

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, water management districts have taxing authority; and

WHEREAS, water management district governing bodies impose regulations and rules that have a significant impact upon the residents and properties of a community; and

WHEREAS, water management district governing board members are appointed by the Governor of Florida with such appointments subject to State Senate confirmation; and

WHEREAS, County governmental bodies, duly elected by the people of a community, are not represented on these governing bodies; and

WHEREAS, County governmental bodies envelop all of the land mass that comprise the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Water Resources Act of 1972 divided the State into five regional water management agencies; and

WHEREAS, water management districts have evolved into multi-faceted agencies involved with a multitude of water related activities; and

WHEREAS, these activities result in considerations that impact land use matters; and

WHEREAS, County governing bodies are charged through the State's Growth Management Act with making those land use decisions that are in the best interests of the community that it serves; and

WHEREAS, a special panel has been designated through State legislative initiative to make water management districts more accountable; and

WHEREAS, State government, in its infinite wisdom, has created other bodies such as the Children's Services Council with taxing authority and the Tourist Development Council with the requirement that a member of the County governing body be represented.

Now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED** by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners to express its support for modification of State law to require that the water management districts in Florida have a County resident member to be appointed by each respective County governing body to serve on the appropriate water management district's governing board whenever the water management district encompasses at least twenty-five percent of the land area of a particular County.

Be it further **RESOLVED** that this resolution be conveyed to the special panel members, State legislative members, and to the Governor of the State of Florida.