



The School Board of Broward County, Florida

RESOLUTION

NO. 09-58

**Resolution to the United States Congress to Impose a Moratorium
on the Sanctions of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act until the Act
Is Reformed and Reauthorized.**

WHEREAS, our nation and state are in an economic crisis and the Broward County School District has lost over \$128 million dollars in operating funds the last two years, not counting an additional reduction expected when the Special Legislative Session convenes in January; and

WHEREAS, the School District expects additional reductions at the completion of the 2009 Regular Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, indicators suggest that the total loss to Broward County Schools will exceed \$288 million; and

WHEREAS, the Title I Program is the cornerstone of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and Title I funds are more important than ever in the current economy; and

WHEREAS, the District has made strides with improving student performance, but needs flexibility to use its NCLB Title I dollars for the children who need them the most; and

WHEREAS, the current NCLB Title I sanctions regarding school choice with transportation and Supplemental Educational Services (SES) are counterproductive to meeting the stated purpose of NCLB; and

WHEREAS, under the current NCLB law, the District must set aside 20%, over \$12 million, of its NCLB Title I dollars each year to provide choice with transportation to students or for Supplemental Educational Services (SES), which gives public tax dollars to private companies; and

WHEREAS, the District must transport students who request choice with transportation to non-Title I schools and as the enrollment of a Title I school is reduced by choice, the District must use its own scarce funds to supplement music, art and physical education instruction since the reduced enrollment no longer generates sufficient FTE funding to cover these classes at those schools; and

WHEREAS, the District must use Title I funds to transport students who exercise the choice option regardless of their performance on state-mandated tests, so that students meeting Adequate Yearly Performance (AYP) standards leave the Title I schools even though the school has met their needs; and

WHEREAS, the District must use Title I funding for private Supplemental Educational Services (SES) providers that have little, or no, accountability and whose staff are not required to meet the NCLB requirements for "Highly Qualified Teachers" that the public schools must; and

WHEREAS, President-Elect Obama has pledged to reform the No Child Left Behind Act and improve its accountability system so that the Federal Government is "supporting schools that need improvement, rather than punishing them".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The School Board of Broward County, Florida asks the United States Congress to enact an immediate moratorium on No Child Left Behind Act Title I sanctions until such time as the law can be reformed and reauthorized.

Given at Fort Lauderdale Florida this 16th day of December 2008.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: _____
Maureen S. Dinnen, Chair

ATTEST: _____
James F. Notter, Superintendent of Schools