

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

36-01442-12

20121562

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in Miami on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, in 1961, the new political regime in Cuba confiscated the property of Belen Jesuit Preparatory School and expelled the Jesuit faculty, and the school was reestablished in Miami the same year, and

WHEREAS, in 1962, Belen Jesuit Preparatory School acquired its first building in Miami and moved to a new site, and

WHEREAS, in 1981, a groundbreaking was held for a new building on a 30-acre site located in west Miami-Dade County, and, later that year, the facility opened with 598 students, and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Belen Jesuit Preparatory School received accreditation from the prestigious Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and, in 2010, was named one of the Top 50 Catholic high schools in the nation, and

WHEREAS, Belen Jesuit Preparatory School now has 1,470 students, and the facilities have expanded to include the Ignatian Center for the Arts, the Ophelia and Juan Roca Theater, the Olga and Carlos Saladrigas Art Gallery, and a new administration building, and

WHEREAS, the students, faculty, and staff at Belen Jesuit Preparatory School remain committed to the school's core values, which include working as a community for the greater glory of God, striving to do more in sharing the Gospel values, learning and serving, and caring for the entire person, and

WHEREAS, the foundation of education at Belen Jesuit

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30 Preparatory School is based on religious formation, academic  
31 excellence, value education, social responsibility, and athletic  
32 achievement, and

33 WHEREAS, as a Jesuit school following the Ignatian  
34 tradition of excellence, Belen Jesuit Preparatory School strives  
35 to provide leaders who are men of character committed to the  
36 Christian spirits of understanding, social justice, and concern  
37 for others, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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41 That the members of the Senate recognize the invaluable  
42 contributions that Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in Miami has  
43 made to the South Florida community and extend congratulations  
44 to its students, faculty, administration, staff, and alumni on  
45 the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.