

RESOLUTION NO. 603

WHEREAS, the issue of solid waste management has become increasingly important in recent years, and will continue to grow in importance; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that strong State-wide leadership be provided in addressing this issue, which is beyond the scope of individual local governing bodies; and

WHEREAS, the failure of the State Health Department, which presently is responsible for solid waste management, to provide this leadership has precipitated the introduction of legislation which proposes to create a Division of Solid Waste Management under the Secretary of Commerce and Resources (Senate Bill No. 83); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to evaluate this proposed organizational change in the context of the public health interest in solid waste management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, opposes Senate Bill No. 83, for the following reasons and under the following conditions:

(1) Solid waste management will continue to be a public health issue, thus the creation of a separate agency for this purpose would result in duplication of efforts.

(2) The local Health Department functions as an arm of the State Health Department, and can interact with that agency on behalf of the local jurisdiction on rules, regulations and other local solid waste management issues; there would be no local representation for the Secretary of Commerce and Resources.

(3) The State Health Department must increase the organizational stature of its solid waste management activities, providing it with the top level management within the Department which is essential to address the current issues.

(4) If the State Health Department does not provide the necessary leadership, Senate Bill No. 83 should be re-introduced in the 1979 General Assembly.

FURTHER RESOLVED that this position be transmitted to the City's State Delegation to the General Assembly.

Adopted February 18, 1978

Mrs. Helen Holloman, Clerk of the
City of Alexandria, Virginia