

1 **NYSAC 2021 Legislative Conference**  
2 **Standing Committee on Children with Special Health Care Needs**  
3 **Resolution #1**

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

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

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

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

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

20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of  
21 Counties calls on the Governor and State Legislature to allocate State funding for a 5  
22 percent rate increase for services provided to children in census tracts where the  
23 percentage of the population below poverty is 20 percent or higher; and in areas that  
24 require service providers to travel excessive amounts of time as identified by greater  
25 than 30 minutes in between provider sessions to provide services for children; and

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

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

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of Counties shall  
31 forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State  
32 Legislature and all others deemed necessary and proper.