



# **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**

AT THE  
**69<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF MAYORS**  
**Detroit, MI - June 22-26, 2001**

## **URBAN ECONOMIC POLICY**

- Supporting the Benefits of Waste-to-Energy and Landfill Gas as Clean, Renewable Energy and Eligible for Tax Credits
- Historic Homeownership Tax Credits
- Expansion and Simplification of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Urging the U.S. Department of Commerce to Immediately Make Public Its Plans for Assuring That All Individuals Are Counted in the 2000 Census
- Resolution to Support Adoption of H.R. 2207 - A Bill Intended to Increase Investment in Water and Wastewater Supply Infrastructure

## **TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- Resolution on Airport Capacity
- Railroad Grade Crossings
- Closing the Digital Divide in Technology
  - Establishment of a Mayors' National Community Technology Center Advisory Board
- Resolution to Promote Advanced Technology Vehicles
- National Rail Policy
- National Pedestrian Safety Partnership Initiative

## **JOBS, EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce and the Need for National  
Workforce Policy

In Support of Increased Funding  
for the Employment and Training Administration  
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Supporting High Quality After-School and Out-of-School  
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## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

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Designating Monday, September 24, 2001,  
As National Eat-Dinner-With-Your Children Day  
AIDS in the United States and Around the World  
Calling upon the United States Congress to  
Proclaim May 2002, and All Mays Henceforth,  
as National Foster Care Awareness Month  
Food Stamp Program – Reauthorization 2002  
Early Childhood Education  
Expansion and Simplification of the Earned  
Income Tax Credit (EITC)  
Children's Mental Health

## **ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

Endorsement of Earth Charter  
Supporting the Benefits of Waste-to-Energy and  
Landfill Gas as Clean, Renewable Energy and Eligible for Tax Credits  
National Electricity Markets  
National Energy Policy  
Resolution to Promote Advanced Technology Vehicles  
Promoting the Preservation of Urban-Influenced Farmland  
Resolution on Capital Cost Savings and Competition in  
Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investments

Resolution to Support Adoption of H.R. 2207 - A Bill Intended to Increase Investment  
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Weapons of Mass Destruction Preparedness and  
Mayors as "First Responders"  
A Comprehensive National Substance Abuse Strategy  
Deserved Recognition of Doris Miller

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING**

Community Development Block Grant Program  
Celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
HOME Investment Partnerships Program  
Comprehensive Federal Plan for America's Homeless  
Lead-Based Paint Abatement in Federally-Assisted Housing  
Full Funding for Public Housing Program  
Disaster Assistance  
Promoting the Preservation of Urban-Influenced Farmland  
Keeping the Dream Alive: Making Affordable Housing a National  
Priority

### **ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Conservation and Reinvestment Act  
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Public Awareness Campaign for Arts Education  
National Arts and Humanities Month  
Economic Impact Study of the Nonprofit Arts Industry  
Runaway Film Production  
Arts Education Through the U.S. Department of Education

### **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Local-Federal Partnership on Law Enforcement/Public Safety  
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Recognition of Detroit Mayor Dennis W. Archer  
Recognition of Boise Mayor H. Brent Coles

# URBAN ECONOMIC POLICY

## SUPPORTING THE BENEFITS OF WASTE-TO-ENERGY AND LANDFILL GAS AS CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ELIGIBLE FOR TAX CREDITS

**WHEREAS**, many municipalities and local communities have adopted an integrated waste management approach that includes biomass and gasification facilities such as waste-to-energy and landfill gas recovery projects that generate clean, renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, local communities provide for a wide range of waste management and related environmental programs, including residential and commercial collections; source-separated recycling; environmental education; litter and illegal dumping clean-up; site remediation and household hazardous waste collections; and

**WHEREAS**, renewable energy sources provide a number of benefits, including reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, while increasing fuel diversity; reducing greenhouse gas emissions to provide for a clean environment; as well as the utilization of non-fossil natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, some communities share in the energy revenues generated from the sale of electricity from these biomass and gasification facilities that help defray the cost of many of the waste management and environmental programs required by local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government has long held that waste-to energy and landfill gas recovery projects are included in the renewable definition of biomass;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports all federal legislation that promotes the benefits of renewable energy such as waste-to-energy gasification and landfill gas recovery projects; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports federal legislation that also provides for production and investment credits for local entities and production tax credits for all forms of biomass and gasification technologies including waste-to-energy and landfill gas recovery projects; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges federal lawmakers to ensure that any legislation that promotes renewable energy or provides for production tax credits and refundable production credits include provisions to expand the biomass definition to include all forms of biomass and gasification energy.

## HISTORIC HOMEOWNERSHIP TAX CREDITS

**WHEREAS**, Representatives Clay Shaw and John Lewis have reintroduced the Historic Homeownership Assistance Act (HR 1172) in the United States House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, similar legislation enjoyed broad bipartisan support last year in the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation would provide a 20 percent tax credit to a homeowner against the homeowner's federal income taxes for rehabilitation expenses up to \$40,000 on a primary residence that is located in a federal, state or local historic district; and

**WHEREAS**, it would benefit moderate-income taxpayers by allowing the credit to be claimed in the form of a mortgage credit transferred to a bank or lender to reduce mortgage interest rates for those taxpayers without adequate tax liability to claim the credit; and

**WHEREAS**, it would not allow the credit to be claimed for the cost of expanding a house; and

**WHEREAS**, it would allow for relaxed historic rehabilitation standards in distressed neighborhoods if the condition of the property or the neighborhood warranted such a relaxation; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Trust for Historic Preservation estimates that the United States has 11,436 historic districts with 870,112 historic buildings, including 3,747 historic districts with 505,739 historic buildings that are located in census tracts with 20 percent or more poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, the vast majority of these historic districts and buildings are located in cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Historic Homeownership Assistance Act would encourage the revitalization of historic urban neighborhoods, make city neighborhoods more attractive for many homebuyers, boost community development efforts, and increase the availability of affordable housing,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the Historic Homeownership Assistance Act and urges Congress and President to enact it expeditiously.

## **EXPANSION AND SIMPLIFICATION OF THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)**

**WHEREAS**, the EITC is designed to reward employment for low income families struggling toward self sufficiency and to reduce poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, low income working families may be eligible for an EITC cash refund of over \$3800 per year with the average EITC refund of \$1500; and

**WHEREAS**, the EITC has been proven effective with the most recent data showing 19.2 million low income tax payers claiming \$31 billion in credits, \$26 billion of which was refunded in cash up from \$7.5 billion in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, if all low income working families who are eligible for the EITC were to apply for it, an additional \$30 billion could be pumped into our national economy; and

**WHEREAS**, EITC cash refunds do not only benefit low income working families but also provide a significant economic development boost in our cities because recipients spend their refunds in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a recent survey, as many as 20% of eligible low income working families do not take advantage of the EITC either because they are not aware that they are eligible or the filing process is too complicated; and

**WHEREAS**, aggressive outreach efforts, in conjunction with the IRS, have been demonstrated to be effective in informing families of their eligibility for EITC and increasing the numbers of eligible families who actually apply for the credit and receive the much needed benefit; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts to greatly simplify the EITC, such as the Simplified Family Credit proposal that incorporates the EITC, the Child Tax Credit, the Dependent Exemption and the Additional Child Credit into one easy-to-claim credit, are being reviewed in Congress;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to expand the EITC and provide additional flexibility, and funding, for aggressive outreach efforts in conjunction with the IRS; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to look for ways to significantly simplify the EITC, such as the Simplified Family Credit.

**URGING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO IMMEDIATELY MAKE  
PUBLIC ITS PLANS FOR ASSURING THAT ALL INDIVIDUALS ARE COUNTED  
IN THE 2000 CENSUS**

**WHEREAS**, during the 2000 Census, The U.S. Conference of Mayors and its members played a critical role in seeking public support for the Census; and

**WHEREAS**, the results of the 2000 Census are of critical importance to cities because of their impact on representation, federal and state funding, and city planning; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has historically urged that all efforts be made to reduce and eliminate the historic racial differential that has been identified in the Census for decades - a differential that has resulted in the undercounting of millions of individuals, mostly Black, Hispanic, Asian and American Indians, as well as urban and rural poor, and most importantly, children; and

**WHEREAS**, the Census Bureau did an admirable job of conducting the 2000 Census under difficult conditions and its efforts deserve to be applauded; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors now has growing concerns over the current handling of the Census and the data from the 2000 Census based on recent events; and

**WHEREAS**, the current Administration has not made public how it intends to account for the more than six million individuals - mostly Black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indians, as well as urban and rural poor and most importantly, children who were left out of the 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, this is of tremendous concern to The Conference of Mayors. Four months after the decision on adjustment, the Administration has not developed a plan to resolve the differences between Demographic Analysis and the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (ACE); and

**WHEREAS**, cities need the results of the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation to understand the results of the Census and whether reported growth patterns are the result of actual growth, or the result of better counting in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, with these unresolved questions important to cities around the nation, we are disappointed that the Census Bureau seems unable or unwilling to address our legitimate concerns;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the United State Department of Commerce to immediately:

- Make public its plans for assuring that all individuals residing in the United States are in fact counted in the 2000 Census, including the almost six and half million individuals mostly Black, Hispanic, Asian and American Indians whom the Census Bureau acknowledge are now currently not counted.
- Comply with the Freedom of Information Act, and other statutes that require that the corrected block level data which the Census Bureau has prepared be made available to the public.
- Arrange to meet with representatives of The U.S. Conference of Mayors to discuss our grave concerns.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Senate Commerce and Governmental Affairs Committee to hold hearings on the issues raised in this resolution to ensure that the concerns of The U.S. Conference of Mayors and the cities it represent are addressed, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be sent to Secretary Donald Evans of the U.S. Department of Commerce and to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ADOPTION OF H.R. 2207 - A BILL INTENDED TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN WATER AND WASTEWATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the projected costs for capital improvement and projects in water and wastewater infrastructure are projected to exceed \$1 trillion over the next 20 years in order to comply with the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted policy in the year 2000 in Seattle to seek out innovative ways to help cities finance the construction of new water and wastewater treatment facilities, collection systems and distribution systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urban Water Council has reviewed federal impediments to financing water and wastewater infrastructure including existing environmental and tax policy, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby endorses and urges Members of Congress to support H.R. 2007, which would exempt Private Activity Bonds for water and sewage facilities from the state volume caps in order to increase investment in water and wastewater supply infrastructure.

# TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

## RESOLUTION ON AIRPORT CAPACITY

**WHEREAS**, efficient transportation is a vital factor in furthering business and economic opportunity, quality of life and employment growth; and

**WHEREAS**, communities across the nation are facing serious airport capacity issues with skyrocketing air flight delays and significant financial, scheduling and service consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Federal Aviation Administration, flight delays nationwide increased 58 percent from 1995 to 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, many conditions cause delays ranging from bad weather, inoperable runways and airport capacity limitations to aircraft equipment problems and air traffic equipment outages; and

**WHEREAS**, several cities have embarked on major efforts to address these delays and safety concerns, including studying in-depth alternatives to reduce delays and working closely with federal and regional policy makers, environmental groups, airline officials, pilots, business and community leaders, and other interested parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Transportation is leading an effort to address this issue making it a central challenge of the Department to close the gap between the public demand for efficient transportation and the capacity of our transportation infrastructure to meet this demand; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Transportation has committed resources and is working in concert with local airport authorities to improve passenger and cargo flight efficiency and safety,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Administration and Congress to work closely with cities, airport boards and airport authorities to provide for capacity solutions that help meet current and future air travel demands.

## RAILROAD GRADE CROSSINGS

**WHEREAS**, trains blocking traffic at railroad grade crossings is a longstanding, nationwide problem, with more lives and property at great risk because emergency responders are repeatedly blocked or delayed for critical minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, many communities must utilize railroad grade crossings to provide emergency services to parts of their communities and large sections of some communities are rendered inaccessible to emergency services when trains block railroad grade crossings; and

**WHEREAS**, school children walking to school may be tempted to crawl through stopped trains that are blocking the grade crossing, including the sidewalks, leading to their schools; and

**WHEREAS**, a fire doubles in size every 20 seconds, without resuscitation efforts brain cells begin dying in just 4 to 6 minutes, and in trauma, the goal is the transport of the patient to appropriate hospital resources within the Golden Hour from on-set; and

**WHEREAS**, waiting for a train to pass or detouring around a blocked road can lengthen emergency response times thereby decreasing the chance for a positive outcome; and

**WHEREAS**, there are numerous examples of emergency vehicles being blocked by trains, including the following:

In 2000, EMS units in Delta Township, Michigan were blocked by a train for a few extra minutes as a boy burned to death on the other side of the crossing;

In 2000, a grand jury in Jackson, Mississippi found that emergency vehicles were required to take an extra 25 minutes to go to the nearest alternate route around a crossing frequently blocked by stopped trains;

In 1999, in Ohio, an ambulance had to be rerouted 20 minutes out of its way because of a stopped train;

In 1997, three homes in West Virginia were destroyed as firefighters responding to the blaze were blocked for 15 minutes at a railroad crossings; and

**WHEREAS**, stopped trains blocking roadways cause accidents and may contribute to instances of road rage; and

**WHEREAS**, courts have stricken down local and state ordinances and statutes regulating the length of time that a train may block a roadway; and

**WHEREAS**, there are no federal statutes or regulations dictating the length of time and time of day a train may block a grade crossing, local jurisdictions have no remedy to this situation,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the President to enact legislation that either requires the U.S. Department of Transportation to regulate, or allows state or local jurisdictions to regulate, the length of time a train may block a roadway, in the interest of public health and safety.

### **CLOSING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN TECHNOLOGY**

**WHEREAS**, mayoral involvement in closing the digital divide through national community-based technology efforts can have an important impact upon voters, citizens, residents, community-based organizations (CBOs), community-development corporation (CDCs), neighborhood-based organizations, faith-based community efforts, libraries, community centers, schools, and the general fabric of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, mayoral involvement in the closing of the Digital Divide led to an increase in job readiness training, life skill development, job training and jobs in the technology field for the underemployed and the unemployed; and

**WHEREAS**, corporations, technology companies, foundations, and private for-profit and non-profit organizations have followed the lead of mayors across the country in their individual efforts to close the Digital Divide; and

**WHEREAS**, this effort has led to the establishment of a number of national efforts and models to close the digital divide including the connecting of millions of classrooms, computers and community centers to the Information Superhighway because of the e-rate, efforts of mayors of cities, large and small, and public and private initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, billions in public and private funds are being made available to insure that all citizen, regardless of income or socioeconomic background, have access to state-of-the art technology in their communities, classrooms and libraries; and

**WHEREAS**, some large telecommunications companies cable companies and others have expressed sincere support and a commitment of resources to this effort by working to increase the amount of funds and in-kind contributions available to this effort,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors urges this body to use its resources to support, encourage and lead a national initiative to establish a National Community Technology center effort which is so vital to bringing

jobs to undeserved communities through the use of technology made available through community based organizations, faith-based organizations, schools and libraries; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President, the Congress and the Departments of Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor, along with any relevant Departments support this effort; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the national Chamber of Commerce and other national efforts that exist to Close the Digital Divide be asked to support this effort; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors underscore its support of this initiative, urging Mayors throughout the U.S. to set up community-based technology centers in their cities in faith-based institutions, community-based organizations, community centers, recreation centers, libraries and schools for the purpose of creating job training that can lead to the creation of millions of jobs in the new American economy.

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAYORS' NATIONAL COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**

**WHEREAS**, during this period of explosive growth of new technologies and the use of computers and the Internet as a primary tool of e-government, e-commerce and for communication and job skill development and for other purposes, mayors are challenged to find ways to use these new capacities to deliver better city government services and to facilitate the deployment of new technologies and services for other public activities, and the creation of jobs for the new economy; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors are just beginning to tap the vast potential of these capabilities to improve government operations, to stimulate economic development, to create jobs, to further the performance of communications systems, to improve the quality of public education, to promote public safety, to increase access to new information resources throughout their communities and to build Smarter Cities; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors have acknowledged the existence of a Digital Divide in the availability of technology to many citizens in their communities and have not organized in ways that allow a thorough review and discussion of the opportunity to close this Digital Divide and meet this 21st Century challenge and have not tapped the vast potential of public and private entities who would like to help in this effort; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors are uniquely situated to examine federal and state policies as well as support public and private efforts and other practices for ways to close this Digital Divide; and

**WHEREAS**, to accomplish a more expedited and thorough review of this issue, The U.S. Conference of Mayors needs to build additional capacity and take other actions to facilitate efforts by mayors and their cities to close the digital divide in order to prepare a new workforce for a new economy,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls for the establishment of a Mayors' National Community Technology Center Advisory Board to be comprised of member mayors, technology company leaders and public and private service providers, foundations, educational institutions, community based organizations, faith- based organizations, public educations, and priority city services and interests and national community leaders; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference through its Mayors Business Council will work to develop private sector support and tap other resources to advance initiatives by this Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Board be directed to prepare best practices for Conference members, to convene forums with mayors, business leaders, policy-makers and other such sessions to identify methods to facilitate local efforts to increase the establishment of Community Technology Centers and apply and deploy technologies and related services by cities, other public service providers and the private sector, and work with member cities to develop similar boards at the local level to identify specific opportunities and limitations regarding the Closing of the Digital Divide; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Board convenes periodic sessions during the Conference's Annual Meeting or at other member meetings to report to Conference members on its findings and recommendations on such matters.

## **RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES**

**WHEREAS**, the nation is now looking to chart a new direction in energy policy; and

**WHEREAS**, improvements in energy efficiency will be an important part of national energy policy; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of thousands of auto industry jobs are tied to the nation's urban communities; and

**WHEREAS**, these jobs are important to communities in terms of employment opportunities and training, supporting urban tax bases and education systems; and

**WHEREAS**, promising new advanced, energy efficient vehicle technologies are emerging and necessary for significant fuel economy improvements, but require assistance to make the transition to widespread consumer acceptance and commercial viability; and

**WHEREAS**, government also has a key role to play to work cooperatively with U.S. industry to aid the research of advanced technology breakthroughs and innovation and to help bring advanced technology to market quickly and effectively through policies that encourage early adoption and provide incentives to make these vehicles more affordable to consumers,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly supports Federal and state income tax credits, other consumer incentives for the purchase of vehicles with advanced energy efficient technologies, and the pursuit of other consumer-focused transportation alternatives like mass transit system enhancement and development.

## **NATIONAL RAIL POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors has called for adoption of a National Rail Policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; and

**WHEREAS**, such a policy is essential to help build out the third leg of the nation's transportation system, further strengthening prior investments in the nation's highway and aviation systems; and

**WHEREAS**, this policy should focus on promoting increased investment in intercity passenger rail, local and metropolitan passenger rail, and freight rail; and

**WHEREAS**, high-speed intercity passenger rail is now growing in priority among the states as a means for delivering new options for business and leisure travel between cities; and

**WHEREAS**, high-speed intercity rail services can also provide future relief to congested airline and highway corridors, diversifying regional and interregional transportation networks; and

**WHEREAS**, passenger rail in local markets, i.e. light rail, trolleys, commuter rail and other fixed guideway projects have been fueling the growth in public transportation, which over the last five years has outpaced the growth of both aviation and highway use; and

**WHEREAS**, there are scores of communities and regions that are now planning, engineering and constructing light rail, commuter rail and other fixed guideway projects, both new systems and expansions to existing ones; and

**WHEREAS**, rail infrastructure for continued and improved efficiency of freight rail transportation must be modernized to keep pace with growing demands on these facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, increased investment in local, metropolitan and intercity passenger rail as well as freight rail transportation can deliver many positive community and economic benefits, including improved clean air, enhanced safety, more efficient use of energy, accelerated urban redevelopment, and smart growth as well as strengthened transportation capabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, there are other rail-related investments that can help integrate our rail other and the transportation systems to support the increased use of rail transportation, such as incentives for rail and transit-oriented development, rehabilitation of stations and rail crossings and the development of internodal and other facilities that integrate our nation's transportation systems; and

**WHEREAS**, increased federal investment is needed to accelerate the contribution of rail infrastructure to our nation's transportation capacities, particularly at this time when our highway and aviation systems are so overburdened,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress and the Administration to make enactment of the "High-Speed Rail Investment Act of 2001" the first installment in a broader *National Rail Policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, an initiative which delivers federal partnership resources to the states and Amtrak for the development of high-speed and other intercity passenger rail services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference calls upon the Congress and the Administration to at least double, if not triple, the planning and capital commitments to the 'new starts' and 'rail modernization' programs under TEA-21 to accelerate investment in local and metropolitan rail projects which are now leading the growth in U.S. public transit use; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference urges the Congress and the Administration to provide new resources and incentives to support rail relocation and related efforts at the state and local level to ensure safer and more efficient freight movements while also promoting the reuse of freight rights-of-way for passenger rail and other alternative transportation uses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference calls upon the Congress and the Administration to provide new incentives, both direct funding to state and local governments as well as incentives to the private sector, emphasizing station rehabilitation, transit-oriented development, rail crossing improvements, transit use through equalization of commuter and parking benefits, and the development of intermodal facilities.

## **NATIONAL PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, there are over 5,000 pedestrian and bicyclist deaths and 80,000 injuries every year in this country; and

**WHEREAS**, cities are striving to better accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists in order to improve urban livability and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, pedestrians and bicyclists compete with motorized vehicles for roadways and represent a significant portion of traffic injuries and fatalities; and

**WHEREAS**, pedestrian safety can be enhanced by adherence to existing laws and regulations such as traffic signals, signs, and speed regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the growing concentration of vehicle traffic in urban areas points toward an increase in pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999, nationally, 69% of the pedestrian and bicycle fatalities and injuries happened on local streets and roads, constituting a serious public health problem; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in cooperation with many other federal agencies, has an objective to reduce pedestrian deaths on public roads from the current 1.7 per 100,000 to no more than 1.0 per 100,000 people; and

**WHEREAS**, pedestrian safety and motorist awareness can be improved through the implementation of low cost, high impact programs such as crosswalk identification with pavement markings, attention getting signs and pedestrian signals; and

**WHEREAS**, the current edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), recently published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), permits the use of either yellow or fluorescent yellow green color for pedestrian, school and bicycle crossing signs, potentially causing confusion to motorists; and

**WHEREAS**, new studies have shown the fluorescent yellow green signs a most effective signage available in helping to reduce traffic injuries and fatalities at non-motorized crossings,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports a transition to fluorescent yellow green as the MUTCD's uniform standard for non-motorized crossings; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls for the establishment of a new partnership initiative, known as the National Pedestrian Safety Partnership Initiative, to bring together mayors, other local officials, state and federal officials and their agencies, in partnership with educators, non-profit groups and private sector entities, to promote increased pedestrian, school and bicycle safety; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference urges that this National Pedestrian Safety Partnership Initiative place particular emphasis on signage and other safety improvements at school-related crossings, in conjunction with Walk a Child to School Day, targeting the start of school in Fall 2002; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Conference calls upon the Congress and Administration, including the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the states, including their state highway and transportation departments, to give pedestrian, school and bicycle safety increased priority in the allocation of federal TEA-21 safety funding in proportion to the severity of the problem and to deliver funding directly to local governments, where possible, for these purposes.

# **JOBS, EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE**

## **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY WORKFORCE AND THE NEED FOR NATIONAL WORKFORCE POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, there is a general consensus among public and private sector analysts that the demand for skilled workers in the U.S. economy has been outpacing the supply, and that the demand for skills will continue to grow rapidly in the years ahead; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors with the support of the U.S. Department of Labor, is leading a national initiative on the skills gap through the Mayors' Skills Summits which are being held in cities across the country this year and are calling attention to regional labor market issues including the widening skills gap and bringing best practices, innovative solutions and priorities in workforce development to the Administration and the Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors June 2000 survey Examining Skills Shortages in America's Cities, states that 90 percent of mayors reported that training the workforce to stay competitive in a changing economy is a challenge and 72 percent of mayors reported that this challenge has grown over the past decade in; and

**WHEREAS**, despite recent changes in the marketplace, an April 2001 study by the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) finds that the demand for IT workers in the new economy remains strong and reports that companies surveyed hope to hire 900,000 workers this year. Of this total, 425,000 positions will go unfilled because of a lack of applicants with the required technical and non-technical skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the biggest challenge facing manufacturers is finding workers with the skills required in today's manufacturing world, approximately 90 percent of manufacturers report difficulties in finding qualified candidates in at least one job function according to a recent survey by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM); and

**WHEREAS**, almost one in four American adults has very low basic skills and according to a survey by the American Management Association (AMA) over 38 percent of job applicants tested for basic skills by U.S. corporations in 1999 lacked the necessary reading, writing and math skills to do the jobs they sought; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation's next generation of workers is the rapidly growing youth population (ages 16 – 24) which is projected to increase by nearly 7 million by 2010

and in 1999, this nation had 5.4 million 16 – 24 year old jobless high school graduates and dropouts; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Department of Labor predicts the number of American workers age 55 years and older will increase by 38 percent by 2005 and employers will need to make better use of the aging workforce which has different needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Census data indicates the immigrant population in our nation's workforce is significant and growing and the contribution of these new Americans to the workforce and the economy requires effective strategies to respond to their needs including a responsiveness to languages and cultures; and

**WHEREAS**, our nation's workforce is growing increasingly mobile, for example at the Prudential Insurance Company of America in Newark, New Jersey, the portion of the information technology (IT) budget devoted to mobile workers has gone from approximately 5 percent in 1997 to around 20 percent today and these workers have a new set of needs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to both ensure that low-skilled or unskilled workers get into the labor market, and that workers at all levels receive the education and training necessary to allow them full and continuing participation in the thriving economy; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical that there is a continuum of life-long learning for all Americans especially for people leaving welfare for work and entry level workers, and it is critical that a life-long learning strategy be part of a national workforce policy and be constantly reflective of the needs of business today and future needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the ability to attract and retain quality workers with the skills needed by corporate America and all employers, and the infrastructure to ensure that the workforce investment system is responsive to the needs of employers is essential to the continued growth of our nation's economy; and

**WHEREAS**, skilled workers are critical to a thriving economy and employers only want to locate where they can find skilled employees and training opportunities to develop skilled workers; and

**WHEREAS**, the workforce investment system under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is focused on keeping businesses competitive and in line with local economic development strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, WIA contains activities such as preparation of the workforce, the delivery of training and education services leading to self-sufficiency, career planning, and life-long learning, and recognizes that chief local elected officials and their appointed local

workforce investment boards are responsible for creating a workforce system that responds to local labor markets, local employers and residents, and local economic development strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the need for a national workforce policy, the Regional Mayors' Skills Summits are bringing the private sector and mayors together with Workforce Investment Boards, educators, unions and community to address the need for investment in skills of the workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration, under the leadership of Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao, has established the Office of the 21st Century Workforce "to provide hope - to ensure that all American workers have the opportunity to equip themselves with the necessary tools to succeed in their careers and in whatever field they choose in this new and dynamic global economy" and the Secretary has called for a fundamental transformation for all industries and higher skill sets and higher education,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress, the Administration, the private sector and all stakeholders to review and respond to the findings of the Mayors' Skills Summits and to partner to develop a national workforce policy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon the Administration and U.S. Department of Labor to provide mayors with a major role in the Department of Labor's Office of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce and in any new workforce policy especially in the examination of direct funding to cities and participation with the business community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that with the ongoing, tremendous change in the workforce and the need to address the new challenges, The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress and the Administration to provide resources and support investments in the infrastructure of the workforce investment system to meet the needs of employers and the workforce in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.

#### **IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED FUNDING FOR THE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION**

**WHEREAS**, the country has experienced an economic slowdown and as a result, cities across the United States have lost thousands of jobs over the past year; and

**WHEREAS**, the \$217.5 million rescission of Workforce Investment Act(WIA) funds approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee and the \$359 million rescission of WIA funds proposed by the House Appropriations Committee in the FY 2001

supplemental appropriations bill, and the current cuts in the Department of Labor funds for FY 2002, and in outlaying years will seriously damage our nation's ability to provide workforce preparation and placement services to businesses, job seekers, veterans, dislocated workers, youth, individuals with disabilities and other; and

**WHEREAS**, current cuts in the Department of Labor this year, and in outlaying years will seriously damage our nation's ability to provide workforce preparation and placement services to businesses, job seekers, veterans, dislocated workers, youth, individuals with disabilities and others; and

**WHEREAS**, unlike many other federal programs over the past eight years, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration budget did not increase in real dollar terms; and

**WHEREAS**, WIA and related workforce development services have played a critical role in the United States' unprecedented success reforming welfare and supporting former recipients' transition to work; and

**WHEREAS**, increased funding for WIA and other workforce-related programs will ensure the continued availability of a flexible program design, which is an essential tool in creating such innovative, employer-focused, customized training programs; and

**WHEREAS**, support for the Employment and Training Administration would help our nation's job seekers secure employment, strengthen the competitiveness of American business, promote economic growth, and extend the benefits of a healthy economy to disadvantaged adults,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the importance of employment and training as a key avenue to creating new and sustaining existing jobs in our cities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference requests that the Administration make a commitment to the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration budget to allow cities across the country to serve those who become unemployed as a result of the economic slowdown and also to continue to meet the demands needed for a 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors opposes any rescission to WIA funds and urges Congress not to approve the proposed rescissions to WIA funds; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference calls upon Congress to increase the Administration's current funding levels for the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration's budget.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH**

**WHEREAS**, the nation's next generation of workers is the rapidly growing youth population (ages 16 – 24) which is projected to grow by nearly 7 million by 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, this number of young people is 21 percent higher than the 1995 population for this age group with a majority of the growth being Asians and Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and African-Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past 20 years, despite the recent robust economy, earnings of young people have dropped 26 percent for males and 11 percent for females; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999 only about one-half of the nation's youth who lack a high school diploma or a GED held a job; only a third were working full-time; only 1 in 6 were able to get a full-time job paying above the poverty level; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999, this nation had 5.4 million 16 – 24 year old jobless high school graduates and dropouts, almost half of them poor and many homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, minority youth continue to experience difficulties in penetrating the labor market, disproportionate to their non-minority peers; and

**WHEREAS**, while it is important to raise academic standards for all students, the implementation of high-stakes testing tied to graduation threatens to increase the severity of an already critical situation in many urban school districts; and

**WHEREAS**, many urban school districts are already losing 50 percent or more of their entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders before graduation and, nationwide, nearly one quarter of the nation's students fail to graduate; and

**WHEREAS**, according to *Confronting the Youth Demographic Challenge: the Labor Market Prospects of Out-of-school Young Adults*, Sar Levitan Center for Social Policy Studies, published in October 2000:

- The most promising avenue for improving and increasing the economic and social prosperity of youth is to keep them in school with continuous life-long learning;

- Investing in the acquisition of basic academic skills including reading, writing, math, and critical reasoning skills for youth is essential to their school performance and future success;
- Substantial work experience during the high school years is a long-term investment, not just a temporary means of income but increasing the quality, number, intensity and occupational diversity of job opportunities and work experience for all high school students and especially those from low income families and neighborhoods has a significant payoff for improving the future labor market success of young people;
- Employer provided job training including apprenticeship or classroom training directly linked with employer commitment for high school dropouts is another proven strategy for improving their prospects in the labor market; and

**WHEREAS**, work experience for youth provides educational and enrichment opportunities leading to academic improvement for millions of disadvantaged youth and work experience helps youth develop life skills and values that will prepare them for the challenges of adolescence and the responsibilities of adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has a strong commitment to the improvement of job and educational prospects for all youth including disadvantaged youth, and believes that work experience including summer employment opportunities are critical to achieving those goals and further believes that youth employment is a critical means for learning, building responsibility and achieving personal development and growth,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon the Congress, the Administration, and all partners in the workforce investment system including the private sector, all levels of government and community based organizations to provide greater work experience opportunities for youth including structured work-based learning opportunities, internships and apprenticeships; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon the Congress to increase youth funding in FY 2002; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that legislation which addresses the workforce development needs of youth must provide a meaningful role for the mayor, connection to the mayor's Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and the Youth Council.

## **TANF REAUTHORIZATION: MAINTAINING FUNDING AND KEY ROLE FOR MAYORS AND THE WORKFORCE SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress passed and the President signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) which dramatically altered the welfare system of this country and created Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF); and

**WHEREAS**, welfare caseloads have declined by almost half since TANF was passed but many families leaving the rolls either remain unemployed or work only sporadically, most who have jobs are still poor, and many families are going without the services and resources needed to meaningfully transition from welfare to work; and

**WHEREAS**, as caseloads drop statewide, cities register much slower rates of decline, leaving many cities with a disproportionate share of hard-to-place recipients; and

**WHEREAS**, in most states studied, parents who find work after leaving welfare are earning below the poverty line with wage rates generally in the \$6 to \$7 an hour range, and are more likely to have periods of unemployment because of no child care or unreliable transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, most families need ongoing support and non-financial assistance to make their entry into the workforce more stable and secure; and

**WHEREAS**, the transition to self-sufficiency relies on the critical relationship between welfare reform, the development of workforce skills and the creation of jobs that provide a "livable" income; and

**WHEREAS**, the workforce investment system and the utilization of One-Stops under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), ensure universal access to quality, coordinated education and training, information and services, facilitate entry into the labor market, assist in the development of career paths, and provide incumbent worker training of welfare recipients who are working and leaving welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress is holding hearings and must reauthorize PRWORA by 2002,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to provide adequate funding and, at a minimum, maintain the current funding available under the TANF block grant; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress and the Administration to provide appropriate resources and an effective funding structure in the new legislation to respond to the excessively high concentration of welfare recipients in the nation's cities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress and the Administration as part of TANF reauthorization, invest in addressing the skills gap by providing direct funding to cities and full coordination with the workforce investment system; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the new legislation recognize mayors and local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) as full partners and ensure that they have active roles in the planning, design, and implementation of workforce development services to meet the needs of local welfare recipients; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress and the Administration to ensure that the new legislation provides for a significant connection between the TANF system and the workforce investment system through the mayor and the local WIB; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls for the new legislation to incorporate greater collaboration and system building so that the services and systems designed to serve welfare recipients and create self-sufficiency do not present barriers to the success of welfare reform.

### **SUPPORTING HIGH QUALITY AFTER-SCHOOL AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAMS**

**WHEREAS**, affordable, accessible, and high-quality after-school programming is essential for all families; and

**WHEREAS**, a public consensus is emerging about the need to share the responsibility for providing safe, interesting, and enriching programs for children during out of school hours; and

**WHEREAS**, ensuring access to high-quality after-school programming for school-age children and their families increasingly is becoming a priority at the local, state, and national levels; and

**WHEREAS**, after-school programming promotes learning, enhances the physical, social, emotional, and moral development of children and youth, and provides support for working families; and

**WHEREAS**, children's risk of becoming victims of a violent crime triples in the hours after school, and children and youth who are unsupervised are at greater risk of truancy, pregnancy, receiving poor grades, experiencing mental depression, and abusing tobacco, drugs, and alcohol; and

**WHEREAS**, children who attend high quality after-school programs experience greater academic success, develop stronger peer relations, have better emotional adjustment and conflict resolution skills, and better conduct in school compared to their peers who are not in after-school programs,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the US Conference of Mayors strongly encourages the federal government to increase its investment in community-based after-school programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the US Conference of Mayors requests funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Center program, which supports community efforts to expand out-of-school time programming, remains a separate program within the Department of Education and funding for the program should be increased to \$1.5 billion as proposed by members of the United States Senate.

## **ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, in 1994, Congress broke new ground with GOALS 2000 national education goals legislation by including in federal law recognition of the arts as a core element of a substantive curriculum. This recognition has since opened the door for schools and community partners to access support for arts education through the various K-12 programs of the U.S. Department of Education (USED);and

**WHEREAS**, a child's education is not complete unless it includes the arts. A comprehensive strategy for a complete education includes high-quality, sequential instruction in the classroom, as well as participation and learning in community-based arts programs. Active participation and learning in the arts improve overall academic achievement, socialization, and preparation for college and the workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, historically, inner-city and rural children have not had the same opportunities as children living in wealthier suburban school districts to learn in, through and about the arts. Public schools have the responsibility for providing a complete education for all children. Students face challenges in knowing how to communicate in many ways, and schools must prepare them to meet the challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, arts literacy is the knowledge and skills students develop in learning to respond to, perform, and create works of art, constituting a basic form of literacy required to communicate successfully and function in today's global, multi-media, information age; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts make a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of every child and have proven to level the "learning field" across socio-economic boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts help children develop the total mind and body by encouraging reflection and higher level thinking as well as active learning; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts help stimulate and develop the imagination and refine cognitive and creative skills as well as critical thinking; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts teach children the skills necessary to succeed in life, including developing an informed perception; articulating a vision; learning to solve problems and make decisions; building self-esteem and self-discipline; developing the ability to imagine what might be; and accepting responsibility to complete tasks from start to finish; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts nurture important values, including team-building skills; respecting alternative points of view; and appreciating and being aware of different cultures and traditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts have a measurable impact on youth at risk in deterring delinquent behavior and truancy problems while increasing overall academic performance among those youth engaged in after-school and summer arts programs targeted towards delinquency prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts help children develop literacy skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing. The arts also help children achieve a high level of competency in using convergent and divergent thinking skills; problem-solving skills; and comparing and contrasting skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress is currently considering major reauthorization and appropriations legislation for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA),

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges Congress to approve authorization and appropriation legislation that will specifically ensure a place for arts education in all USED elementary and secondary education programs. The federal commitment to education must:

- Continue to include the arts as a core learning subject;
- Provide professional development opportunities for teachers in the arts;
- Fund after-school arts learning opportunities;
- Conduct national assessments of learning in the arts; and
- Support arts education partnerships between schools and community arts and cultural organizations.

## **NATIONAL KIDSDAY**

**WHEREAS**, National KidsDay is celebrated on the first Sunday of every August and will be celebrated on August 5, 2001 to let all children know the value the community sees in them, and

**WHEREAS**, National KidsDay is sponsored by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, 4-H, KidsPeace, and the YMCA, and

**WHEREAS**, these organizations serve more than 20 million children across the country, and

**WHEREAS**, there are millions more children who need attention from and interaction with caring adults, and

**WHEREAS**, National KidsDay encourages us all to spend meaningful time with children and to mentor them, and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of events will take place in communities nationwide on National KidsDay to celebrate children, and

**WHEREAS**, the United States, unlike many countries, does not have an official day to recognize the importance of our children,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference Of Mayors endorses and supports National Kidsday and encourages all Americans to participate in National Kidsday events.

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## INSPECTIONS ON THE U.S.- CANADA BORDER

**WHEREAS**, United States-Canada two-way trade is one of the fastest growing major segments of economic activity in the world, having doubled from 1989 to 1998 and expected to double again by 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, \$1.4 billion in goods and services crosses the U.S.-Canada border every day; and

**WHEREAS**, passenger car traffic between Detroit and Windsor has grown at a rate of at least 4 percent over the past five years, commercial truck traffic between Detroit and Windsor has nearly doubled in the past 10 years, and other Northern border crossings have recorded similar increases; and

**WHEREAS**, while the Canadian government has added approximately 180 primary inspectors at its border crossings over the past few years, the United States has added no primary inspection resources to the northern border for 20 years—for example, while Canada provides approximately 325 primary customs inspectors at the Detroit-Windsor bridge and tunnel crossings, the United States government provides approximately 68; and

**WHEREAS**, the Canadian border with the United States is at least double that of the Mexican border, yet Customs officers doubled at the Southern border from 1991 to 1998 with no increases along the northern border; and

**WHEREAS**, at least one Canadian city has reported that its emergency response vehicles have been delayed or rerouted due to traffic congestion caused by vehicles waiting to enter the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, at any given time, routinely half of the existing processing lanes (in total) on the U.S.-Canada Border remain closed due solely to under-staffing of U.S. Customs and INS primary Inspectors;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors urges the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to implement the recently completed U.S. Customs Service's Resource Allocation Model (RAM) and the results of the U.S. INS Workforce Analysis Model (WAM) through the appropriation of necessary funds for this purpose by the U.S. Congress, as these

analyses have determined the personnel levels needed for the efficient movement of people, goods, and services crossing the border; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress and the President of the United States to ensure that future increases in primary inspectors be distributed along the United States' borders consistent with the flow of people, goods, and services at various ports-of-entry.

## **INVESTING IN AMERICA'S BORDERS**

**WHEREAS**, Canada is America's largest trading partner; and

**WHEREAS**, Mexico is America's second largest trading partner; and

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of trade with Mexico and Canada include expanding business opportunities, jobs and increased economic growth in cities all across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, America's border cities play a key role in facilitating this economic growth as ports of entry, distribution and transportation centers for the rest of the country; and

**WHEREAS**, most U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada trade moves by truck and rail through land border ports over bridges and roads built and maintained by U.S. border cities; and

**WHEREAS**, border cities and communities face unique challenges and responsibilities in the physical and human infrastructure areas of transportation, the environment, health, education, communications, law enforcement, immigration, and public safety,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** The United States Conference of Mayors recognizes that the country's northern and southern borders are the front door to America's future, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the Federal government to implement a coordinated focus on border community needs and initiatives in each department, agency and bureau, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the Congress to authorize and fund programs targeted towards removing obstacles to improved efficiency and increased ease of cross-border trade processes, as well as improving the quality of life in border cities and communities, and that further address the unique challenges of border cities, to include:

- U.S. Customs Service and Immigration and Naturalization Service staff and automation resources in northern and southern border operations,
- The Borders and Corridors program,
- Health programs and initiatives, including hospitals in border areas and resources to study the causes of disease in border areas,
- Education,
- Environmental issues, including the many crises impacting on human and infrastructure development in the *colonias*, and
- Law enforcement.

## **METROPOLITAN AREAS AND U.S. TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, the U. S. Conference of Mayors recognizes that metropolitan areas are the engines of U. S. growth and global competitiveness; and according to U. S. Conference of Mayors U. S. Metro Economy Report, America's metropolitan areas shipped \$567 billion worth of merchandise in 1998 and U. S. metro areas are the gateways for 83% of U. S. merchandise exports; and

**WHEREAS**, American exports jumped 7.2% per year from 1993 - 1999 compared with 5% annual gains in nominal gross domestic product showing that international trade provides growth opportunity for American enterprise's located in metropolitan areas; and

**WHEREAS**, U. S. Trade Promotion Authority, also known as Fast Track Authority, is a critical part of the President's ability to negotiate fair trade deals that will open markets, increase choices and lower costs for American farmers, workers, consumers and businesses, thus benefitting metropolitan economies; and

**WHEREAS**, each of the previous five Presidents since 1974 received trade negotiation authority from Congress, however this authority has not been renewed since 1994 and as a result America has fallen behind the rest of the world when it comes to trade liberalization, this inaction hurts American businesses, workers, and farmers as they find themselves shut out of the many preferential trade investment agreements negotiated by our trading partners and losing opportunities to foreign competitors,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U. S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to renew U. S. Trade Promotion Authority, also known as Fast Track Authority, to the President in order to reassert America's leadership in setting trade policy and negotiate the best possible agreements for the U. S.

## PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

**WHEREAS**, for 21 years mayors from the United States along with colleagues from around the world have gathered in Jerusalem for the annual Jerusalem Conference of Mayors, an event co-sponsored by the American Jewish Congress and The United States Conference of Mayors and hosted by the Mayor of Jerusalem in conjunction with The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of these annual conferences in Jerusalem, nearly 190 U.S. mayors have developed a much greater appreciation of the issues to be resolved and the challenges to be met by Israel; and

**WHEREAS**, Israel has offered mayors an opportunity to witness the growth and development, progress and accomplishments of a young and vibrant democracy, including its provision of safe haven to Jews from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia as they returned to their homeland; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors have rejoiced when there has been progress toward peace within Israel and between Israel and its neighbors, and have been disheartened when violence has occurred and the peace process has been set back; and

**WHEREAS**, the escalation of serious violence in the region since last fall has produced tragic and senseless losses on all sides of the conflict and has jeopardized progress toward peace; and

**WHEREAS**, the cease-fire agreement between the Prime Minister of Israel and the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority which is currently in place holds the promise of a reduction in the violence and a resumption of the peace process; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors know first hand the impact that violence can have on cities and citizens – how violence reaches beyond the victimization of the individuals killed or injured to the victimization of the community as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors also know the toll which violence exacts in terms of opportunities lost – how much more could be accomplished for Palestinians and Israelis alike if peace were achieved in Jerusalem and throughout Israel and all energies focused on human, economic and cultural development,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors denounces the violence in Israel and lands under control of the Palestinian Authority in the strongest possible terms; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors urges restraint on all sides, continued observance of the cease-fire agreement, and resumption of the peace process as soon as possible.

# HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## PROTECTION OF MEDICAID SAFETY NET HOSPITALS

**WHEREAS**, the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program is our nation's primary source of support for safety net hospitals that serve the most vulnerable populations --Medicaid beneficiaries, uninsured and underinsured; and

**WHEREAS**, for many hospitals, Medicaid DSH payments are the reason they are able to remain open to provide care; and

**WHEREAS**, despite DSH payments, significant Medicaid payment shortfalls exist for safety net hospitals with hospitals losing \$7.9 billion on Medicaid and uninsured patients even after counting state and local government contributions to fund indigent care (according to analysis conducted by the Lewin Group using 1998 American Hospital Association survey data); and

**WHEREAS**, the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 provided temporary relief for the Medicaid DSH program, safety net hospitals could face a significant reduction in federal Medicaid DSH funding beginning in Federal Fiscal Year 2003,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors call on Congress to enact legislation to address the inadequate funding of the Medicaid DSH program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that S. 572 and HR. 854, bipartisan legislation, would eliminate a scheduled falloff in federal Medicaid DSH funding so that in FY 2003 and beyond each state DSH program can grow with inflation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to enact the Medicaid Safety Net Hospital Improvement Act of 2001 (S. 776 and HR. 1604) introduced by Senators Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) and Michael Enzi (R-WY) and Representatives Tom Barrett (D-WI) and Heather Wilson (R-NM), respectively; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that S. 776 and HR. 1604, bipartisan legislation, would increase the federal Medicaid DSH allotment for states whose Medicaid DSH programs are very small relative to their overall Medicaid program providing these states with greater resources to help their safety net hospitals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayor's call upon Congress to enact these vital bills to preserve our nation's safety net hospitals.

### **ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL GIFT OF BREATH CAMPAIGN**

**WHEREAS**, over 80 million Americans are affected by a form of respiratory disease – from asthma to lung cancer – as a patient, parent or spouse; and

**WHEREAS**, one in four Americans currently die from a respiratory disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of children with asthma is doubling approximately every decade. The impact of these diseases has been even more severe on inner city minority populations,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the efforts of the National Gift of Breath Campaign and the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute to educate, inform and support the research that will find new treatments and cures for respiratory diseases.

### **DESIGNATING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2001, AS NATIONAL EAT-DINNER-WITH-YOUR CHILDREN DAY**

**WHEREAS**, the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of substances such as alcohol and nicotine constitute the single greatest threat to the health and well-being of American children; and

**WHEREAS**, surveys conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University have found for each of the past four years that children and teenagers who routinely eat dinner with their families are far less likely to use illegal drugs, cigarettes, and alcohol; and

**WHEREAS**, teens from families that almost always eat dinner together were 31 percent less likely than the average teen to smoke, drink or use illegal drugs, while those from families that almost never eat dinner together were 72 percent likelier than the average teen to engage in these activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the correlation between the frequency of family dinners and the decrease in substance abuse risk is well documented; and

**WHEREAS**, parental influence is known to be one of the most crucial factors in determining the likelihood of teenage substance abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, family dinners have long constituted a substantial pillar of American family life,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes that eating dinner as a family is a critical step toward raising healthy, drug-free children; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors designates Monday, September 24, 2001, as National Eat-Dinner-With-Your-Children Day.

## **AIDS IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD**

**WHEREAS**, as we mark the twentieth year of the AIDS epidemic, UNAIDS reports that more than 18 million lives have been lost to AIDS, nearly 15 million of them in sub-Saharan Africa, and, with 34 million people estimated to be living with HIV or AIDS worldwide and five million people becoming newly infected each year, the death toll is expected to double in the next decade; and

**WHEREAS**, it is projected that HIV will kill at least one-third of young men and women in countries where HIV is most prevalent, and in some places, up to two-thirds, drastically altering the structure of their population and the future of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, though there have been recent declines in AIDS-related deaths in the United States, the epidemic remains an enormous health emergency – 315,112 people in the U.S. are living with AIDS, more than 40,000 Americans become newly infected with HIV each year, persons of color are disproportionately impacted, accounting for 30 percent of the U.S. population and 60 percent of all new AIDS cases, and young gay black men are becoming infected at the rate of almost 15 percent a year according to a new CDC report; and

**WHEREAS**, 83 percent of persons with AIDS in the United States live in our urban cities and rely on public health care and social service systems for care and treatment, making funding for prevention, early diagnosis, treatment and supportive services critical investments in our people, our cities, and our health care system; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to reduce new infections, ensure quality health care, and prolong the lives of persons living with HIV/AIDS, the United States must continue to allocate sufficient resources for domestic and global HIV/AIDS prevention, care and research programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration announced a U.S. contribution of \$200 million to the global fund to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and announced the United States' participation in a coordinated and collaborative worldwide response to the devastation caused by these diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration has set a goal of reducing the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 50 percent and has proposed FY 2002 budget increases for AIDS-related research and prevention programs and for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors commends the Administration for its commitment to combat HIV/AIDS abroad and urges the allocation of additional resources to stem the spread of this global pandemic; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Administration and Congress to increase funding for critical domestic HIV/AIDS programs by allocating an additional \$291 million to the Ryan White CARE Act, including \$50 million for Title I and \$130 million for Title II AIDS Drug Assistance Program, \$190 million for the Minority AIDS Initiative, \$200.7 million to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for domestic prevention programs, \$106 million for research to the National Institutes of Health, and \$23 million for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program.

**CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROCLAIM MAY 2002,  
AND ALL MAYS HENCEFORTH, AS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE AWARENESS  
MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, there are more than half a million children and youth living in foster care in the United States today, a 90 percent increase since 1987; and

**WHEREAS**, foster homes are licensed for fewer children today than they were prior to 1985, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

**WHEREAS**, foster families, who open their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis, serve as the primary source of love, identity, self esteem and support and play a vital role helping children and families reconnect; and

**WHEREAS**, each year more than 20,000 young people annually reach their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and "age out" of foster care but continue to need services. Approximately 40 percent experience homelessness, 46 percent leave care without a high school diploma and many emancipated foster youth are unprepared to deal with education,

employment, housing and health issues and require ongoing support and guidance of caring adults and mentors; and

**WHEREAS**, the recently enacted John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program will provide additional services to young people making the transition from foster care to self-sufficient adulthood and citizenship; and

**WHEREAS**, there are numerous individuals, professionals and public and private organizations, who work to increase public awareness of children in and leaving foster care, as well as the enduring and valuable contributions of foster parents, the foster care system is only as good as those who choose to be part of it; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of May has previously been recognized as National Foster Care Awareness Month by most governors and many mayors and by an outstanding consortium of local, state and national, public, and private organizations,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to proclaim May 2002, and henceforth all subsequent "May's" as "National Foster Care Awareness Month" and urge all citizens both in our respective communities and throughout the country to volunteer their talents and energies on behalf of children in foster care, foster parents and the child welfare professional staff working with them during this month and throughout the year.

## **FOOD STAMP PROGRAM – REAUTHORIZATION 2002**

**WHEREAS**, the Food Stamp Program provides a basic safety net to millions of families with children; and

**WHEREAS**, the program provides monthly benefits to eligible low-income families, which are earmarked for purchase of food; and

**WHEREAS**, over half (51.5 percent) of all food stamp program participants are children; 39.1 percent are non-elderly adults and 9.4 percent are elderly. Over 87 percent of food stamp benefits go to households with children; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately one-third (33 percent) of all children receiving food stamps are age four or under; about 68 percent of children receiving food stamps are school-age; and

**WHEREAS**, 40 percent of food stamp participants are white; 36 percent are African-American; 18 percent are Hispanic; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 90 percent (89.5 percent) of food stamp households have income below the poverty line; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999 twelve-million American children were living in households that experience hunger or were at risk of hunger according to estimates based on the data collected in the Food Security Supplement of the U.S. Bureau of Census Current Population Survey; and

**WHEREAS**, participation in the Food Stamp Program fell in February 2001 to an average of 16,955,435, according to Food Research and Action Center's (FRAC) analysis of preliminary data from USDA. Compared with February 2001 and February 1996 levels, participation was down by 237,900 and over 8.8 million persons, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, according to The U.S. Conference of Mayors' Annual Hunger and Homelessness report, in 2000 requests for emergency food assistance increased in 83 percent of survey cities; across the cities, increases averaged 17 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, America's Second Harvest has found that participation is undermined by lengthy, complicated and difficult to understand food stamp applications and by the fact that enrollment and recertification entails multiple visits to food stamp offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the present quality control system that evaluates state performance in administering the benefits programs have not been reviewed and updated in recent years; and

**WHEREAS**, 31 million Americans now live in hunger or on the edge of hunger; and

**WHEREAS**, four out of ten of those who are eligible for the Food Stamp Program are not receiving benefits, according to analysis of September 1998 caseload data prepared for USDA by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports and urges Congress and the Administration to strengthen and reauthorize the Food Stamp Program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Administration this year to enact S. 583, which would restore eligibility to needy legal immigrants, increase benefit levels (especially for elderly persons and families with children) and support outreach to eligible people; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Administration by October 2002 to reauthorize the Food Stamp Program,

maintaining it as a federal entitlement, but improving access to and adequacy of benefits as well as establishing new mechanisms for evaluating program outcomes and states' performance in administration.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Head Start program was started in 1965 to provide comprehensive developmental services for America's low-income, preschool children age 3 to compulsory school age; and

**WHEREAS**, the Head Start program has a long tradition of delivering comprehensive and high quality services designed to foster healthy development in low-income children; and

**WHEREAS**, Head Start grantee and delegate agencies provide a range of individualized services in the areas of education and early childhood development; medical, dental, and mental health; nutrition; and parent involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, in a study comparing matched groups of low-income children attending Head Start, other preschool, or no preschool, the Head Start children scored higher on such school readiness measures as verbal achievement, perceptual reasoning, and social competence than either of the other groups; and

**WHEREAS**, though over half of the children entering Head Start were found to have a medical or dental problem requiring some kind of treatment, it was also discovered that Head Start children received more dental and medical care (both treatment and preventative) than their non Head Start peers; and

**WHEREAS**, in Head Start's 1998 reauthorization, additional emphasis was placed on enhancing the quality of Head Start programs; promoting the professional development of Head Start teachers; and stressing the importance of including reading and math readiness skills in Head Start curricula; and

**WHEREAS**, the Head Start program is a comprehensive program that works to address the social, cognitive, and physical needs of children and the coordinated involvement of parents in the program so they are committed to their child's education,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly opposes the President's proposal to move the Head Start Program for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to the U.S. Department of Education; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to increase funding for the Head Start Program to \$6.7 billion in FY 2002.

### **EXPANSION AND SIMPLIFICATION OF THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)**

**WHEREAS**, the EITC is designed to reward employment for low income families struggling toward self sufficiency and to reduce poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, low income working families may be eligible for an EITC cash refund of over \$3,800 per year with the average EITC refund of \$1,500; and

**WHEREAS**, the EITC has been proven effective with the most recent data showing 19.2 million low income tax payers claiming \$31 billion in credits, \$26 billion of which was refunded in cash – up from \$7.5 billion in 1990; and

**WHEREAS**, if all low income working families who are eligible for the EITC were to apply for it, an additional \$30 billion could be pumped into our national economy; and

**WHEREAS**, EITC cash refunds do not only benefit low income working families but also provide a significant economic development boost in our cities because recipients spend their refunds in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a recent survey, as many as 20 percent of eligible low income working families do not take advantage of the EITC either because they are not aware that they are eligible or the filing process is too complicated; and

**WHEREAS**, aggressive outreach efforts, in conjunction with the IRS, have been demonstrated to be effective in informing families of their eligibility for EITC and increasing the numbers of eligible families who actually apply for the credit and receive the much needed benefit; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts to greatly simplify the EITC, such as the Simplified Family Credit proposal that incorporates the EITC, the Child Tax Credit, the Dependent Exemption and the Additional Child Credit into one easy-to-claim credit, are being reviewed in Congress,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to expand the EITC and provide additional flexibility, and funding, for aggressive outreach efforts in conjunction with the IRS; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to look for ways to significantly simplify the EITC, such as the Simplified Family Credit.

## **CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, between 12 percent and 22 percent of America's youth under age 18 are in need of mental health services and an estimated 7.5 million children and adolescents suffer from one or more mental disorders ("Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General", 1999); and

**WHEREAS**, younger people – age 15-24 – are more likely to have mental health disorders than other age groups; and

**WHEREAS**, among children one in five may have a mental health problem that can be identified and treated; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the personal suffering experienced by children with emotional or behavioral problems and their families, untreated mental health disorders also have a tremendous cost to society; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce the incidence of childhood mental illness, preventive interventions need to be provided prior to the development of significant symptoms; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the report, recent findings in behavioral epidemiology indicate that mental health problems, social problems, and health risk behaviors often co-occur as an organized pattern of adolescent risk behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, we now know that programs, which truly make a difference in children's lives must address prevention, early and intensive, comprehensive interventions. Moreover, they must include not just the child, but the families, schools, and communities in which individuals live; and

**WHEREAS**, schools are particularly well positioned to foster healthy development and help prevent youth violence by promoting pro-social, cooperative behavior and a culture of learning. Effective prevention, intervention, and crisis response strategies operate best in schools that do so,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges increased support and coordination between mental health services, human services, and public health service entities in the delivery of comprehensive mental health services to children within the school settings; and the community at large; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Congress and the Administration to increase funding for community-based, urban programs for the prevention and treatment of mental illness and to insure that federally funded public health efforts be funded to expand and to include mental health components when serving populations with dual or multiple needs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors advocates that reimbursement for mental health services should adequately support the need for care coordination and outreach activities among school staff and teachers, parents, mental health providers and children.

# ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

## ENDORSEMENT OF EARTH CHARTER

**WHEREAS**, the Earth Charter is a declaration of the fundamental principles for a sustainable future and an urgent call to build a global partnership for sustainable development; and

**WHEREAS**, for over a decade hundreds of groups and thousands of individuals throughout the world have been involved in the process of drafting an Earth Charters; and

**WHEREAS**, the principles of the Earth Charter present a conception of sustainable development and set forth fundamental guidelines for achieving it; and

**WHEREAS**, the Earth Charter is guided by a commitment to the principle of meeting our needs today, while at the same time enhancing future generations' ability to meet their needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Earth Charter sets forth an integrated approach to community development which addresses respect and care for the community of life, ecological integrity, social and economic justice, and democracy, non-violence and peace; and

**WHEREAS**, the Earth Charter offers principles which will be helpful to cities in addressing pressing issues and challenges:

### I. RESPECT AND CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF LIFE

- Respect Earth and life in all its diversity.
- Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion, and love.
- Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful.
- Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations.

In order to fulfill these four broad commitments, it is necessary to:

## II. ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

- Protect and restore the integrity of Earth's ecological systems, with special concern for biological diversity and the natural processes that sustain life.
- Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.
- Adopt patterns of production, consumption, and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights, and community well-being.
- Advance the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of the knowledge acquired.

## III. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

- Eradicate poverty as an ethical, social, and environmental imperative.
- Ensure that economic activities and institutions at all levels promote human development in an equitable and sustainable manner.
- Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care, and economic opportunity.
- Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health, and spiritual well-being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities.

## IV. DEMOCRACY, NONVIOLENCE, AND PEACE

- Strengthen democratic institutions at all levels, and provide transparency and accountability in governance, inclusive participation in decision making, and access to justice.

- Integrate into formal education and life-long learning the knowledge, values, and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.
- Treat all living beings with respect and consideration.
- Promote a culture of tolerance, nonviolence, and peace, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the Earth Charter and commits the organization to the realization of its aims; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that mayors and their cities are urged to formally review and debate the Earth Charter and its relationship to their work.

**SUPPORTING THE BENEFITS OF WASTE-TO-ENERGY AND LANDFILL GAS AS CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ELIGIBLE FOR TAX CREDITS**

**WHEREAS**, many municipalities and local communities have adopted an integrated waste management approach that includes biomass and gasification facilities such as waste-to-energy and landfill gas recovery projects that generate clean, renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, local communities provide for a wide range of waste management and related environmental programs, including residential and commercial collections; source-separated recycling; environmental education; litter and illegal dumping clean-up; site remediation and household hazardous waste collections; and

**WHEREAS**, renewable energy sources provide a number of benefits, including reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, while increasing fuel diversity; reducing greenhouse gas emissions to provide for a clean environment; as well as the utilization of non-fossil natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, some communities share in the energy revenues generated from the sale of electricity from these biomass and gasification facilities that help defray the cost of many of the waste management and environmental programs required by local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government has long held that waste-to energy and landfill gas recovery projects are included in the renewable definition of biomass;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports all federal legislation that promotes the benefits of renewable energy such as waste-to-energy gasification and landfill gas recovery projects; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports federal legislation that also provides for production and investment credits for local entities and production tax credits for all forms of biomass and gasification technologies including waste-to-energy and landfill gas recovery projects; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges federal lawmakers to ensure that any legislation that promotes renewable energy or provides for production tax credits and refundable production credits include provisions to expand the biomass definition to include all forms of biomass and gasification energy.

### **NATIONAL ELECTRICITY MARKETS**

**WHEREAS**, wholesale electric power markets in many areas of the United States, including California, the Pacific Northwest, the Midwest and Southwest have been extremely volatile, subjecting electric utilities and their customers to enormous price increases; and

**WHEREAS**, the fundamental causes of the Western states' energy crisis, namely, the demand for power growing faster than the development of new power supply, the inability of an aging transmission system to deliver power from existing supply to new demand, the faulty deregulation designs adopted by some states, and the undeniable market manipulation by some energy producers and marketing companies are, in part, or in whole, present in other regions of the country as well; and

**WHEREAS**, any worsening of the Western states' crisis, or spread of the energy crisis to other states or regions of the country, could have a devastating effect on the national economy and, thereby, severely impact municipal services and the citizens and businesses that rely upon them; and

**WHEREAS**, in many areas wholesale power prices have reached 100 times their normal peak cost; and

**WHEREAS**, these energy supply and price problems pose a profound threat to the interrelated economies of the West, and, if left unchecked, could impose significant harm to the national economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Power Act requires the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to insure that wholesale electric power rates are 'just and reasonable'; and

**WHEREAS**, FERC in its December 15 Order found that wholesale electric rates in some instances were not just reasonable but nonetheless declined to impose a West-wide price cap; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) has petitioned FERC to enforce the requirements of the Federal Power Act by requiring wholesale electric power sales be at just and reasonable rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Public Power Association has joined CMUA in this petition; and

**WHEREAS**, the Western U.S. and Canada are experiencing drought conditions which severely constrain the amount of electricity hydroelectric dams can produce, thereby exacerbating the electricity supply problem and increasing the amount of electricity utilities must buy from the Western power market,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to use its statutory authority to require that wholesale electricity sales be at just and reasonable rates and that it develop and temporarily implement cost-based rates, to restore order to the western power market; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that municipalities should support efforts to improve system reliability by streamlining local regulatory requirements for constructing generation and transmission resources; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that municipalities believe consumers should be protected from the enormous volatility of the current market and that the imposition of a temporary, cost-based rate structure and the restoration of the obligation to serve are appropriate and necessary.

## **NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, the nation is confronting critical challenges in both energy demand and supply; and

**WHEREAS**, energy supply constraints and rising energy costs have adversely impacted key regions of the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, some of the nation's most pressing energy problems have been aggravated by a shift to market-based prices for energy; and

**WHEREAS**, existing energy infrastructures have not kept pace with the nation's demand for energy; and

**WHEREAS**, a combination of these and other circumstances have prompted a national debate on the need for increased energy supplies, improved transmission and distribution systems as well as improved energy efficiency and conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, this renewed public attention on energy challenges before the nation is long overdue and provides numerous opportunity to revamp existing energy policies and priorities at every level of government, both through independent actions and in partnership among governments; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an emerging consensus that a comprehensive energy policy for the nation should embrace a broad range of options, such as the deployment of new technologies, more efficient appliances, equipment and buildings, alternative transportation systems, and modernization of existing energy infrastructures; and

**WHEREAS**, an effective national energy policy should include key elements that harness the vast potential of the many actions and decisions by mayors and other local leaders and the public in their cities and regions,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages each city to formulate a comprehensive energy plan for itself and its citizens based upon its own individual character and needs targeting an immediate minimum reduction in energy consumption of 10%; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference calls for the creation of a national clearinghouse for the sharing and dissemination of 'Best Energy Practices' by cities which would enhance the ability of all cities and other local governments to formulate their respective energy policies, emphasizing particularly how cities can promote and develop community design standards that give individuals options to assist them in managing their energy costs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the formation of a comprehensive National Energy Policy should be undertaken through a genuine collaboration among federal, state and local government with additional input from other interested public and private sector parties, that should include, but not limited to, the following components:

- Aggressive promotion and utilization of energy-efficient technologies and conservation practices in cities and other communities;
- Prudently increasing supply through the use of efficient traditional technologies and increasing emphasis on renewable energy technologies;
- Utilization of environmentally-responsible principles and practices; and

- Responding to the needs of low-income citizens particularly burdened by rising energy costs; and
- Municipalities are statutorily empowered to have the tools to accomplish this; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference recognizes that it is of critical importance that its member cities become familiar with the energy needs of their respective communities and regions in order to effectively plan for their energy future and to be able to respond to their present energy demands; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the existing aged and inadequate national transmission system should be expanded and enhanced, in partnership with state, local governments and energy service providers, to ensure adequate and reliable supply and to address the needs of a competitive market; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that metropolitan areas have been recognized as the economic engines of the nation, with the cost and availability of energy an essential component which fuels these economic engines and, as such, the nation's energy policy must be crafted to respond directly to the needs of the country's metropolitan economies to promote and sustain the economic health and vitality of the nation.

## **RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES**

**WHEREAS**, the nation is now looking to chart a new direction in energy policy; and

**WHEREAS**, improvements in energy efficiency will be an important part of national energy policy; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of thousands of auto industry jobs are tied to the nation's urban communities; and

**WHEREAS**, these jobs are important to communities in terms of employment opportunities and training, supporting urban tax bases and education systems; and

**WHEREAS**, promising new advanced, energy efficient vehicle technologies are emerging and necessary for significant fuel economy improvements, but require assistance to make the transition to widespread consumer acceptance and commercial viability; and

**WHEREAS**, Government also has a key role to play to work cooperatively with U.S. industry to aid the research of advanced technology breakthroughs and innovation and to help bring advanced technology to market quickly and effectively through policies that

encourage early adoption and provide incentives to make these vehicles more affordable to consumers,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly supports Federal and state income tax credits, other consumer incentives for the purchase of vehicles with advanced energy efficient technologies, and the pursuit of other consumer-focused transportation alternatives like mass transit system enhancement and development.

### **PROMOTING THE PRESERVATION OF URBAN-INFLUENCED FARMLAND**

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors and American Farmland Trust formed a historic urban-rural coalition between local elected officials and farmers to develop smart growth policies that will promote city reinvestment and farmland preservation; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, over two million acres of rural land are being lost to development each year, which is double the rate of a decade ago; and

**WHEREAS**, this partnership strives to remove development pressure on irreplaceable and invaluable farmland located near metropolitan areas called urban-influenced farmland; and

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors recognizes that protecting important urban-influenced farmland through the purchase of conservation easements is a valuable smart growth tool, which can assist in creating a comprehensive smart growth plan; and

**WHEREAS**, well managed urban-influenced farmland provides habitat for native species, protects local watersheds and clean air environmental benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, urban-influenced farmland provides thirty percent of our grain, forty-five percent of our livestock and more than eighty percent of our domestic fruit, vegetables and dairy products; and

**WHEREAS**, urban-influenced farmland near metropolitan areas have historically provided local markets with not only farm commodities, but continue to serve as economic engines in local economies; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of urban-influenced farmland provide local farmers markets with commodities that provide food supply stability while contributing to the overall quality of life in metropolitan areas; and

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors believes it is in the Nation's best interest to protect domestic food supply, especially farmland surrounding metropolitan areas,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The U. S. Conference of Mayors encourages its members to work more closely with farmers through urban-rural coalitions to further discussions on preventing farm failure through city reinvestment strategies, urban-influenced farmland preservation and local farmer's markets programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U. S. Conference of Mayors strongly encourages federal and state governments to promote local farmers markets through infrastructure and facility improvements, including rehabilitation of existing facilities, and marketing efforts to increase profitability for urban-influenced farms, thereby preventing farm failure and ensuring the future stability of local food supplies; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference strongly encourages Federal and State governments to work with mayors and farmers to further implement smart growth policies and programs that encourage development in existing urban centers and better protect the nation's urban-influenced farmland; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference supports voluntary purchase of development rights programs and other farmland protection tools at the state, county and local level, including federal incentives for such efforts, that protect private landowners of urban-influenced farmland, who may face escalating land prices from development pressures; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference calls upon the Administration and Congress to include funding for conservation programs, stewardship incentives, programs for research, marketing and rural economic development programs, and assistance to sustain and expand farm markets, including rehabilitation of existing facilities, and to promote marketing and sales at these markets to support independent and resource conserving farms in the farm bill.

## **RESOLUTION ON CAPITAL COST SAVINGS AND COMPETITION IN WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the projected costs for capital improvement and projects in water and wastewater infrastructure are estimated to be \$1 trillion or more over the next 20 years in order to comply with requirements of the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urban Water Council has for the last six years identified the capital cost savings that can be achieved through public-private partnerships, and by introducing competition in the design and construction of water infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, reduced capital costs in water and wastewater infrastructure is advantageous for our citizens who are water and sewer rate-payers; and

**WHEREAS**, reduced capital costs in water and wastewater infrastructure is advantageous for municipal government,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby encourages the introduction of competition in the design and construction of capital improvements and projects in water and wastewater infrastructure necessary to achieve compliance with federal and state Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water laws and regulations.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT ADOPTION OF H.R. 2207 - A BILL INTENDED TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN WATER AND WASTEWATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the projected costs for capital improvement and projects in water and wastewater infrastructure are projected to exceed \$1 trillion over the next 20 years in order to comply with the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted policy in the year 2000 in Seattle to seek out innovative ways to help cities finance the construction of new water and wastewater treatment facilities, collection systems and distribution systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urban Water Council has reviewed federal impediments to financing water and wastewater infrastructure including existing environmental and tax policy, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby endorses and urges Members of Congress to support H.R.2007, which would exempt Private Activity Bonds for water and sewage facilities from the state volume caps in order to increase investment in water and wastewater supply infrastructure.

**BIPARTISAN ACTION ON BROWNFIELDS LEGISLATION**

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that there are more than 500,000 brownfields sites throughout the country; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors and other local elected officials, and many others have been calling for bipartisan Congressional action on brownfields legislation that provides liability relief for innocent parties, additional resources for cities and other local governments for brownfields site assessments and cleanups, clarification of the relationship between the states and U.S. EPA over decisions affecting these sites, and other related provisions to accelerate local and state efforts to return these sites to productive use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Conference and its member mayors have been consistent and vocal in seeking bipartisan resolution of these issues, beginning with the 105<sup>th</sup> Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress, the United States Senate successfully crafted a broadly bipartisan agreement known as the 'Brownfields Revitalization and Environmental Restoration Act of 2001' or S.350, brownfields legislation which garnered more than two-thirds of the Senate as cosponsors and which passed unanimously April 22 on a 99-0 vote; and

**WHEREAS**, this Senate bipartisan agreement was strongly backed by President Bush, U.S. EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman and the Bush Administration; and

**WHEREAS**, in the two months following Senate action, no bipartisan brownfields legislation has been introduced or proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a compelling need for federal legislation to address this chronic and widespread problem before the nation and that the overwhelming Senate Acton, with support from the Bush Administration clearly demonstrates that bipartisan legislative action can be achieved,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on the House Leadership of both parties to direct Committee leaders with jurisdiction on these matters to craft a bipartisan brownfields agreement and to do so promptly so that the nation can immediately realize the many positive environmental, economic and social benefits that result from recycling America's land and brownfields particularly; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon President Bush and his Administration to request House Leaders to seek prompt bipartisan action on this importation national legislation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference urges that the House adopt the Senate-passed legislation (S.350), if ongoing House efforts fail to develop a timely and broad bipartisan agreement on brownfields legislation.

# CRIMINAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

## WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION PREPAREDNESS AND MAYORS AS FIRST RESPONDERS

**WHEREAS**, mayors are the elected leaders of their communities with responsibility for the management of public safety personnel including police, fire and emergency response; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors have dedicated significant effort to preparing themselves, their city personnel and their citizens for the possibility of natural disasters, and to efforts designed to minimize damage and save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors have worked closely with regional, state and federal partners in developing coordinated preparedness efforts focused on natural disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, the issue of domestic terrorism, and specifically a weapons of mass destruction terrorist attack, has become a concern for the nation as a whole and mayors as the leaders of their communities, with extensive discussion being held at national Conference of Mayors meetings and with top federal officials; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has been working with the U.S. Department of Justice to develop a mayoral training institute on weapons of mass destruction to prepare mayors for the roles and responsibilities they must assume during a WMD event; and

**WHEREAS**, managing a local weapons of mass destruction attack may be significantly different from a more traditional natural disaster in that:

- the scale of potential damage which could be caused by a weapons of mass destruction terrorist attack are enormous;
- there may be no warning prior to the attack, and it may take time for the “public health system” to determine that there has been an attack, with resulting medical ramifications;
- it will take time to analyze the specific nature of the attack agent, and to determine if medical treatments are available;
- it may be difficult to determine when the attack has ended; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that it will take between 36 and 72 hours following an attack for available federal resources to be fully operational in a city; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government has available important resources including equipment, personnel and supplies which can and must be utilized in the event of a weapons of mass destruction event; and

**WHEREAS**, in most cases, mayors do not control the “public health system.” With the exception of some city and county publicly-owned and operated hospitals, the general public’s health care needs are met by private institutions, institutions which, while regulated to a certain degree, are not strictly managed by local governments. However, it is the local health departments who will be alerted by these health care providers at the onset of a weapons of mass destruction event; and

**WHEREAS**, it is clear from modeling examples that the “public health system” will be quickly overwhelmed by even a modest weapons of mass destruction event in a city of almost any size. While a citizen knows when they have been shot, or when their house has been hit by a natural disaster, they may not know how to tell if they have been exposed to a biological or chemical weapon. Hospitals and doctors offices will be overrun with not only the sick, but those who fear contamination; and

**WHEREAS**, the decisions made by mayors and their public safety personnel during a weapons of mass destruction event, such as the possibility of imposing travel restrictions or even local area quarantines, will have major ramifications for not only their cities, but for the public safety of the entire nation; and

**WHEREAS**, a multiplicity of federal agencies have responsibility for helping cities prepare for a possible weapons of mass destruction event, and for the incident and the incident consequences stages of an attack, and an effort is underway to coordinate these federal efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, President George W. Bush on May 8, 2001 released a statement announcing that Vice President Dick Cheney will oversee the development of a coordinated national effort against terrorism. The Federal Emergency Management Agency(FEMA)would be responsible for implementing the national effort through the Office of National Preparedness, coordinating all federal programs dealing with weapons of mass destruction consequence management within the Departments of Defense, Transportation, Health and Human Services, Justice, and Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls for increased federal efforts to provide equipment and training directly to mayors and their public safety personnel to train and prepare for a weapons of mass destruction event, with a particular focus on communication systems inter-operability; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government should continue to provide significant resources to develop a training curriculum specifically for mayors as the “first responders” to a weapons of mass destruction terrorist attack; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government expand their initiative to enter into agreements with cities to provide resources including training, assessment, equipment, personnel, supplies, and better facilitation of regional planning in the

preparation for and response to a weapons of mass destruction event; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government should assist in a coordinated training effort for private sector health care personnel so that doctors and nurses are able to quickly spot a possible attack, identify the symptoms of a biological or chemical agent, and know what public health steps are necessary to mitigate the adverse public health consequences; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference of Mayors specifically supports increased funding for a network which would improve a local health department's response to a weapons of mass destruction emergency by providing resources for the coordination of services between the health department and other essential local, state, and Federal agencies; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the White House and the Office of National Preparedness work closely with local governments to ensure that planning, training, equipment and personnel needs are addressed.

## **A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE STRATEGY**

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long been concerned about substance abuse and its impacts on cities of all sizes; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1997, the Conference sponsored a National Forum on Drug Control in Washington, DC and released a *National Action Plan to Control Drugs* which was developed by mayors, police chiefs, and prosecutors; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999, an estimated 14.8 million Americans twelve years of age and older were current illicit drug users; and

**WHEREAS**, substance abuse touches communities of all sizes, as documented in a report commissioned by the Conference and prepared by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University, entitled "No Place to Hide: Substance Abuse in Mid-Sized Cities and Rural America," which found that in 1999, when comparing 8<sup>th</sup>-graders in cities versus rural areas, rural children were:

- 78 percent likelier to have used amphetamines, including meth, than those in urban areas;
- 75 percent likelier to use crack cocaine;
- 52 percent likelier to use cocaine; and
- 26 percent likelier to smoke marijuana; and

**WHEREAS**, the substance abuse issue continues to evolve, with drugs such as methamphetamine and MDMA (commonly called ecstasy or XTC) becoming more

popular; and

**WHEREAS**, for example, in 1998 there were an estimated 378,000 new methamphetamine users, up from 149,000 in 1990. For young adults age 18-25, first use of meth increased between 1990 and 1998 from 3.0 to 6.1 per 1,000 potential new users; and

**WHEREAS**, trial use of ecstasy has increased from five percent in 1995 to ten percent. Nearly one-third (32 percent) of teens in 2000 reported they had close friends who used ecstasy, up significantly from 24 percent in 1998 and 26 percent in 1999. A 2000 study reports that past-year use of ecstasy by 8th graders increased 82 percent (from 1.7 percent to 3.1 percent) between 1999 and 2000. Past-month use of MDMA by 10th graders increased 44 percent (from 1.8 percent to 2.6 percent) and past-year use by 12th graders increased 46 percent, from 5.6 percent to 8.2 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, among 12th graders, the perceived availability of ecstasy rose sharply – an increase of 28 percent. This is the largest one-year percentage point increase in the availability measure among 12th graders for any drug class in the 26-year history of the NIDA *Monitoring the Future* study; and

**WHEREAS**, prisons and jails hold approximately 2,054,694 persons, and 4.4 million offenders are in community programs; and

**WHEREAS**, a report issued by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), entitled “Behind Bars: Substance Abuse and America’s Prison Population,” found that drug and alcohol abuse and addiction are implicated in the crimes and incarceration of 80 percent of the approximately two million men and women behind bars in America; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that a million offenders under criminal justice supervision need, and are not getting, substance abuse treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that more than 600,000 (up from the average of 550,000) people will return to their communities from state and federal prisons in 2001; and according to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, most are untreated, and many are dangerous, unemployable, or sick; and

**WHEREAS**, over two-thirds will be rearrested within three years of release; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999 over \$19 billion was spent by the federal government on drug policy programs in the United States of which approximately 30 percent went towards education, prevention and treatment, with the remaining 70 percent towards law enforcement efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, drug treatment has been shown to have an immediate impact on the level

of drug use and associated crime, and retention in drug treatment is also significant for future behavior. Longitudinal studies have repeatedly shown that drug use and criminal activity decline upon entry into treatment and remain below pre-treatment levels for up to six years. Therefore, public safety is a primary beneficiary of drug treatment programs; and

**WHEREAS**, America's cities are on the front line of the nation's substance abuse issue,

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors leadership has been involved in policy discussions with top White House officials on the issue of substance abuse,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on the Congress and the Administration to develop a national, comprehensive substance abuse prevention, treatment and enforcement policy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that there must be an increased emphasis on providing resources for substance abuse prevention and treatment, including drug courts, directly to cities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a national policy on substance abuse prevention must solicit the involvement of parents, teachers, community leaders, the faith-based community, mayors, mentors, the media, and the private sector in educating the nation's youth about the life-threatening consequences of drug use; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a complete audit must be conducted of all federal resources spent on substance abuse related programs to determine where these funds, especially those flowing through state agencies, are being allocated; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a national, comprehensive substance abuse prevention and treatment policy must provide mayors with an oversight role in directing the flow of treatment resources at the local level; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that treatment should be made available to any American who desires to rid him/herself of substance abuse; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors commends HHS and SAMHSA for working with mayors to launch the new Targeted Capacity Assistance program that funds local governments directly in their efforts to respond to emerging drug problems and to address unmet treatment needs, and calls for a major increase in this funding source; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Medicaid reimbursement for drug treatment should be expanded by allowing states the option of: 1) covering treatment – including services in hospitals, outpatient clinics, residential facilities or any center licensed by the state; and 2) providing drug treatment to financially-eligible single individuals as well as

pregnant women and families; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government must adopt a strategy to reduce the availability of drugs in federal and federally supported prisons and jails, and ensure that adequate treatment exists for prisoners prior to their release and while on probation or parole. In addition, every federal prisoner must be required to pass a drug test prior to release and continue to be tested while on probation or parole, and states should be encouraged to adopt similar policies; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government must protect our national security – as is its constitutional mandate - through a major increase in efforts to stop drugs from entering this nation from across federally-controlled borders; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal government must assist in efforts to attack drugs being produced within our borders such as methamphetamine; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that increased attention must be provided to emerging drugs such as MDMA (commonly called ecstasy or XTC); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that increased resources should be provided for High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas, and additional areas should be designated as appropriate; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that there should continue to be increased cooperation and intelligence sharing among federal law enforcement agencies and with local law enforcement agencies on issues such as training, intelligence, joint operations and technology; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the private-sector should assist in the fight against drugs by enforcing strong drug-free workplace policies, and by making employee assistance programs, including drug treatment, available to workers who acknowledge a drug problem and request help.

### **DESERVED RECOGNITION OF DORIS MILLER**

**WHEREAS**, Doris Miller, an African-American born and raised in Waco, Texas, enlisted in the United States Navy in September 1939 and was serving on the USS West Virginia as a Mess Attendant, second class, during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; and

**WHEREAS**, during that attack Miller distinguished himself above others by aiding wounded fellow sailors and the mortally wounded Captain of the ship, and manned a 50-caliber Browning anti-aircraft machine gun, returning fire to protect the ship and his shipmates until ammunition was depleted and he was ordered to abandon ship; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 27, 1942 Doris Miller received the Navy Cross and is entitled to receive the Purple Heart Medal; the American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp; the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; and the World War II Victory Medal; and

**WHEREAS**, now pending in Congress is legislation (H.R.1994) which now would enable the President and the Congress to award Doris Miller the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously in recognition of his heroism,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass this legislation so that Doris Miller can finally receive the recognition he deserves for the remarkable personal bravery he displayed during the attack on his ship.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG), continues to be the foundation upon which cities have revitalized their downtowns, developed affordable housing, stabilized neighborhoods, and provided important public services for the past 26 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the strength of the CDBG program lies in its local determination of need and use, flexibility, and wide variety of eligible activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the formula funding for the CDBG program was increased to \$4.6 billion in FY 2001, a \$200 million increase over FY 2000 and the first increase in formula funding since 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of new "entitlement communities" still continues to rise at a greater percentage than the increase in formula funding baseline appropriation; and

**WHEREAS**, legislation has been introduced in Congress that would destroy CDBG's current flexibility, effectively eliminate area benefit activities, and eliminate use of the exception criteria for communities and states whose poor persons are disbursed rather than concentrated; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation would also reduce the effectiveness of the CDBG program as a tool for expanding affordable housing opportunities and encouraging neighborhood revitalization, and instead turn it into an "anti poverty" program, something Congress never intended,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to increase formula funding FY 2002 to \$5 billion to accommodate the increase in eligible entitlement communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to oppose any legislative proposal that would limit the flexibility of the CDBG program and change its original intent.

## **CELEBRATING THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, this year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), which has made substantial contributions to local affordable housing efforts nationwide since the program's inception; and

**WHEREAS**, over 12.2 billion HOME dollars have been awarded to participating jurisdictions, which have helped build or rehabilitate 583,474 affordable homes for low- and very low-income families, including 252,306 rental and 331,168 ownership units; and

**WHEREAS**, the 15% Set-aside requirement within the HOME program has helped to foster new collaborations with for-profit and nonprofit housing providers across the country that traditionally did not exist before this provision; and

**WHEREAS**, targeting within the HOME program is very deep, with more than 82 percent of the HOME-assisted rental housing benefitting families at or below 50% of area median, while 41% was helping families with incomes at or below 30% of area median income; and

**WHEREAS**, for each HOME dollar \$3.87 of private and other funds is leveraged; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bush Administration is proposing a \$200 million set-aside within HOME for a new downpayment and closing assistance program to be administered by state housing finance agencies;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to expand significantly funding under the HOME program to meet the affordable housing crisis,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U. S. Conference of Mayors hereby calls on the Congress to appropriate \$2.25 billion for HOME in FY 2002, a \$450 million increase over FY 2001; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to reject the Administration's proposal for a \$200 million downpayment and closing cost assistance program within HOME because it would reduce formula funding by \$200 million, and it is already an eligible activity under HOME, with cities, counties and states having spent \$1.06 billion for this purpose since 1992.

## **COMPREHENSIVE FEDERAL PLAN FOR AMERICA'S HOMELESS**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal government plays a critical role in helping America's cities address poverty and homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, recent data suggests that while many more families are prospering than ever before, the gulf between the haves and have-nots has increased, with housing costs soaring in many cities leading to increasing numbers of families and individuals being left homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has led efforts through the McKinney program to ensure that municipalities develop and implement comprehensive "Continuums of Care" to serve homeless individuals and families and proposed \$1.12 billion in its FY 2002 budget for homeless assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD McKinney funds have allowed cities to leverage these funds extensively with local, state and privately-raised dollars to provide critical supportive services and housing to help individuals and families move out of homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, Shelter Plus Care and the Supportive Housing Program, currently components of the McKinney program, provide needed rental assistance and supportive services to homeless individuals and families; and

**WHEREAS**, despite cities' significant leveraging efforts the need for homeless assistance is tremendous, with cities not being able to subsume renewal funding required to continue critical programs and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration recognized this need in its FY 2002 budget by providing dedicated funding for Shelter Plus Care renewals to complement the McKinney structure; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a concurrent need, similar to that of Shelter Plus Care, to provide dedicated funding for Supportive Housing Program renewals; and

**WHEREAS**, there is also a significant need to ensure the sustainability of highly effective supportive services and other housing programs established by local Continuums of Care, including transitional housing, substance abuse and mental health services and job training,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors reaffirms its commitment to fight against homelessness as a top priority; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Administration to expeditiously enact legislation that funds expiring Shelter Plus Care under the Housing Certificate Fund and provide dedicated full funding for the renewal of both Shelter Plus Care and Supportive Housing Program contracts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Administration to enact additional legislation that provides dedicated full funding for supportive services, transitional housing, and other permanent housing programs initially established through the McKinney Homeless Assistance program and require renewal funds to continue operations of these essential programs and services.

### **LEAD-BASED PAINT ABATEMENT IN FEDERALLY-ASSISTED HOUSING**

**WHEREAS**, in 1992 Congress passed Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, which requires control or abatement of leads-based paint in housing assisted by Community Development Block Grant or HOME funds; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD has promulgated regulations, which became effective September 15, 2000, requiring communities receiving CDBG and HOME funds to undertake interim controls or abatement of lead-based paint in any housing rehabilitation undertaken with such funds; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing that the effect of the regulations would add substantially to the cost of federally-assisted housing rehabilitation and that in many areas of the country there was insufficient capacity to fully implement the regulations, HUD worked with national organizations like the U.S. Conference of Mayors to ease the impact of compliance by:

- Allowing communities transition period to build capacity
- Providing training
- Undertaking a study to determine the full cost of compliance; and

**WHEREAS**, there are two statutory changes that would be beneficial in implementing the regulations, including elderly owner-occupied housing where no children reside or spend substantial time in the home (e.g. family child care), and raising the threshold for emergency repairs from \$5,000 to \$10,000,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby calls on HUD to:

- Allowing communities transition period to build capacity
- Providing training
- Undertaking a study to determine the full cost of compliance; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby calls on Congress to enact statutory changes to exempt owner-occupied elderly housing and first-time homebuyer housing where there are no children residing or where substantial

time is not spent in the home (e.g. family child care) from the regulation and to increase the threshold for emergency repairs, such as replacing a roof or a furnace, (where the issue of lead-based paint does not need to be addressed) from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

## **FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the public housing program provides shelter to over 3.2 million low income Americans across the country, including families with children, elderly and disabled; and

**WHEREAS**, over 3,200 local public housing authorities own and operate public housing units that provide stable living environments and services for needy residents; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD's proposed budget for fiscal year 2002 would result in a total funding shortfall in the public housing program of over \$ 2 billion, including a loss of \$ 310 million through the termination of the Public Housing Drug Elimination Program, a \$ 700 million reduction in the Public Housing Capital Fund Program, a shortfall in the Public Housing Operating Fund of approximately \$ 500 million, and the elimination of one month of reserve funds for the Section 8 tenant-based program totaling approximately \$ 640 million; and

**WHEREAS**, part of the proposed funding shortfall includes termination of the highly successful Public Housing Drug Elimination Program ("PHDEP"), an effective, locally-driven program that provides added security, drug prevention, job training and other services to public housing residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed \$ 700 million reduction in the Public Housing Capital Fund will cause further costly delays in addressing the \$ 22 billion of needed repairs to public housing properties and reduce the number of available units in the face of a national affordable housing crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD's fiscal year 2002 request for the Public Housing Operating Fund falls approximately \$ 500 million short of meeting the operating needs of agencies, due largely to dramatic increases in energy costs for which no new funds have been provided; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD's proposal to reduce Section 8 reserve levels from two months to one month will make it even more difficult for families to utilize Section 8 tenant-based assistance, particularly in competitive real estate markets, and result in \$ 640 million loss of funds,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors opposes the proposed HUD fiscal year 2002 budget for the public housing program and calls upon Congress to appropriate funds to ensure the preservation of this valuable housing resource as follows:

Public Housing Capital Fund:	\$ 3.5 billion
Public Housing Operating Fund:	\$ 3.9 billion
Public Housing Drug Elimination Program:	\$ 410 million
HOPE VI Program:	\$ 575 million
Section 8 Tenant-Based Program:	Retain current reserve levels

## **DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

**WHEREAS**, cities have a tremendous stake in disaster assistance and are the first-responders to the needs of residents when disasters strike; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) FY 2002 budget request proposes to not only rewrite the insurance requirements for the Public Assistance Program but also scale back on mitigation; and

**WHEREAS**, the agency’s proposal will preclude public entities from receiving Federal disaster assistance if additional Federal insurance mandates are not met, reduce the federal share of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and eliminate key predisaster mitigation assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, these proposals further shift the financial and administrative burden of disasters—those times of extraordinary need—to cities, states, schools, universities, hospitals and taxpayers with a disproportionate impact on earthquake and other disaster prone areas; and

**WHEREAS**, cities have determined that mitigation is critical—the recent earthquake in Seattle illustrates that mitigation is an effective means of preventing loss and ultimately saves taxpayer dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, cities have also determined that earthquake and other disaster prone areas will find it extremely difficult if not impossible to purchase the insurance required by FEMA in its budget request, and that this proposal will adversely impact mitigation efforts by public agencies by requiring that their limited budget resources be spent on insurance instead; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress supported cities’ determinations on insurance and mitigation by eliminating last year the insurance requirement from the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and authorizing a predisaster mitigation program; and

**WHEREAS**, FEMA additionally backed off the insurance proposal indicating that it needed further analysis and study; and

**WHEREAS**, faith-based and other private non-profit organizations also are central elements of governments’ delivery assistance in times of emergency, providing

necessary shelter, housing, and health care for low-income residents; and

**WHEREAS**, these organizations are required to submit an application and be rejected by the Small Business Administration disaster loan program before FEMA will consider providing disaster grants, thereby adding significant time delay and discouraging involvement of these critically needed private non-profit entities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Administration and Congress to:

- Ensure that a comprehensive and detailed financial insurance study that includes consideration of alternatives be conducted with the active input of the affected public entities prior to any decision;
- Maintain the 75-25 federal-local cost share for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;
- Provide predisaster mitigation assistance;
- Support legislation that provides incentives and resources to cities for disaster loss reduction and prevention measures; and
- Make clear that the President has the authority under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to define services provided by certain non-profit organizations which serve public purposes as “critical,” making these organizations immediately eligible for direct FEMA grant assistance.

### **PROMOTING THE PRESERVATION OF URBAN-INFLUENCED FARMLAND**

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors and American Farmland Trust formed a historic urban-rural coalition between local elected officials and farmers to develop smart growth policies that will promote city reinvestment and farmland preservation; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, over two million acres of rural land are being lost to development each year, which is double the rate a decade ago; and

**WHEREAS**, this partnership strives to remove development pressure on irreplaceable and invaluable farmland located near metropolitan areas called urban-influenced farmland; and

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors recognizes that protecting important urban-influenced farmland through the purchase of conservation easements is a valuable smart growth tool, which can assist in creating a comprehensive smart growth plan; and

**WHEREAS**, well managed urban-influenced farmland provides habitat for native species,

protects local watersheds and clean air environmental benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, urban-influenced farmland provides thirty percent of our grain, forty-five percent of our livestock and more than eighty percent of our domestic fruit, vegetables and dairy products; and

**WHEREAS**, urban-influenced farmland near metropolitan areas have historically provided local markets with not only farm commodities, but continue to serve as economic engines in local economies, and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of urban-influenced farmland provide local farmer's markets with commodities that provide food supply stability while contributing to the overall quality of life in metropolitan areas; and

**WHEREAS**, The U. S. Conference of Mayors believes it is in the Nation's best interest to protect domestic food supply, especially farmland surrounding metropolitan areas,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U. S. Conference of Mayors encourages it's members to work more closely with farmers through urban-rural coalitions to further discussions on preventing farm failure through city reinvestment strategies, urban-influenced farmland preservation and local farmer's markets programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U. S. Conference of Mayors strongly encourages Federal and State governments to promote local farmer's markets through infrastructure and facility improvements, including rehabilitation of existing facilities and marketing efforts to increase profitability for urban-influenced farms, thereby preventing farm failure and ensuring the future stability of local food supplies; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference strongly encourages Federal and State governments to work with Mayors and farmers to further implement smart growth policies and programs that encourage development in existing urban centers and better protect the Nation's urban-influenced farmland; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference supports voluntary purchase of development rights programs and other farmland protection tools at the state, county and local level, including federal incentives for such efforts, that protect private landowners of urban-influenced farmland, who may face escalating land prices from development pressures; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference calls upon the Administration and Congress to include funding for conservation programs, stewardship incentives, programs for research, marketing and rural economic development programs, and assistance to sustain and expand farm markets, including rehabilitation of existing facilities, and to promote marketing and sales at these markets to support independent and resource conserving farms in the farm bill.

**KEEPING THE DREAM ALIVE:  
MAKING AFFORDABLE HOUSING A NATIONAL PRIORITY**

**WHEREAS**, despite experiencing the greatest economic expansion in history, housing needs have reached an all-time high; and

**WHEREAS**, homelessness has increased 63 percent since 1990 and the number of children living in shelters has tripled; and

**WHEREAS**, working men and women and families in our cities are having a hard time finding affordable housing and elderly residents on fixed incomes are fearful of being priced out of their neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, housing isn't a luxury, it is a fundamental right and Affordable Housing should be made a national priority; and

**WHEREAS**, affordable, healthy housing is at the core of strong communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayors are at the forefront in trying to address the housing crisis, putting forth strategies and resources to combat the problem, however cities can't do it alone,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges that Affordable Housing be made a National priority and that the following actions be taken to advance the goal of increasing affordable housing opportunities and access to housing:

- Establish a Housing Production Program to assist cities with expanding and preserving the supply of rental housing for a mix of incomes.
- Develop a set of tools and tax and other financial incentives to increase homeownership
- Establish a preservation grant program that provides matching grants to states and localities for preservation and incentives to preserve the existing stock of affordable housing.
- Maintain and expand housing and community development funding in federal and state budgets.
- Ensure adequate federal resources are available for public housing so that it is fully utilized, safe and well maintained for those most in need.
- Develop a national strategy to meet the comprehensive needs of the homeless individuals and families and seek expanded federal resources beyond the HUD

budget to address these needs.

- Ensure housing programs and policies address the needs of the growing elderly population.

# ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION

## CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT

**WHEREAS**, in 1964, Congress created the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to assure that all Americans have access to high quality recreation resources, to enhance the health and vitality of the Nation, and to preserve valuable habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, investments from the fund support the creation of public parks, efficient management of forests, preservation of clean water and open spaces and guarantee outdoor recreational opportunities, and other social and environmental objectives for the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, since its creation, LWCF has been responsible for the acquisition of nearly seven million acres of parks, public forests, and open space including the development of more than 37,500 state and local resource conservation and recreation projects, including playgrounds, ball fields, national historical sites, scenic trails, and nature reserves; and

**WHEREAS**, the LWCF Act is authorized to invest \$900 million annually in recreational resources, principally from public revenue received from off-shore energy extraction, and that the Congress must annually appropriate funds from the LWCF account; and

**WHEREAS**, from 1978 through 1995, the Urban Parks Recreation and Recovery Program (UPARR) awarded almost \$228 million to over 400 local jurisdictions which benefited more than 1,500 park and recreational facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the Congress envisioned federal-state-local partnerships to create a national network of public parks and other recreation resources accessible to all people; and

**WHEREAS**, the need to preserve open spaces and develop and maintain local parks and recreational facilities becomes more critical each year due to the demands placed on such facilities by ever increasing populations; and

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments equally match federal fiscal resources, then assume all costs of management and provision of recreation services, thus often containing the cost of potential federal actions to meet public demand; and

**WHEREAS**, last year the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Conservation and Reinvestment Act which provides for fullfunding of the LWCF and UPARR programs, but the Senate failed to act; and

**WHEREAS**, President George W. Bush has called for full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, but his budget requests do not provide for funding of the UPARR

Program,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the Conference of Mayors see, as an absolutely critical need, the full funding of LWCF and UPARR programs annually; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors encourages Congress to again pass the Conservation and Reinvestment Act with a provision that would have a guaranteed pass-through of at least 50% of the funds of the state and local assistance program of LWCF directly to cities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress revitalize the UPARR program at least \$125 million annually and that it be a competitive matching grant program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors that a copy of this resolution be mailed to the President, Secretary of Interior, the bipartisan leadership of the Congress and the members of the Senate.

## **FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND MUSEUMS**

**WHEREAS**, the arts, humanities and museums are critical to the quality of life and livability of America's cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Endowment for the Arts' and the National Endowment for the Humanities' thirty plus years of promoting cultural heritage and vitality throughout the nation has built a cultural infrastructure in this nation of arts and humanities agencies in every state and 4,000 local arts agencies in cities throughout the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the Office of Museum Services (OMS) within the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) are the primary federal agencies that provide federal funding for the arts, humanities and museum programs, activities, and efforts in the cities and states of America; and

**WHEREAS**, federal funding serves as a catalyst to leverage additional dollars for cultural activity — the annual federal investment made to these three agencies (NEA @ \$105 million; NEH @ \$120.3 million; and OMS @ \$24.8 million) can leverage up to 10 times that amount from state and local governments, private foundations, corporations and individuals in communities across the nation to support the highest quality cultural programs in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, federal funding for cultural activities stimulates local economies and improves the quality of civic life throughout the country — the NEA, NEH and IMLS support programs that enhance community development, promote cultural planning, stimulate business

development, spur urban renewal, attract new businesses, draw significant cultural tourism dollars, and improve the overall quality of life in our cities and towns; and

**WHEREAS**, the nonprofit arts industry generates \$36.8 billion annually in economic activity and supports 1.3 million jobs — from large urban to small rural communities, the nonprofit arts industry annually returns \$3.4 billion in federal income taxes, \$1.2 billion in state government revenue and \$790 million in local government revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, federal arts funding to cities, towns and states has helped stimulate the growth of 3,800 local arts agencies in America's cities and counties and \$750 million annually in local government funding to the arts and humanities; and

**WHEREAS**, federal funding for cultural activities is essential to promote full access to and participation in exhibits, performances, arts education and other cultural events regardless of geography and family income; and

**WHEREAS**, the NEA has been very responsive to Congressional concerns and has undergone a major restructuring of its grants programs to more directly reach and help build communities across the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the NEA has received its first funding increase of \$7 million since the 40 percent cuts were made in 1995; and

**WHEREAS**, the President has recommended flat funding for these agencies for FY'02 – \$105 million for NEA and \$120.3 million for NEH – both of which are linked to special initiatives, such as “Challenge America,” which would allocate the increased budget in part to grant programs which would strengthen America’s communities through the arts and humanities; and

**WHEREAS**, the delicate balance in shared responsibility and partnership for public funding of the arts and humanities at the federal, state and local government levels has been in serious jeopardy since local governments cannot make up for the current funding cuts in the federal government’s share; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors has issued official letters in the past on Arts Advocacy Day to the President and leaders of the U.S. Senate and House, signed by more than 200 of the nation’s mayors, to save federal funding for the arts and humanities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors reaffirms its support of the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Office of Museum Services within the Institute of Museum and Library Services and calls upon Congress to fund these agencies for FY'02 at \$150 million each for the NEA and the NEH, and \$34 million for the OMS in order to fulfill the federal government’s responsibility to help make the arts accessible to all Americans for the social,

economic and cultural well-being of the American public, as well as to help sustain this nation's cultural infrastructure for public support of the arts and humanities at the federal, state and local levels.

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR ARTS EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, a 2001 national public opinion survey of 1,008 Americans commissioned by Americans for the Arts reveals that the majority of American adults believe that an arts education is very important to the development of today's children; and

**WHEREAS**, 91 percent of American adults agree that the arts are vital to providing a well-rounded education for our children; and

**WHEREAS**, 95 percent of American adults agree that the arts teach intangibles like creativity, self-expression, and individualism – important tools in preparing children for the future; and

**WHEREAS**, 96 percent of American adults agree that the arts belong to everyone, not just the fortunate or privileged; and

**WHEREAS**, parents agree that schools are responsible for ensuring that children learn about and experience a variety of art forms. Indeed, 89% believe that arts education is important enough that schools should find the money to ensure inclusion in the curriculum; and

**WHEREAS**, 76 percent of American adults agree that arts education is important enough to get personally involved in arts education in schools, *however*, two-thirds of respondents don't know how to get involved with arts education; and

**WHEREAS**, when asked their reasons for not taking more action in regard to arts and education, 71 percent of parents agreed there are other people and organizations in the community who are better suited to take action; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans for the Arts, in partnership with the Advertising Council, is launching a national public awareness campaign in the fall of 2001 designed to specifically motivate parents across the United States to take action on behalf of their children's arts education; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the multi-media campaign is to increase the public's awareness and action that participation in the arts is essential to the development of every child, and to spur the integration of the arts more completely in homes, schools and communities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors'

endorses this national campaign and urges mayors to work with their local arts councils to actively participate in the campaign at the local level, and also to motivate parents and other citizens to take action on children's behalf to ensure the return of a comprehensive arts education in all of our nation's public schools.

## **NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities affect every aspect of life in America today including the economy, social problem solving, job creation, education, creativity, and community livability; and

**WHEREAS**, cities and states – through their local and state arts agencies and representing thousands of cultural organizations – have celebrated the value and importance of culture in the lives of Americans and the health of thriving communities during National Arts and Humanities Month for several years; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors has actively participated in National Arts and Humanities Month since 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors' national arts partner, Americans for the Arts, will again coordinate this year a national awareness campaign of activities for National Arts and Humanities Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation's 23,000 cultural organizations, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the nation's 4,000 local arts agencies, the arts and humanities councils of the 50 states and U.S. jurisdictions, and the President of the United States have participated in the past and will be encouraged to participate again this year in this national celebration and public awareness campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of October 2001 has been designated as National Arts and Humanities Month,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges mayors to build partnerships with their local arts agencies and other members of the arts and humanities community in their cities to proclaim, to participate in, and to celebrate the month of October as National Arts and Humanities Month.

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY OF THE NONPROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY**

**WHEREAS**, Americans for the Arts conducted a benchmark study of the national

economic impact of the nonprofit arts industry in 33 communities across the United States in 1993; and

**WHEREAS**, this 1993 economic impact study measured the expenditures of nonprofit arts organizations and found that the nonprofit arts industry generates \$36.8 billion annually in economic activity and supports 1.3 million jobs — from large urban to small rural communities; and

**WHEREAS**, it was found that the nonprofit arts industry annually returns \$3.4 billion in federal income taxes, \$1.2 billion in state government revenue and \$790 million in local government revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans for the Arts has begun work on a new national economic impact study entitled, The Arts and Economic Prosperity Study, which will provide first-time trend data on the size and impact of the nonprofit arts industry in 100 communities in America; and

**WHEREAS**, this new Arts and Economic Prosperity Study will be completed in 2002 and it will specifically measure both the direct impact and the indirect ancillary spending of nonprofit arts audiences in the United States,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges mayors and their local arts agencies to participate in Americans for the Arts' important national economic impact study providing valuable local and national data on the size and impact of the nonprofit arts industry in communities and in the nation as a whole.

## **RUNAWAY FILM PRODUCTION**

**WHEREAS**, the production of filmed entertainment is a cornerstone of America's economy; and

**WHEREAS**, globalization and the emergence of new technologies has changed the nature of how motion pictures are made, sending ripples through the workforce and displacing thousands of working men and women; and

**WHEREAS**, nations like Canada have targeted the motion picture industry and its jobs by enticing producers with tax incentives, funded with tax dollars from Canada's federal and provincial governments; and

**WHEREAS**, foreign give-backs have penalized America's below-the-line workforce by creating a financial variable that precludes them from competing for these jobs, since their counterparts in Canada or Australia are working with subsidized wages; and

**WHEREAS**, furthering complicating matters for American motion picture industry workers is the emergence of computer-generated imaging (CGI) and related digital technologies, which not only creates the need for newly-trained workers skilled in these areas but also may likely render some industry workers obsolete; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities across the country rely on the entertainment industry as an economic development tool, particularly those cities that serve as production centers, employing thousands from the crews behind the camera to those working in the prop houses or equipment rental companies; and

**WHEREAS**, a January 2001 study by the U.S. Department of Commerce on the impact of runaway production on U.S. workers, performers and small business further underscored that a compelling case can be made that runaway production threatens to disrupt important segments of a vital American industry and the thousands small businesses and below the line workers who depend on it; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vital that policy makers at every level of government act to preserve the well-being of this industry, and ensure the men and women who comprise its workforce have the tools and ability to ensure its continued growth and contributions to our local economies; and

**WHEREAS**, a National Entertainment Alliance of organizations and guilds representing the film and TV industries have long studied the runaway film production problem and its devastating effects on U.S. jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Entertainment Alliance has agreed that the most effective approach for producers is one that levels the playing field;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the importance of the entertainment industry and its workforce to the health and prosperity of America's cities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the U.S. Congress to recognize the need for action at the federal level and adopt legislation that promotes domestic film production in the form of a Federal income tax credit and other options that would provide similar financial relief to filmmakers that produce motion picture projects in the United States.

## **ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, in 1994, Congress broke new ground with GOALS 2000 national education goals legislation by including in federal law recognition of the arts as a core element of a substantive curriculum. This recognition has since opened the door for schools and community partners to access support for arts education through the various K-12

programs of the U.S. Department of Education (USED);and

**WHEREAS**, a child's education is not complete unless it includes the arts. A comprehensive strategy for a complete education includes high-quality, sequential instruction in the classroom, as well as participation and learning in community-based arts programs. Active participation and learning in the arts improve overall academic achievement, socialization, and preparation for college and the workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, historically, inner-city and rural children have not had the same opportunities as children living in wealthier suburban school districts to learn in, through and about the arts. Public schools have the responsibility for providing a complete education for all children. Students face challenges in knowing how to communicate in many ways, and schools must prepare them to meet the challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, arts literacy is the knowledge and skills students develop in learning to respond to, perform, and create works of art, constituting a basic form of literacy required to communicate successfully and function in today's global, multi-media, information age; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts make a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of every child and have proven to level the "learning field" across socio-economic boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts help children develop the total mind and body by encouraging reflection and higher level thinking as well as active learning; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts help stimulate and develop the imagination and refine cognitive and creative skills as well as critical thinking; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts teach children the skills necessary to succeed in life, including developing an informed perception; articulating a vision; learning to solve problems and make decisions; building self-esteem and self-discipline; developing the ability to imagine what might be; and accepting responsibility to complete tasks from start to finish; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts nurture important values, including team-building skills; respecting alternative points of view; and appreciating and being aware of different cultures and traditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts have a measurable impact on youth at risk in deterring delinquent behavior and truancy problems while increasing overall academic performance among those youth engaged in after-school and summer arts programs targeted towards delinquency prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts help children develop literacy skills in reading, writing, speaking,

listening and viewing. The arts also help children achieve a high level of competency in using convergent and divergent thinking skills; problem-solving skills; and comparing and contrasting skills; and

**WHEREAS**, the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress is currently considering major reauthorization and appropriations legislation for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA),

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges Congress to approve authorization and appropriation legislation that will specifically ensure a place for arts education in all USED elementary and secondary education programs. The federal commitment to education must:

- Continue to include the arts as a core learning subject;
- Provide professional development opportunities for teachers in the arts;
- Fund after-school arts learning opportunities;
- Conduct national assessments of learning in the arts; and
- Support arts education partnerships between schools and community arts and cultural organizations.

# RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## LOCAL-FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP ON LAW ENFORCEMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY

**WHEREAS**, following extensive engagement by mayors and police chiefs, the United States Congress passed, and President Clinton signed, the Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Act, which became law on October 1, 1994 and created the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program as well as other key law enforcement partnership initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1996 Congress began providing flexible funding directly to local governments through the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant and cities have effectively used these Block Grant funds for prevention, increased police presence, technology and equipment, among other activities; and

**WHEREAS**, community oriented policing supported by these local-federal partnership initiatives, including the deployment of additional officers, new technologies, and innovative crime prevention strategies has helped contribute to significant decreases in crime rates in cities across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation must remain diligent on crime prevention and control efforts to ensure that past gains are maintained and that crime rates are further reduced, especially as they relate to youth violence and crime, new and evolving drug-related crime concerns, and in light of the anticipated return of over 600,000 ex-offenders from prisons and jails back into local communities in 2001 alone – many of whom will have not received needed drug treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fiscal Year 2002 budget proposed by President George W. Bush is the first Administration budget proposal to request funding for the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, and contains a funding request for additional law enforcement officers in schools, law enforcement technologies, and the prosecution of gun crimes,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors commends the Administration for proposing a continuation of the local-federal partnership on public safety; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress and the Administration to support highly flexible, direct law enforcement assistance which will strengthen the local-federal partnership on public safety and allow

communities to: continue to promote the implementation of department-wide community policing; deploy additional officers and maximize the efficiency of existing officers through the use of overtime; address officer retention issues; deploy needed public safety technologies with maximum flexibility; improve youth and school safety; strengthen efforts to reduce the sale and use of illegal drugs; address concerns related to drugs in prisons and offender re-entry; support alternative sentencing programs; and increase local prosecutions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that federal assistance for this important local-federal public safety partnership must be fully maintained in FY 2002 and beyond through the appropriations process.

# MISCELLANEOUS

## RECOGNITION OF DETROIT MAYOR DENNIS W. ARCHER

**WHEREAS**, Detroit Mayor Dennis W. Archer hosted the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors, held June 22-26, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Archer and the City of Detroit led the celebration of the organization's founding in Detroit 69 years ago; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Archer's contributions to this 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is only one of many contributions of leadership to the nation's mayors, having also served as a Conference leader on numerous activities and endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Archer's efforts have further added to the proud tradition of the City of Detroit and its special relationship with The United States Conference of Mayors,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the mayors of the United States, joined by their families, staff, the staff of The United States Conference of Mayors, and all other conference participants hereby thank Mayor Archer, his wonderful staff and all who have contributed to this meeting for all their efforts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the mayors of this country assembled here in Detroit and all conference participants wish Mayor Archer and his family happiness and the very best of everything always and salute "The Motor City" where we know we are always welcome.

## RECOGNITION OF BOISE MAYOR H. BRENT COLES

**WHEREAS**, Boise Mayor H. Brent Coles ably served as President of The United States Conference of Mayors, 2000-2001; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure as Conference President, Mayor Coles directed many new initiatives and other important efforts to continue to make America's cities stronger at home and throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, among these initiatives, the Presidential transition was a central theme of his tenure and was guided by the broad input of the Conference Membership through mayoral transition teams, transition forums and meetings that resulted in the adoption of a 10-point plan, "Priorities for the New American City," to ensure that cities remain the economic engines of the U.S. economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Coles successfully led mayors in member sessions with President George W. Bush at the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and at the Council for Investment in the New American City in April; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Coles championed the “Well-Being of the Family” as a policy priority, urging that governmental decisions be measured by this standard; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Coles elevated the national debate on drug treatment, efforts which have helped raise the visibility of this chronic national problem; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Coles initiated a movement on rails in America, calling for the establishment of a *National Rail Policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Coles further enhanced the standing of The United States Conference of Mayors and America’s cities in the International arena, which included leading mayoral delegations to Israel and France,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors, hereby thanks Mayor H. Brent Coles, for his service and through whose leadership The United States Conference of Mayors successfully engaged with the new White House at the highest levels; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors looks forward to Mayor H. Brent Coles’ continued involvement as past president of the Conference of Mayors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the mayors of this nation wish Mayor Coles the greatest success, both now and in the future, respectfully and warmly saluting his career as a local elected official.