

By Senator Kirkpatrick

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Senate Resolution No. ____

A resolution in support of the efforts of the Florida Commission on Education Reform and Accountability and the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc., to achieve a higher percentage of minority teachers for the public schools in this state.

WHEREAS, this state's system of school improvement and accountability has recognized the need for an increase in minority teachers, especially males, in the public schools of this state, and

WHEREAS, minority students outnumber minority teachers three to one, and

WHEREAS, because this state has a shortage of teachers in critical areas such as mathematics, science, and exceptional education, there should be a concentrated effort to recruit minorities to become teachers in these fields, and

WHEREAS, minority teachers bring to the classroom a variety of perspectives and talents, as well as an understanding of different cultures, and

WHEREAS, minority teachers serve as role models, facilitators, and leaders for all children, and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Education Reform and Accountability recognizes the need for Minority Teachers, Inc., to serve as a liaison among high schools, community colleges, and universities to recruit, retain, and ensure graduates to fulfill these needs in the public schools, and

WHEREAS, filling the need for more minority teachers requires continued scholarships, as well as academic and support services, for these students, NOW, THEREFORE,

1 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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3 That the Florida Senate supports the efforts of the
4 Florida Commission on Education Reform and Accountability and
5 the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc., to achieve a
6 higher percentage of minority teachers for the public schools
7 in this state.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution,
9 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to the
10 Florida Commission on Education Reform and Accountability and
11 to the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, Inc., as a tangible
12 token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.

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