RESOLUTION NO. 2005 – 065

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF HOUSE BILL 0195, REQUIRING SCHOOL BOARDS TO SCHEDULE TEACHER PLANNING DAYS IN CONJUNCTION WITH ELECTION DATES AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AS POLLING PLACES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, numerous schools in Broward County, including those which service the Town of Southwest Ranches, are used as polling places for elections held throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, security may be compromised if the schools are being utilized as polling places while classes are in session; and

WHEREAS, many voters experience frustration while trying to utilize school polling places while school is in session; and

WHEREAS, schools are the optimum site for polling places; however, certain schools cannot be utilized as polling places when the schools are in full operation and classes are in session, thus severely limiting the number of polling places; and

WHEREAS, it is difficult to find alternative nonpartisan and appropriate venues for polling places; and

WHERAS, the proposed State of Florida House of Representatives Bill 0195, would require school boards to schedule teacher planning days in conjunction with election dates so that public schools may be made available as convenient, safe, and accessible polling places; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches finds it to be in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Southwest Ranches and the State of Florida to encourage the Florida Legislature to adopt this legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida:

Section 1. The above referenced recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. That the Town of Southwest Ranches hereby supports the adoption of House Bill 0195, requiring School Boards to schedule teacher planning days in conjunction with election dates so that public schools may be made available as convenient, safe, and accessible polling places.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this 5th day of May 2005, on a motion by <u>Council Member Don</u> <u>Maines</u> and seconded by <u>Council Member Aster Knight</u>.

Fink _	Υ
Blanton	Α
Knight _	Υ
Maines	Y
Nelson	A

Ayes	3
Nays	0
Abcont or	

Absent or

Abstaining ____

Mecca Fink, Mayor

ATJTEST:

Shari Canada, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

Gary A. Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney 908689_1.DOC