

MAR 16 1981

# ORANGE COUNTY

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

# FLORIDA

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
POST OFFICE BOX 1393  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32802  
TELEPHONE (305) 420-3291

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PAYING MAXIMUM BENEFITS FOR  
THE FOSTER CARE OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, REGARDLESS OF  
THE NUMBER, PLACED IN A PRIVATE HOME.

Premises:

1. The Florida State Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services is actively embarked upon a program of removing the mentally handicapped from institutions and placing them in Foster Homes or Foster Group Homes.
2. A Foster Home is a residential dwelling which provides basic care and supervision to not more than three persons not related to the operator or owner of the residential dwelling, the operator or owner of which is licensed and/or approved by the Florida State Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services to provide such care and supervision. The monthly remuneration is \$240 for each recipient of such care.
3. A Foster Group Home is a residential dwelling which provides basic care and supervision to four or more persons not related to the owner or operator of the residential dwelling, the owner or operator of which is licensed and/or approved by the Florida State Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services to provide such care and supervision. The monthly remuneration is \$380 for each recipient of such care.
4. Foster care for the mentally handicapped is more expensive than care for the normal foster dependent. For one reason, additional staff may be required, since there is seldom the option of leaving them in the care of a neighbor when the owner or operator must be absent for even a short time.

5. A home-like atmosphere can be more readily provided for three or less of the mentally handicapped in one home. Family picnics or trips to the movies would be difficult or impossible for larger numbers.
6. In order to operate a Foster Group Home in a single family residential zoning district, a public hearing must be held by the Board of Zoning Adjustments to determine whether or not to grant a variance for such use.
7. There is a substantial amount of opposition to Foster Group Homes by adjacent and nearby property owners. Such opposition intensifies when two or more Foster Group Homes are established in the same general neighborhood or community. The opponents fear that such establishments change the concept of the single family zoning and could adversely effect the value of their property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

We hereby request a revision of the rates paid by the Florida State Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services for the care of the mentally handicapped. The rate of remuneration for the care of mentally handicapped in a Foster Home should be the same as the rate for the care of the mentally handicapped in a Foster Group Home.

RESOLVED THIS 16th DAY OF March, 1981.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

*Nancy E. Lambert*  
Clerk to Board of County  
Commissioners

*Ed G. Mason*  
Chairman

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS AT THEIR MEETING

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