

1 **2020 NYSAC Legislative Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Children with Special Health Care Needs**
3 **Resolution # 4**

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 across the state; and

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

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

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of
18 Counties calls on the Governor and State Legislature to allocate State funding for a 10%
19 rate increase for services provided to children in zip codes where the percentage of the
20 population below poverty is 15% or higher; and in rural areas; and

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

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

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