

APPROVED
BY ORANGE COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NOV 01 2005 *KS/B*

RESOLUTION

of the
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
regarding
HEWITT ASSOCIATES LLC
QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND

Resolution No. 2005-M-47

PREMISES

WHEREAS, in 1994, the Florida legislature passed legislation establishing a “Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program” (“QTI Program”) to encourage the creation of new high-wage job opportunities in Florida by providing “tax refunds” to qualified target industries; and

WHEREAS, Hewitt Associates LLC (“Hewitt”), headquartered in Lincolnshire, Illinois, is the world’s largest human resources outsourcing and consulting firm, has annual revenues of over \$2.2 billion, and has more than 12,000 employees in eighty-six offices worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Hewitt clients include over two-thirds of Fortune 500 companies and more than a third of the Global 500 companies; and

WHEREAS, with assistance from Orange County financial incentives approved by the Board of County Commissioners in 1996, Hewitt constructed a building and established an office in the Central Florida Research Park that now employs 1,338 persons; and

WHEREAS, Hewitt seeks to expand its employment base in Orange County by creating approximately three hundred (300) new customer service and plan management jobs at an average salary of at least \$40,000, which is 116% of the prevailing average wage of \$34,411 in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that all of the new jobs will be created by December 31, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Hewitt has applied to the Executive Office of the Governor, Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for approval as a qualified QTI Program applicant, and has applied for \$900,000 in tax refunds from the State of Florida under the QTI Program, representing \$3,000 per job; and

WHEREAS, in order for Hewitt to be approved as a “qualified applicant” under the QTI Program, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners must adopt a resolution recommending the approval of Hewitt as a “target industry business,” and committing “local

financial support” in an amount equal to 20% of the annual tax refund up to but not exceeding a total amount of \$180,000 over the course of Hewitt’s eligibility as a “qualified applicant”; and

WHEREAS, Hewitt estimates that this expansion will add approximately \$1,240,000 in capital investment to the Orange County tax roll; and

WHEREAS, Hewitt paid over \$760,000 in property taxes to Orange County taxing entities in 2004, including over \$412,000 to Orange County Government and over \$314,000 to Orange County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, alternative sites for this expansion exist in Illinois, North Carolina, and Illinois, financial incentives are necessary to ensure that it occurs in Orange County rather than outside the state of Florida.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida, hereby recommends that the State of Florida Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development approve Hewitt as a “qualified applicant” under the QTI Program.

Section 2. Subject to the terms of this Resolution, the Board hereby agrees to pay up to, but not to exceed, \$180,000 as the “local financial support” required under the QTI Program. Such amount shall be payable to the Economic Development Incentives Account within the Economic Development Trust Fund as specified herein.

Section 3. The County’s promise to pay the amounts specified in this Resolution is contingent upon (i) appropriation by the Board in each applicable year authorizing payment of the revenues hereunder, (ii) Hewitt receiving the designation as a “qualified applicant” in connection with the QTI program, and (iii) on an annual basis, award by the State of Florida of tax refunds under the QTI program.

Section 4. Unless provided otherwise in this Resolution, the County shall pay the “local financial support” in the following amounts:

FY 2007-2008	\$ 45,000
FY 2008-2009	\$ 45,000
FY 2009-2010	\$ 45,000
FY 2010-2011	\$ 45,000
Total	<u>\$180,000</u>

Such sums shall be paid from any legally available source or sources of revenue other than those specified in the QTI Program (or rules promulgated thereunder) as being ineligible for such purpose.


Section 5. In the event Hewitt is approved by the State of Florida for tax refunds in an amount less than the \$900,000 requested, the local financial support to be paid by the County

shall be proportionately reduced so that at no time will the County contribution exceed twenty percent (20%) of the annual tax refund awarded to Hewitt under the QTI Program.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect upon receipt by the County of evidence that Hewitt has been approved as a “qualified applicant” and has become eligible for tax refunds under the QTI Program, as described herein.

ADOPTED THIS 1st DAY OF NOVEMBER 2005.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners



fa Richard T. Crotty
County Mayor

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

BY: 

Deputy Clerk

