

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS FOR THE 2010 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WHEREAS, Fauquier County has a variety of issues and interests which require legislative action by the Virginia General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) has requested submission of such legislative proposals for consideration in the 2010 VACo Legislative Program; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, the Board of Supervisors may revise its Legislative Program to include additional legislative priorities and issues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Fauquier County Board of Supervisors this 8th day of October 2009, That the Board of Supervisors' 2010 Legislative Program be, and is hereby, adopted as follows:

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES:

Education Funding

- ✓ Fauquier County supports fair-share State funding for public education to include the full funding of the Standards of Quality.
- ✓ Fauquier County encourages recognition by the Commonwealth that its current policy of using full assessed value in the calculation of the Composite Index penalizes localities that employ land use valuation, and is inconsistent with its land preservation goals and policies.
- ✓ Fauquier County seeks the establishment of an appeals process for local governments to challenge the computation of their Composite Indexes.
- ✓ Fauquier County seeks continued and increased State funding to assist localities with school-related capital costs.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports continued implementation of Cost-of-Competing funding.

Unfunded Mandates

- ✓ Fauquier County strongly opposes the continued imposition of unfunded State mandates upon local governments—particularly in the areas of the Standards of Quality, teacher salaries, increases in the local share of road maintenance, State and Federally-imposed environmental mandates and costs related to the Comprehensive Services Act.

Local Government Revenue, Land Use and Zoning Authority

- ✓ As a general policy position, Fauquier County opposes any measure that would eliminate or reduce any local government zoning, land use or revenue authority.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports the Commonwealth granting counties and cities the option, by action of the local governing body without a referendum, to adopt 0.5 percent sales and use tax to offset state budget reductions to localities.
- ✓ Fauquier County strongly supports equal taxing authority for cities and counties.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports the position of the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association on SB768. The County believes that local governing bodies are in the best position to determine which tools will work most effectively for each situation they face.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports the creation of fair and equitable impact fee legislation allowing localities to implement cash proffers and impact fees simultaneously, with provisions that give full credit for cash proffers agreed to in the rezoning process to any same-facility impact fee adopted by a locality.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports an expansion of local government taxing authority—particularly to generate revenue to fund necessary capital projects and infrastructure.

Purchase of Development Rights and Conservation

- ✓ Fauquier County supports increased State funding for the purchase of conservation easements and other land conservation needs.

Water Resources

- ✓ Fauquier County supports a comprehensive, State-funded study of the Commonwealth's surface and groundwater resources.

Libraries

- ✓ Level Funding for State Aid: Fauquier County opposes any reduction in State aid to public libraries beyond across-the-board cuts proposed by Governor Tim Kaine. In FY 2009, State aid was funded at 67% of the level mandated by the *Code of Virginia*. Any additional cuts in State aid to public libraries represents a serious threat to a program, which the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) found in 2001 to be effective in leveraging local spending and achieving cost efficiencies.
- ✓ New Approaches to Fund Find It Virginia: Fauquier County supports the development of a partnership between local public libraries, K-12 public schools, and the Commonwealth of Virginia to adequately fund the *Find It Virginia* electronic databases. The Federal funds currently used to support this important program are

losing their buying power as prices from publishers increase. New approaches need to be developed to infuse State funding into this important and cost-saving program.

Transportation Priorities

- ✓ Fauquier County encourages the Commonwealth to address the annual shortfall of road maintenance funding, which continues to negatively effect capital funding for secondary roads and streets.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports adjustments to the formula for distribution of road construction funding statewide to reflect the disproportionate burden on faster-growing areas.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports continued, adequate funding for the Revenue Sharing Program.
- ✓ Fauquier County supports State funding for the following top three transportation priorities:
 - a. Completion of design work for the ultimate intersection at Route 215 and Routes 15/29.
 - b. Spot safety adjustments and intersection improvements (including turn lanes and signalization) in the corridor between Route 15/29 and the Prince William County border.
 - c. Construction of the Opal Interchange at Routes 15/29/17.

A Copy Teste

*Paul S. McCulla
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors*