

RESOLUTION NO. 378

WHEREAS, the nation has plunged into a recession of crisis proportions which threatens to deepen dramatically; and

WHEREAS, both the Administration and the Congress have accepted massive Federal economic stimulus, through tax cuts and greater spending, as the best road to economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, the cities are suffering from losses in tax revenues while costs for vital public services continue to rise sharply; and

WHEREAS, the resulting need to increase municipal real property taxes, to increase municipal personal property taxes and to increase municipal sales taxes would take away a significant portion of the Federal economic stimulus from all taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the spiraling cost of energy has placed an incalculable burden on city governments to maintain public buildings, public transportation and all other forms of public service requiring the use of vehicles -- such as police cars, sanitation trucks, fire engines, and ambulances -- and energy-related products -- such as asphalt and plastics;

WHEREAS, it would be counter-productive for the Federal government to grant individual income tax cuts and, at the same time, to give local governments no choice but to raise taxes on the same citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council urgently requests the Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr., the Honorable William Scott and the Honorable Herbert E. Harris to exert every effort to attain Congressional approval of a seven to ten billion dollar, one-time grant to cities to help them meet their pressing obligations to their residents, to compensate them for the sudden past and expected inflationary rise in energy costs, and to support the Federal strategy of providing a counter-cyclical thrust to the national economy.

Adopted March 25, 1975

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Helen Vickers, Clerk of the City  
of Alexandria, Virginia