

NEWS

**AS PROPOSED BY BOARD MEMBER PERLA TABARES HANTMAN, SCHOOL BOARD
ENDORSES MARCH 15-21, 2009 AS NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK**

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NEWS RELEASE FROM PERLA TABARES HANTMAN

February 12, 2009

As proposed by Board Member Perla Tabares Hantman, District 4, the Miami-Dade School Board voted unanimously to approve a resolution endorsing March 15-21, 2009 as National Poison Prevention Week.

“More than two million poisonings occur each year in the United States,” stated Ms. Hantman. “Of those, more than 90 percent occur in the home. The majority of non-fatal poisonings occur in children younger than six.”

Poisonings are listed as one of the leading causes of death among adults. In 1961, the U.S. Congress established National Poison Prevention Week. A council was organized to coordinate this annual event and promote poison prevention with programs geared towards highlighting the dangers of poisonings and how to prevent them.

The Miami-Dade County Injury Prevention Coalition is collaborating with Jackson Memorial Hospital to promote community involvement in poison prevention during the entire month of March. The District also will be promoting the event in all its schools.

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