RESOLUTION # 82-M-16

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 affect 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 10th DAY OF August, 1982.

ATTEST:                                  BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Deputy Clerk to Board of County
Commissioners of Orange County, Florida

Chairman

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS AT THEIR MEETING

AUG 10 1982