

RESOLUTION R-90-169

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ORDERING AND PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A REFERENDUM IN MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON THE QUESTION OF A DEDICATED MILLAGE FOR FUNDING CHILDREN'S SERVICES FOR ABUSED, NEGLECTED, AT-RISK AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN BY THE IMPOSITION OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX OF NOT LESS THAN ONE-TWENTIETH (1/20) OF A MILLAGE POINT FOR 1991, INCREASING ANNUALLY TO ONE-THIRD (1/3) OF A MILLAGE POINT IN 1995 AND THEREAFTER; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION OF AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX UPON APPROVAL BY QUALIFIED ELECTORS, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Manatee County has identified a crisis resulting from the erosion of State and Federal funding allocated to programs and services for children of low income families or who are otherwise abused, neglected or at risk; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida (the "Board"), finds it necessary for the health, welfare and safety of the residents of the County to create and fund the development and operation of continuing programs for the prevention and treatment of Manatee County's neglected, abused or at-risk children and to provide essential and necessary programs to serve children of low income families, and contemplates in connection therewith, the funding of such programs with ad valorem property taxes of not less than one-twentieth (1/20) of a millage point in 1991, increasing annually to one-third (1/3) of a millage point in 1995 and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable to call and to hold a referendum submitting the question of establishing a dedicated ad valorem property tax millage to the approval or disapproval of the residents who are qualified electors and reside within the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. REFERENDUM ELECTION: That a special referendum is hereby ordered to be held in Manatee County, Florida, on November 6, 1990, to determine whether Manatee County shall fund, develop and provide for the operation of continuing programs for the prevention and treatment of Manatee County's neglected, abused or at-risk children and to provide essential

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and necessary programs to serve economically disadvantaged children, to be funded by an ad valorem property tax of not less than one-twentieth (1/20) of a millage point for 1991 and increasing annually to one-third (1/3) of a millage point by 1995 and thereafter.

Section 2. DEDICATED MILLAGE FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

Upon approval of the referendum by the qualified electors of the County as specified in Section 1 hereof, the County shall dedicate an ad valorem property tax to funding children's services beginning with fiscal year 1991-1992 in an amount of not less than one-twentieth (1/20) of a millage point and increasing annually to one-third (1/3) of a millage point by 1995 and thereafter. Because the 1990-1991 Manatee County Budget has been established and approved, any ad valorem tax increase shall be applicable to the 1991-1992 Budget. The Board may fund the Children's Services during the 1991 calendar year and reimburse any expenditures from the increased ad valorem tax in the subsequent year.

Section 3. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES:

The dedicated millage shall not replace or supplant existing County or charitable funding and may be expended only for funding additional programs and services for children, and in particular, early childhood intervention programs, which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- A. To provide and maintain in Manatee County such guidance, psychological, or psychiatric clinics for juveniles as the Board determines are needed for the general welfare of Manatee County.
- B. To provide for the care of dependent juveniles and to provide such other services for all juveniles as the Board determines are needed for the general welfare of Manatee County.
- C. To allocate and provide funds for other agencies in Manatee County which are operated for the benefit of juveniles, provided they are not under the exclusive jurisdiction of the public school system.
- D. To collect information and statistical data which will be helpful to the Board in deciding the needs of juveniles in Manatee County.
- E. To lease such real estate and lease or purchase such equipment and personal property as are needed to execute the foregoing programs and services.

- F. To employ and pay, on a part-time or full-time basis, personnel needed to execute the foregoing programs and services.

An eleven (11) member Children's Services Advisory Board shall be established by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County. To the extent possible, the Children's Services Advisory Board shall be comprised of (a) a physician, preferably a pediatrician; (b) a licensed mental health professional; (c) a member of the NAACP; (d) three (3) child advocates who are not affiliated with any agency receiving County funds; (e) one (1) criminal justice representative; (f) one (1) school board member; (g) one (1) representative from Health and Rehabilitative Services; (h) one (1) representative from United Way of Manatee County and (i) one (1) judge of the Family Law Division. The Children's Services Advisory Board shall have the power and duty to make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the expenditure of the dedicated millage; to consult with agencies dedicated to the welfare of juveniles to the end that the overlapping of services will be prevented; and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Board of County Commissioners.

Section 4. ADVERTISEMENT OF REFERENDUM: The Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ex Officio Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida (the "Clerk"), shall prepare and give notice of the referendum above required by causing a copy of this Resolution, with an appropriate caption, to be published at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week prior to the date of the referendum, in the Bradenton Herald, the first publication to be not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the referendum. The Clerk shall secure from the publisher of the newspaper an appropriate affidavit of proof that the Resolution has been duly published as herein set forth and the affidavit shall be made a part of the record of the Board.

Section 5. FORM OF THE BALLOT: The ballots to be used in the referendum providing for the dedication of a minimum millage for Children's Services shall be substantially in the following form:

REFERENDUM

MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

DEDICATED MILLAGE FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Shall Manatee County fund additional services and programs for abused, neglected, economically disadvantaged or at-risk children by the imposition of an ad valorem tax of not less than one-twentieth (1/20) of a mill in 1991 and increasing annually to one-third (1/3) of a mill in 1995 and thereafter, in accordance with Resolution R 90-169.

_____ For dedicated millage for Children's Services

_____ Against dedicated millage for Children's Services.

Section 6. RETURNS TO BE CANVASSED: The returns of the referendum shall be canvassed in the manner provided by law and said returns shall be certified to the Board, which shall declare the results thereof.

Section 7. SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS: The Supervisor of Elections for Manatee County, Florida, is hereby authorized and requested to have prepared and approved, the proper authority ballots in the form hereinabove described and to make such ballots available for absentee voting.

Section 8. The referendum shall in all other respects be held and conducted in the manner provided in and by the laws of the State of Florida.

Section 9. This Resolution shall take effect in the manner provided by law.

ADOPTED, WITH A QUORUM PRESENT AND VOTING, this, the 13th day of September, 1990.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____

Chairman

ATTEST: R. B. SHORE

Clerk of the Circuit Court