

RESOLUTION 95-5

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 409, FLORIDA STATUTES, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PROPOSED BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION; PROVIDING FOR OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT; PROVIDING FOR A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF MEDICAID BILLING BE CONTINUED; PROVIDING FOR A RECOMMENDATION THAT EXISTING PENALTIES FOR NONPAYMENT BE ENFORCED; PROVIDING FOR A RECOMMENDATION THAT NO AMENDMENT BE MADE TO SECTION 409.915, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFIED COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 409, Florida Statutes, Social and Economic Assistance, Section 409.915, County Contributions to Medicaid, provides that the State of Florida shall charge the several counties for certain items of care and service provided to county residents pursuant to the State Medicaid program; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 409.915(1), Florida Statutes, provides that each county shall make payment to the State for Medicaid assistance made for inpatient hospitalization of certain county residents in excess of twelve (12) days, but not in excess of forty-five (45) days; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 409.915(1)(b), Florida Statutes, provides that the counties shall additionally make payments to the State for nursing home or intermediate facilities care provided to eligible county residents; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 409.915(4), Florida Statutes, requires that each county shall pay into the State General Revenue fund its pro-rata share of total county Medicaid program participation based upon statements rendered by the State in consultation with the counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agency for Health Care Administration is now recommending amendments to Section 409.915, Florida Statutes, which, if enacted, would provide that each county shall pay to the State an annual Medicaid program assessment which shall be increased or decreased each year as certified by the Agency for Health Care Administration, up to a limit of fifteen percent (15%) annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the said assessment shall be based upon estimates, and not upon actual Medicaid related expenses incurred by county residents; and

**WHEREAS**, an allowance of an annual fifteen percent (15%) increase may more than double a county's Medicaid expenditures within a five (5) year period; and

**WHEREAS**, the said estimated annual percentage increase may result in the several counties paying a larger proportion of Medicaid costs than the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the present system of itemized monthly Medicaid billing pursuant to the now existing Section 409.915, Florida Statutes, is the only means available to the several counties for verifying Medicaid charges to be aid by the counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the amendments proposed by the Agency for Health Care Administration shall eliminate the counties' only means of verifying the accuracy of Medicaid charges;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, that:

**Section 1. Opposition to Section 409,915 Amendments.** The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, opposes the legislation proposed by the Agency for Health Care Administration which shall require the counties to pay annual estimated assessments for Medicaid services.

**Section 2. Continue Itemized Monthly Billings.** The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, recommends that the Agency for Health Care Administration be required to continue forwarding to the several counties itemized Medicaid billing statements pursuant to Section 409.915, Florida Statutes.

**Section 3. Implement Penalties.** The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, recommends that the existing penalties authorized by Chapter 409, Florida Statutes, be enforced as to counties which are not in compliance with statutory Medicaid reimbursement requirements.


**Section 4. Existing Law to Remain.** The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, recommends that no amendment be made to the current Section 409.915, Florida Statutes.

**Section 5. Certified Copies.** The Recording Secretary is hereby directed to provide certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the member of the St. Johns County Legislative Delegation, the Director of Health Care Administration, and the Deputy Director for State Health Purchasing.

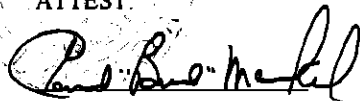
**Section 6. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1995.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By:   
Barbara Ward, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Carl "Bud" Markel  
Clerk of the Courts