

~~APR 07 1992~~ *ad/bds*

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
2 COMMISSIONERS, ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
3 CONCERNING THE SELECTION OF THE
4 CROWNTREE LAKES SITE IN EAST ORANGE
5 COUNTY AS THE SITE FOR THE DEPARTMENT
6 OF VETERANS AFFAIRS NEW EAST CENTRAL
7 FLORIDA MEDICAL CENTER

8 WHEREAS, the needs of Central Florida's 284,000 veterans from
9 over seven counties for access to hospital, nursing home and improved
10 outpatient clinic services have been well documented; and

11 WHEREAS, the needs of Central Florida veterans were fully
12 recognized on March 31, 1992 when Secretary of the Department of
13 Veterans Affairs, Edward J. Derwinski, selected the 75.8 acre Crowntree
14 Lakes site in east Orange County as the location for a 470-bed Veterans
15 Hospital, a 120-bed nursing home and other ancillary facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs East Central Florida
17 Medical Center will be a valuable addition to our growing commitment to
18 excellence in medical services; and

19 WHEREAS, the Veterans Hospital will be a major construction
20 project with an estimated value of over 170 million dollars plus over 47
21 million dollars in initial start-up costs, which will provide
22 considerable employment opportunities locally; and

23 WHEREAS, the opening of the Veterans Hospital will create
24 approximately 2,000 new jobs in Orange County and would make this
25 facility among the top twenty employers in the County as well as the
26 largest new employer to locate in Orange County in the last fifteen
27 years; and

28 WHEREAS, this continuing direct and indirect economic benefit to
29 the economy of Central Florida has been estimated to be between 160 and
30 200 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the site of the hospital represents a true
public/private partnership between the U.S. Department of Veterans
Affairs, Orange County and private property owners who will donate not
only the 75.8 acre hospital site and much of the road right of way to
provide hospital access but also a twelve acre outpatient and nursing
home site in Brevard County; and

WHEREAS, as the selection process actively involved officials of
Orange County, the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and
numerous individuals within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County
Commissioners of Orange County, Florida wishes to thank U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs Secretary Edward J. Derwinski for his commitment to
the veterans of Central Florida by designating the Crowntree Lakes site
as the new home of the East Central Florida Medical Center.

The Board further acknowledges and expresses its appreciation to
the veterans of Central Florida for their tireless efforts in supporting
and lobbying for this much needed veterans hospital facility.

The Board additionally desires to acknowledge the cooperation of
our U.S. Representatives and Senators in procuring this site designation
within Orange County, but wishes to specifically acknowledge the major
effort expended by U.S. Representative Bill McCollum on behalf of the