RESOLUTION

of the

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

regarding

SCHOOL CONCURRENY AMENDMENTS UNDER CONSIDERATION
DURING THIS PRESENT LEGISLATIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 98-1

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE
COUNTY, FLORIDA:
Section 1. Findings.

The Orange County Board of County Commissioners finds that:

1. The population in incorporated and unincorporated Orange County has grown by 97 percent from 1970 to 1990. Orange County’s population in 1997 was 803,614 and is projected to grow to 859,900 by the year 2000.

2. The Orange County Public Schools will enroll almost 6,000 new students this year.

3. The 6,000 new students are enough to fill three new elementary schools, two middle schools and one and one-half high schools.

4. Student enrollment during the past three years has increased by more than the population of the City of Winter Park.

5. It is projected that 32,636 new students will enroll in Orange County Public Schools over the next decade.

6. Almost 80 percent of the public schools in Orange County are overcrowded.

7. One-third of all public school students in Orange County are currently being taught in portable classrooms.

8. The public school student population is a district-wide issue, irrespective of local government jurisdictional boundaries within this particular school district.
9. In this current session, the Florida Legislature is assessing alternative legislation for applying school concurrency which will, among other things, require a written interlocal agreement from virtually each local government (municipalities and county) and the school board in each school district as a prerequisite to applying school concurrency. The proposed legislation also requires each local government within the school district to adopt a public schools facility element that is consistent with every other local government’s public school facility element.

10. School concurrency is a community-wide/school district wide issue that should not be subject to the whim of parochial interests as the current proposed legislative amendments allow.

11. Orange County recognizes that all facets of providing for public schools must be coordinated and in cooperation with the School Board.

12. Accordingly, voters in each school district must be afforded the opportunity to address the issue of school concurrency on a school district/county-wide basis through the option of a charter amendment to permit school district/county-wide school concurrency.

Section 2. Request to Legislature.

A. Based on the foregoing findings, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners requests that the Florida Legislature address the issue of affording the opportunity for the voters in charter counties to decide whether school concurrency should be imposed on a school district-wide basis through a charter amendment referendum. Such referendum would ask the voters whether there should be district-wide/county-wide school concurrency regulations created
through one district-wide/county-wide ordinance, without the need for multiple interlocal agreements with each local government and/or multiple and duplicate public school facility elements in each local governments’ comprehensive plan.

B. In the alternative, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners requests the Florida Legislature to deem that interlocal government coordination may be achieved for purposes of school concurrency when a majority of the local governments within a school district affirmatively endorse, through a either ordinances or interlocal agreements, the local school concurrency system. Further, upon interlocal government coordination being achieved a municipality’s public school facility element shall not be inconsistent with the county’s adopted public school facility element.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF April, 1998.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

By: Linda W. Chapin
Orange County Chairman

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

By: Deputy Clerk

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