

APR 23 2002 AA/TD

RESOLUTION

of the

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

regarding

A REQUEST OF GOVERNOR JEB BUSH TO VETO SENATE BILL 100

Resolution No. 2002-M-11

WHEREAS, in recent years paratransit transportation services in Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties ("Tri-County Area") have been provided by several different service providers; and

WHEREAS, the fragmentation of those serviced between multiple providers led to unnecessary duplication of services, administrative costs and, in many instances, belated or altogether overlooked, service; and

WHEREAS, LYNX, serving as the Tri-County Area's designated Community Transportation Coordinator ("CTC"), recognized the aforementioned deficiencies and, in response, undertook a comprehensive review of the entire paratransit operation; and

WHEREAS, the LYNX review resulted in a rigorous Request for Proposal ("RFP") and selection process in which all interested providers of paratransit services were invited to submit responses and be considered; and

WHEREAS, LYNX's Board of Directors unanimously approved the selection of MV Transportation, a nationally recognized paratransit provider, in order to resolve the service issues described above and provide the Tri-County Area transportation disadvantaged community with superior service; and

WHEREAS, between the time LYNX entered into an agreement and scheduled a date for MV Transportation to assume responsibility for the Tri-County paratransit operation, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 100 ("SB 100") which, if signed into law, would prohibit LYNX from serving as CTC; and

WHEREAS, dismantling the system in the manner provided in SB 100 would result in the elimination of a "one stop" paratransit call center and may cause a lack of coordination between Medicaid and ADA transportation services; and

WHEREAS, duplicated systems would again result in higher administrative costs to the overall system by replicating duties between and newly established CTC and LYNX, perpetuating the substandard quality sought to be eliminated by a sole paratransit provider; and

WHEREAS, if LYNX loses its designation as CTC, it may cease receiving credit for approximately 65 percent of the paratransit trips it currently provides resulting in a reduction of federal formula funding of approximately \$2.3 million beginning in Fiscal Year 2004; and

WHEREAS, this funding is used for a variety of transit needs and reduces the amount LYNX charges its local funding partners for service and the loss of \$2.3 million federal aid will result in additional operating costs for LYNX's local funding partners beginning in Fiscal Year 2004; and

WHEREAS, because SB 100 was amended and passed during the last days of the legislative session, it was never heard or reviewed by any Central Florida local government or any of the designated Disability Advisory Board's representing the disabled in Central Florida; and

WHEREAS, Orange County provides significant funding to LYNX; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners will continue to be involved in the oversight of LYNX in an effort to insure adequate service to the transportation disadvantaged in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida, does hereby respectfully urge Governor Jeb Bush to veto SB 100.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 23 day of April, 2002, by the Orange County Commission.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Board of County Commissioners

By: Richard T. Crotty

Richard T. Crotty
County Chairman

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

By: Martha O. Haynie
Deputy Clerk

