using cold-water immersion or equivalent means before transporting a student for exertional heat stroke.

The bill also specifies that each athletic coach and sponsor of extracurricular activities involving outdoor practices or events must annually complete training in exertional heat illness identification, prevention, and response, including effective administration of cooling zones. All students participating in conditioning and activities that occur outside of the school year must pass a medical evaluation prior to participation in such activities each year.

**SB 7012** makes several changes to laws relating to substance abuse and mental health services. Specifically, the bill:

- Redefines “mental illness” related to the Baker Act and post-adjudication commitment to exclude dementia and traumatic brain injury.
- Defines “coordinated specialty care programs” as an essential element of a coordinated system of care and requires DCF to report annually on any gaps in availability or access in the state. Makes coordinated specialty care programs eligible for Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment grants.
- Allows licensed health care professionals and facilities to contract with DCF and managing entities to provide mental health services without obtaining a separate license from DCF.

- Broadens the scope and duties of the Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention (Statewide Office) in DCF by requiring the Statewide Office to coordinate education and training curricula on suicide prevention efforts for veterans and services members.
- Creates the First Responders Suicide Deterrence Task Force within the Statewide Office to assist in the reduction of suicide rates of first responders.
- Broadens the scope and duties of the Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council by requiring the Council to make recommendations on the implementation of evidence-based mental health programs and suicide risk identification training and adds five new members to the Council.
- Requires Baker Act receiving facilities to provide suicide prevention information resources to minors being released from a facility.
- Requires county jails to administer the psychotropic medications prescribed by DCF when a forensic client is discharged and returned to the county jail, unless the jail physician documents the need to change or discontinue such medication.
- Requires the DCF treating physician to consult with the jail physician and consider prescribing medication included in the jail's drug formulary.
- Requires county jails to send to DCF all medical information on individuals in their custody who will be admitted to a state mental health treatment facility.
- Requires DCF to request this information immediately upon receipt of a completed commitment packet and requires the county jail to provide such information within three business days of the request.
- Removes the requirement for prevention coalitions to be certified by DCF.

**HB 7067** modifies provisions in the Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES) Program, the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program, and the Hope Scholarship Program (HSP), and also establishes a dual enrollment funding incentive for school districts.

Specifically, the bill modifies the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program to:

- Establish a priority order for award of an FES, and removes the requirement that the scholarship is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The priority order for award of an FES, as established in the bill, is as follows:
  - A student who received an FES during the previous school year.
  - A student who received an FTC scholarship in the previous school year but did not receive a renewal scholarship because of a lack of funds and meets other FES eligibility requirements.
  - A student whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level or is placed in foster care or in-home care; and spent the prior year in full-time attendance at a Florida public school.
  - A student whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level or is placed in foster care or in-home care; and is eligible to enroll in kindergarten.
  - A student who is in a household with an income level that does not exceed 300 percent of the federal poverty level or an adjusted maximum; and, in priority order, spent the prior year in full-time attendance at a Florida public school; or is eligible to enroll in kindergarten.
  - In order to implement the established priority order for award of scholarship, require the FDOE to set deadlines for receipt of initial applications and

renewal notifications, and for eligible nonprofit scholarship-funding organizations (SFOs) to verify student eligibility.

- Allow the maximum household income level, which is currently set at 300 percent of the federal poverty level, to increase by 25 percent in any year following a fiscal year in which more than 5 percent of available FES scholarships are not awarded.
- Change the annual growth of the FES from 0.25 percent to 1.0 percent of the state's total public school enrollment, starting in the 2020-2021 school year.
- Require the FDOE to maintain and publish a list of identified nationally norm-referenced tests for purposes of satisfying the FES program testing requirement.
- Require each private school to, by August 15 of each year, report the test scores of all participating students to a state university for the purpose of annual reporting of performance data.

The bill modifies the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program to:

- Specify that a student who receives an FTC scholarship remains eligible until high school graduation or age 21, regardless of the student's household income level.
- Require each SFO to use all available funds under the FTC Scholarship Program and the Hope Scholarship Program for renewal of FTC scholarships, prior to awarding initial scholarships.
- Require each SFO to refer any student who does not receive a renewal FTC scholarship because of a lack of available funds to another SFO that may have funds available.

The bill modifies the Hope Scholarship Program to specify that an SFO that uses excess contributions to the HSP to fund FTC scholarships must prioritize renewal scholarships before awarding any initial scholarships.

The bill also establishes a dual enrollment full-time equivalent (FTE) incentive for school districts, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, which provides:

- A 0.16 FTE bonus for each early college program student who completes a general education core course with a grade of "A."
- A 0.08 FTE bonus for each student not enrolled in an early college program who completes a general education core course with a grade of "A."
- A 0.3 FTE bonus for any student who completes an associate degree through dual enrollment with at least a 3.0 grade point average.
- That the school district must allocate at least 50 percent of the funds received from the dual enrollment bonus FTE funding to go to the schools that generated the funds to support student academic guidance and postsecondary readiness.

**HB 7097**, the tax package, includes the "Back to School" and a "Disaster preparedness supplies" sales tax holiday. The back to school sales tax holiday runs for three days, from August 7, 2020, through August 9, 2020, for clothing, school supplies, personal computers, and personal computer-related accessories. Clothing, wallets, or bags, including handbags, backpacks, fanny packs, and diaper bags, but excluding briefcases, suitcases, and other garment bags, having a sales price of \$60 or less per item are included. "Personal computers" includes electronic book readers, laptops, desktops, handheld devices, tablets, or tower computers, on the first \$1,000 of the sales price. The

term does not include cellular telephones, video game consoles, digital media receivers, or devices that are not primarily designed to process data.

Additionally, the Disaster preparedness supplies sales tax holiday included in the bill runs for seven days, from May 29, 2020, through June 4, 2020. Exempt items include: portable self-powered light sources selling for \$20 or less; portable self-powered radios, two-way radios, or weather-band radios selling for \$50 or less; tarpaulin or other flexible waterproof sheeting selling for \$50 or less; gas or diesel fuel tanks selling for \$25 or less; packages of AA-cell, AAA-cell, C-cell, D-cell, 6-volt, or 9-volt batteries, excluding automobile and boat batteries, selling for \$30 or less; non-electric food storage coolers selling for \$30 less; and portable generators used to provide light or communications or preserve food in the event of a power outage selling for \$750 or less.

If you have any questions or wish to schedule a briefing, please contact Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Associate Superintendent, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement, at 305 995-2532.

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cc: School Board Attorney  
Superintendent's Cabinet