

1 **NYSAC 2021 Fall Seminar**
2 **Standing Committee on Children with Special Needs**
3 **Resolution #2**

4
5 **Resolution Urging the Governor and State Legislature to Adjust the Early**
6 **Intervention Rate Structure to Improve Access to these Services for**
7 **Children Who Live in Poverty and/or in Rural Areas**

8 **WHEREAS**, the structure of the Early Intervention rate methodology promotes
9 inequitable availability of Early Intervention services in New York City and New York
10 State; and

11 **WHEREAS**, because Early Intervention rates are set for entire counties, and there are
12 no requirements in the New York State Early Intervention Provider Agreement for
13 providers to serve the entire county that they have identified in their catchment area,
14 providers are free to choose which neighborhoods to provide Early Intervention services
15 in; and

16 **WHEREAS**, since the rates are flat across each county, there is no incentive for
17 providers to serve children in poverty, children who live in rural areas, or communities
18 of color; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the current structure of the Early Intervention methodology
20 promotes unequal availability of Early Intervention services in New York City and New
21 York State.

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
23 Counties calls on the Governor and State Legislature to allocate State funding for a
24 ten percent rate increase for services provided to children in census tracts where the
25 percentage of the population below poverty is 20 percent or higher; and in areas that
26 require service providers to travel excessive amounts of time as identified by greater
27 than 30 minutes in between provider sessions to provide services for children; and

28 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, any provider rate increase will be administered using
29 State funding to ensure localities are not subject to additional EI program expenses;
30 and

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, copies of this resolution be sent to the counties of
32 New York encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of Counties shall
34 forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State
35 Legislature and all others deemed necessary and proper.