## FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES, INC. POLICY

Subject: National Association of Counties (NACo) Matters.

Objective: To establish a policy and procedures for supporting or endorsing

candidates for NACo office who are not Florida county commissioners

Association endorsement of or support for candidates for NACo Office who are not Florida county commissioners will only be considered in the event that a Florida commissioner has not received the Association's endorsement for the same office prior to the FAC Annual Conference immediately preceding the NACo conference at which the NACo election is to be held.

**Presentations:** Regardless of whether FAC has endorsed a candidate, all announced candidates for NACo office will be invited to make presentations during the business meeting at the FAC Annual Conference.

Before the FAC Annual Conference, the FAC Executive Director will survey all Florida NACo member counties, requesting them to identify federal issues of importance to their county. The FAC Executive Director and Florida NACo Board members will review the survey results and choose no more than three of greatest importance. The NACo candidates will be asked to address those issues in their presentation at the FAC Annual Business Meeting.

**Straw Poll:** At the conclusion of the NACo candidate presentation(s), and if a majority of the NACo member county commissioners call for a straw poll, the Florida NACo member counties will conduct such a non-binding straw poll. Participation in the straw poll shall be restricted to NACo member counties attending the FAC Annual Business meeting. Voting shall be by popular vote or weighted vote or as otherwise determined in the FAC Bylaws. The results of the poll shall not be an endorsement and do not bind FAC nor any Florida NACo member county to the results.

**Caucus:** In the event that a caucus and vote are to be held, it will be a closed caucus of NACo member Florida counties, held during the NACo Annual Conference. During that caucus, debate and discussion of the merits of the candidates for office and their platforms will be allowed. Consideration will be given to the straw poll results but they are not binding.

At the conclusion of the discussion during the caucus the presiding officer will call for a vote regarding which candidate or candidates to support. A candidate must receive the support of at least 75 percent of the Florida voting delegates in order to receive FAC's endorsement. A voting delegate is the person authorized by his or her county on the NACo Credentials ID Form and who is authorized to pick up and cast votes on behalf of his or her county or the person who has possession of his or her county's credentials.

Teresa Jacobs

President

As approved by the Board of Directors this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007.