

1 **2022 NYSAC Fall Seminar**  
2 **Standing Committee on Children with Special Health Care Needs**  
3 **Resolution #5**

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5 **Resolution Urging the Governor and State Legislature to Increase County**  
6 **Reimbursement for Early Intervention Transportation Services**

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8 **WHEREAS**, counties are responsible for ensuring that services developed in  
9 Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP) are delivered to children in the Early  
10 Intervention Program (EIP), respectively, including transportation to these services, as  
11 needed; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, counties either contract with third-party transportation vendors or  
14 reimburse parents at the standard IRS mileage rate to transport children in the EIP to  
15 and from necessary services; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, counties are fiscally responsible for the costs of transportation to and  
18 from Early Intervention (EI) services for non-Medicaid eligible children beyond the New  
19 York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) reimbursement rate at 49 percent of cost;  
20 and

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22 **WHEREAS**, under State Plan Amendment 18-0029, as of Fall 2022, EI reimbursement  
23 methodology will be switching to a fee-for-service model with a set EI Transportation  
24 Rate; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, after this switch, the NYSDOH will only reimburse county EI  
27 transportation costs at 49 percent of the set rate, rather than at 49 percent of actual  
28 transportation costs paid out of County escrow; and

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30 **WHEREAS**, this change is expected to increase costs to counties and local taxpayers  
31 for EI transportation services, while reducing the State's costs for EI transportation; and

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33 **WHEREAS**, many counties expect this change to increase their upfront transportation  
34 costs paid out of the County Escrow and reduce the State reimbursement share for EI  
35 transportation services; and

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37 **WHEREAS**, transportation to and from EI services consume a large and growing  
38 percentage of local public health budgets, with average total, annual transportation  
39 costs per county of \$92,932, for EI from the previous fiscal year; and

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41 **WHEREAS**, across counties the average total, annual transportation costs per child  
42 were \$4,013 in the EIP in Fiscal Year 2021, a 16 percent increase from the previous  
43 fiscal year; and

1 **WHEREAS**, many counties, particularly in rural areas of the state, only have one,  
2 third-party transportation vendor available to provide transportation services, allowing  
3 these transportation providers a monopoly to increase their rates.

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5 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of  
6 Counties (NYSAC) calls on the Governor and the New York State Legislature to increase  
7 the State reimbursement rate for EI transportation services; and  
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9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the NYSDOH continue to reimburse counties  
10 based on actual, incurred transportation costs, rather than at a pre-set rate that does not  
11 accurately reflect true costs of EI transportation services; and  
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13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties  
14 of New York encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and  
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16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that New York State Association of Counties shall  
17 forward copies of this resolution to the Governor of the State of New York, the New York  
18 State Legislature and all others deemed necessary and proper.