

RESOLUTION 86-49

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUING OF GENERAL REVENUE SHARING.

WHEREAS, over the last five years, the federal government has reduced domestic expenditures to state and local governments by 25%, while during the same period overall expenditures have increased by 25%; and

WHEREAS, budget proposal currently before Congress proposes another reduction to state/local revenues of \$14.5 billion with a proposed defense increase of \$16 plus billion; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has called for the total elimination of the Federal Financial Assistance Act of 1972 (General Revenue Sharing), the only federal program which assures a domestic partnership with each county in the state and country; and

WHEREAS, past Federal domestic reductions have carried the assurance that they were being accomplished for the sake of deficit reduction while, in fact, the dollars were shifted to other expenditure categories in defense and foreign aid; and

WHEREAS, at the same time that the Federal government reduced domestic spending, defense spending increased and also Federal taxes were reduced, thus further increasing the deficit; and

WHEREAS, another tax reform proposal before Congress today proposes to eliminate tax deduction for state and local taxes and eliminate the tax exempt status of public bonds. The revenue produced by this action, roughly \$50 billion, would be used to reduce taxes for other taxpayers rather than reduce the deficit; and

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Board of Commissioners, along with our counterparts from around the country, are seriously

concerned about a maintenance of congressional commitment to the domestic partnership; and

WHEREAS, the single best way to maintain that partnership is through the single most efficient mechanism available, that is General Revenue Sharing; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County Board of Commissioners thinks that deficit reduction is the number one target of the Federal government and that reduction of spending will continue to be necessary while revenue increases may also be necessary; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County Board of Commissioners is committed to continue to work with Congress to insure that those reductions will not place undue hardship on any single sector or program and that such reductions should be felt by all categories of Federal expenditure;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Nassau County Board of Commissioners urges the Florida Congressional Delegation to cease attacking the Federal deficit solely by reductions in domestic spending and to promptly address this national issue in a spirit of fairness by asking all portions of the Federal budget across the board to share the burden of further reductions in Federal spending; and

The Nassau County Board of Commissioners strongly urges each member of the Florida Congressional Delegation to commit to a continued domestic partnership. In addition, it must support the continuation of the program which has proven to be one which accomplishes the domestic goals of both Congress and counties, that is General Revenue Sharing; and

We pledge to continue to work with Congress and others toward a balanced Federal budget. We have already significantly increased taxes and avoided other needed programs and services.

We are, however, opposed to accomplishing the Federal deficit reduction goal by a technique which requires the majority of the spending reductions to come from the domestic side alone of the federal budget.

ADOPTED this 20th day of May, 1986.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

Attest: _____
T.J. Greeson
Its: Ex-officio Clerk

By: James E. Testone
James E. Testone
Its: Chairman