

APPROVED
BY ORANGE COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MAR 16 1999 *PB/BS*

RESOLUTION

NO. 99-M-07

of the

**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

regarding

**PRESERVATION 2000 AND THE CREATION
OF FLORIDA FOREVER AS A LAND
CONSERVATION PROGRAM TO SUCCEED
PRESERVATION 2000**

WHEREAS, Preservation 2000 has been the State of Florida's most comprehensive land preservation program through which much of Florida's best remaining natural land has been acquired and saved; and

WHEREAS, Florida's rate of population growth continues to threaten our natural systems; and

WHEREAS, it is important to protect and restore water resources for natural systems and human use, as well as for habitats for plants, animals, and fisheries; and

WHEREAS, in order to enhance Florida's economy and quality of life, we must provide exceptional opportunities for outdoor recreation for all Floridians and visitors; and

WHEREAS, we must ensure the effective long-term management of public lands; and

WHEREAS, although land acquisitions under Preservation 2000 have provided significant environmental protection, Florida's native plant and animal species do not yet have sufficient habitat for survival, and Florida's wild lands are being invaded by non-native plant and animal species; and

WHEREAS, Preservation 2000 has not yet completed the job of setting aside enough land and water areas to meet Florida's pressing natural resource needs; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of the expiration of Preservation 2000, a successor program to be known as Florida Forever has been proposed as a new land conservation program and further the protection of Florida's exceptional wild lands; and

WHEREAS, Florida Forever would provide funding for land acquisition and management to meet Florida's critical needs to continue to preserve our remaining wild lands, protect our crucial water resources, provide local recreational opportunities, manage publicly-owned conservation and recreation lands, and restore major ecosystems in Florida;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners, Orange County, Florida:

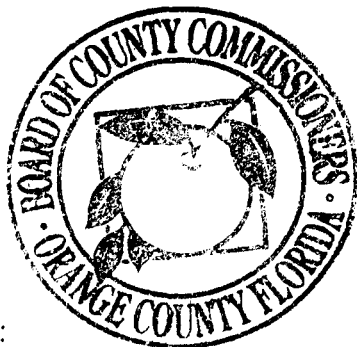
Section 1. That the Orange County Board of County Commissioners hereby urges the Legislature of the State of Florida to:

- A. Support the authorization of the 10th series of Preservation 2000 bonds;
- B. Support the creation of Florida Forever, a new land and water conservation program that continues Florida's long tradition of land acquisition conservation.

Section 2. That the County Comptroller Clerk to Board of County Commissioners is hereby directed to furnish copies of this Resolution to the members of the Orange County Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.


DONE AND ORDERED this 16th day of March, 1999.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA


Mel Martinez, Orange County Chairman

ATTEST:


Clerk to the Board of County
Commissioners