

WHEREAS, officials of the government of the District of Columbia have proposed that a "reciprocal income tax" be levied on the commuters and other non-residents who earn their living in the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, this reciprocal income tax would adversely affect 280,000 suburban residents; and

WHEREAS, the revenue needs of the City of Alexandria are as acute as those facing the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, while the District Government would obtain 51.6 million dollars in additional revenue under this arrangement, the State of Virginia would lose 17 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, this loss of revenue could reduce the State of Virginia's ability to provide local and State services to its citizens in such vital areas as education, health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, such a tax is unfair since the District of Columbia now receives direct financial support from the Federal government; and

WHEREAS, residents of Virginia already pay sales and other taxes on purchases made in the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, residents of Virginia and all other American taxpayers already rightfully support the District of Columbia through Federal taxes; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alexandria recognizes that the District of Columbia, like most American cities, is in desperate need of additional revenues to meet the pressing and legitimate needs of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the primary responsibility for the plight of the District of Columbia rests with the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, the unique character of the District of Columbia as a federal city, governed in most major respects by the Congress of the United States, mandates that its revenue needs be met, to the extent that they cannot be met locally, by the taxpayers of the United States as a whole and not by taxpayers of Maryland and Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia:

1. That the City Council of the City of Alexandria on behalf of its citizens, joins other jurisdictions in Virginia and Maryland in urging the House District Committee to oppose the District Government's reciprocal income tax.

2. That the City Council of the City of Alexandria on behalf of its citizens urges its representatives in Congress and the members of its delegation to the Virginia General Assembly to join in opposing this commuter tax plan and, in lieu thereof, to support a higher federal payment, or other appropriate relief, to meet the pressing revenue needs of the District of Columbia.

3. That copies of this resolution be forwarded immediately to the Chairman of the House District Committee, Senator Byrd, Senator Spong, Representative Broyhill, and the members of our delegation to the Virginia General Assembly.

Adopted February 23, 1971.

  
Mrs. Helen Vickers, City Clerk