

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Department of Education proposes to place a ceiling on the per pupil expenditures by local jurisdictions which would be eligible for State Incentive Aid; and

WHEREAS, Governor Mills E. Godwin has recommended that State Incentive Aid payments be reduced from five percent to three percent, and further that State compensatory aid for remedial reading and mathematics be eliminated entirely; and

WHEREAS, the per pupil expenditure ceiling adversely and disproportionately affects urban jurisdictions, particularly the City of Alexandria and other Northern Virginia communities, which have an extraordinarily high cost of living and therefore must spend a higher dollar amount to obtain an equal quality of education; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's recommendations to reduce State Incentive Aid from five percent to three percent and to completely eliminate compensatory aid for remedial reading and mathematics, coupled with the reduction of funds inherent in the per pupil ceiling, will compound an already critical financial situation facing local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, manifold efforts by local jurisdictions to expand and diversify local taxing powers have been frequently rejected by the State, thereby restricting the ability of local jurisdictions to maintain existing levels of services in the face of high inflation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, strongly opposes the State Department of Education's \$1,000 per pupil ceiling, any percentage reduction in State Incentive Aid to local jurisdictions, and the elimination of compensatory aid for remedial reading and mathematics.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council calls upon Northern Virginia jurisdictions and other Virginia communities to join in an effort to have State aid to local jurisdictions not only restored to prior levels but increased, to the extent possible, to reflect a highly inflationary economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges the State Department of Education and Governor Mills E. Godwin to reconsider any proposals which would place additional financial burdens upon local jurisdictions.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the City Council requests the Northern Virginia Delegation to General Assembly to undertake maximum efforts to achieve full restoration of State Incentive Aid and compensatory aid for education in the Biennium Budget.

Adopted February 24, 1976

Helen Holleman, Clerk of the
City of Alexandria, Virginia