SENATE RESOLUTION: 24007

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COMMITTEE: Student Life

DATE: September 14, 1987

A SENATE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON BOARD OF REGENTS TO CONTINUE THE PRESENT OPERATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CHILD CARE CENTER

WHEREAS: The University of Houston Child Care Center provides an appropriate,

developmentally based learning environment; and

WHEREAS: The University of Houston Child Care Center is used for a model for

other universities as evidenced by requests for information from

Texas A&M, UT, Rice, University of Alabama, and others; and

WHEREAS: The University of Houston Child Care Center is self supporting with

Student Service Fee funds going to subsidize a small portion of

student parent costs to allow student parents a lower rate than staff

and faculty parents; and

WHEREAS: The University of Houston Child Care Center provides an observation

facility for many students in among others the College of Education,

the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, the College of Social

Sciences, and the College of Optometry; and

WHEREAS: The University of Houston Child Care Center is an important and

valuable resource to the University and university community

enhancing student life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Board of Regents continue the present operation of the Child

Care Center without further discussion of a change in operating

management.

Faculty Senate 4800 Calhoun Road Houston, Texas 77004 713.749.2817

RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE

September 16, 1987

The present relationship between the UH Child Care Center and the University of Houston should be maintained. While the Faculty Senate approves of the plan to expand the Child Care Center, in order better to serve the university community, we believe that any plan to expand the facility should not be coupled with any scheme for turning the center over to an outside childcare business.

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BACKGROUND. A child care business has apparently approached a member of the UH System Board of Regents about the prospect of taking over the Child Care Center on our campus.

The Child Care Center is not involved only with babysitting. Educational concerns are viewed in the Center as equal in importance to basic child care. There is a curriculum, and at least four colleges from our university use the Center as an observation facility.

While the costs to parents for the services of the Center may be above the costs sometimes charged in private child-care businesses, the superiority of the Center over the ordinary babysitting enterprises seems to be generally recognized and appreciated by those faculty, students, and staff who are parents of the children cared for in the Center.

The Center is strongly supported by a parents' advisory committee, by an active fundraising organization, by the Students' Association, and by the Student Service Fee Committee.

Outside the System Board of Regents there appears to be firm sentiment for maintaining the Center in its present form, but with the planned addition of more space to accomodate many of the parents now on a waiting list. On the other hand, there has not surfaced any discernable desire in the university community for turning over the facility to the likes of La Petite Academy or Toddler House. There is no shortage of the latter sort of enterprise available to those desiring it.

RESOLUTION. The Child Care Center of the University of Houston should remain in its current status with regard to organization, operation, and funding, and should not be rented out to an outside child care business.