



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

1620 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST
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WILL WYNN
Mayor of Austin

Executive Director and CEO:
TOM COCHRAN

TO: MEMBER MAYORS

FROM: J. THOMAS COCHRAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: June 2, 2008

Re: RESOLUTIONS FOR THE 76th ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
MIAMI, FLORIDA
JUNE 20 – 24, 2008

Attached herewith are the resolutions submitted by member mayors for consideration by the Conference's Standing Committee on Friday, June 20 and Saturday, June 21. The full membership will vote on the resolutions reported out of the Standing Committees on Monday, June 23. Those passed will then become the policy of The Conference of Mayors.

The Conference Standing Committees on International Affairs; Membership; and Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment and Sports will meet on Friday, June between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

The Conference Standing Committees on Community Development and Housing; Energy; Jobs, Education and the Workforce; and Urban Economic Policy will meet on Saturday, June 21 between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The Conference Standing Committees on Children, Health and Human Services; Criminal and Social Justice; Environment; and Transportation and Communications will meet on Saturday, June 21 between 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Please see the official program (available at registration) for Committee meeting locations. The schedule for the Committee meetings is as follows:

Friday, June 20

International Affairs
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Chair: MEYERA E. OBERNDORF
Mayor of Virginia Beach

Membership
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Chair: BRIAN C WALHER
Mayor of Piscataway



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Mayor of Austin

Executive Director and CEO:
TOM COCHRAN

Friday, June 20 (Cont.)

Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment and Sports

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Chair: MUFU HANNEMAN
Mayor of Honolulu

Saturday, June 21 (11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)

Community Development and Housing

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Chair: RON DELLUMS
Mayor of Oakland

Energy

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Chair: WILL WYNN
Mayor of Austin

Jobs, Education and the Workforce

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Chair: FRANCIS G. SLAY
Mayor of St. Louis

Urban Economic Policy

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Chair: LOIS J. FRANKEL
Mayor of West Palm Beach

Saturday, June 21 (2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

Children, Health and Human Services

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chair: DAVID N. CICILLINE
Mayor of Providence

Criminal and Social Justice

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chair: ROBERT DUFFY
Mayor of Rochester, NY

Environment

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chair: PATRICK McCRORY
Mayor of Charlotte

Transportation and Communications

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chair: JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER
Mayor of Denver

Attached for your information are the rules for the Resolution Process.

Resolution/Membership Process for Standing Committee
and Plenary/Business Session Operation
at the Annual Conference of Mayors
Adopted by the Executive Committee
August 1977
Amended September 1992
Amended September 2005

The Resolutions Process begins with the Winter Meeting with a call for proposed resolutions. The Process ends with the Plenary/Business Session of the Annual Meeting. Please note that the Executive Committee has said that the deadlines and process in between must be strictly observed by all.

Only “member Mayors” of cities with populations of 30,000 or greater are eligible for the rights and privileges detailed in this document.

I. Introduction of Resolutions

A. Submission

1. Only Mayors whose cities are members (“member Mayors”) of The United States Conference of Mayors may submit or co-sponsor resolutions for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

2. All proposed resolutions from member Mayors and the names of all co-sponsors must be submitted and received at the Conference headquarters on or before thirty (30) calendar days before the first day of the Annual Meeting. The deadline for submission and receipt by the Conference of Mayors shall be 5 p.m. Eastern Time. Should the deadline fall on a holiday or a weekend the deadline shall be extended to 5 p.m, Eastern Time, on the next work day.

3. Resolutions introduced after this deadline shall require a 2/3’s vote to be considered, as further stated below. There shall be no changes in the language of a resolution after the deadline until the committee and floor process of the Annual Meeting.

4. The Mayor submitting a proposed resolution with co-sponsors is responsible for the accuracy of the list of co-sponsors. In addition, the lead sponsor is required to send a final copy of the resolution to all mayors who the lead sponsor has listed as co-sponsors.

5. A resolution submitted by a member Mayor's proxy or a notification of co-sponsorships submitted by a member Mayor's proxy will not be received by the Conference unless the proxy also submits a written certification, which may be filed electronically, that she or he is specifically authorized by the Mayor to submit the resolution or add the Mayor's name, or other mayors' names, as a co-sponsors.

6. A Mayor may add her or his name as a co-sponsor after the deadline but her or his name will not appear as a cosponsor on the resolution until the proposed resolution is approved by the Standing Committee and is printed for consideration at the Business/Plenary Session. Resolutions may only be submitted or sponsored in the name of member mayors, not in the name of internal or external organizations or groups.

7. If a member Mayor fails to submit a resolution in a timely fashion, that Mayor must secure the sponsorship of a member of the Standing Committee of appropriate jurisdiction who must add her or his name to the resolution. In addition, the members present and voting must cast a 2/3's affirmative vote to bring the resolution before the Standing Committee for discussion.

B. Jurisdiction and Dissemination

1. Upon the close of the deadline for submitting proposed resolutions, the Chair of the Membership Committee and the General Counsel will determine the appropriate Standing Committee designation for all proposed resolutions. Generally, no resolutions will be referred to more than two Standing Committees.

2. Proposed Resolutions will be printed and distributed at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting to member Mayors, and they will be posted on the Conference's web site.

II. Standing Committee Membership and Procedure

A. Chairs and Membership

1. The President of The United States Conference of Mayors names the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Standing Committees. The President shall not name any member of the Executive Committee to serve as a Standing Committee Chair, except for the Tourism, Arts, Parks Entertainment and Sports Committee and the International Affairs Committee. If it becomes known prior to or during the Annual Meeting that a Chair will not be in attendance for either the committee or floor process, the President will designate an Acting Chair, with preference to a Vice Chair of that Standing Committee.

2. A member Mayor may select Standing Committees on which to serve. A Member Mayor may serve on only one Standing Committee, except that member Mayors may also serve on either the Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment and Sports Committee or the International Affairs Committees in addition to one other Standing Committee. And, member Mayors may serve on the Membership Committee in addition to all other selections. The acceptance of an appointment as Chair or Vice Chair of a Standing Committee will automatically supersede previous committee selections by a mayor if there is a conflict with Standing Committee rules. The committee selections will be automatically renewed each year unless a member Mayor chooses to make a change, which change must comply with the Section B (1) deadline.

B. Selection Deadlines

1. For continuing member Mayors, a Standing Committee membership selection must be submitted in writing, or by email, and received at the Conference headquarters on or before thirty (30) calendar days before the first day of the Annual Meeting. The deadline for submission and receipt by the Conference shall be 5 p.m. Eastern Time. Should the deadline fall on a holiday or a weekend the deadline shall be extended to 5 p.m, Eastern Time, on the next work day. No changes in Standing Committee membership will be allowed after the deadline. Standing Committee membership will be published on a private link available to member Mayors and members of the Conference Business Council on the usmayors.org web site shortly after the deadline.

2. New member Mayors must submit their Standing Committee selections by the first day of the Annual Meeting at the New Mayors Orientation or by 12:00 noon. A new member Mayor is defined for this purpose as one whose city is a member of the Conference and the Mayor is attending an Annual Meeting for the first time.

C. Resolution Consideration

1. The first subject of Standing Committee Agendas shall be consideration of resolutions. Proposed resolutions shall be dealt with before consideration of new resolutions. The Chair shall call at the beginning of the meeting for any new resolutions.

2. The Standing Committees shall consider all resolutions referred to them for action, except as noted in part 3 below. As to any new resolutions, only members of the Standing Committee may propose a new resolution, and consideration shall require a 2/3's procedural vote of those members present and voting to bring the resolution before the Standing Committee. Approval of any new resolution by the Standing Committee requires a majority of those present and voting and shall have the status of a resolution filed in a timely fashion.

3. An action to consider a proposed resolution that has been referred to another Standing Committee shall require a 2/3's vote of the members of the Standing Committee present and voting to bring the matter up before the Committee. An action to reassign a proposed resolution to another Standing Committee shall require a 2/3's vote of the members present and voting, and also a 2/3's vote of those members present and voting in the receiving Committee to consider the resolution and a majority vote to act favorably upon it and report it to the full membership as detailed under Section III.

4. The Chairs of the Standing Committees shall have the authority not to consider resolutions that reflect existing policy of The United States Conference of Mayors, and the Chair may be overruled only by a 2/3's vote of the members of the Standing Committee present and voting. Alternatively, a resolution not acted upon may be brought to the Plenary/Business session floor by a member Mayor present and voting as detailed under Section III B (2) with a 2/3's vote for consideration.

5. Each Standing Committee is encouraged to report not more than 10 resolutions, which action should reflect the Committee's assessment of the priority items in the subject area.

6. Any mayor with a current name badge may attend a meeting of a Standing Committee. Only members of the Standing Committee may vote and propose resolutions or amendments. Member mayors that are not members of the Standing Committee may speak if recognized by the Chair, but they may not propose resolutions or amendments or vote.

7. Only mayors may be recognized to speak when resolutions are being considered.

8. There is no proxy or alternate voting in the Standing Committees.

9. A parliamentarian will attend all Standing Committee meetings to assist the Chairs.

III. Action Before the Full Membership (Plenary/Business Session)

A. Voting Credentials/Alternates

1. Voting credentials will be available on the morning of the Plenary/Business Session. It is necessary for all Official Delegates who wish to vote to have these credentials in their possession. There is but one credential for each member city. If the Mayor of a member city is registered, the credential will be issued to him or her. If the Mayor is not registered and has not been in attendance at the Annual Meeting, a registered official from his/her city must have been designated, in writing, to be the Official Delegate to receive the city's credentials, but the Official Delegate may not have the floor or speak to any issue under discussion.

2. If a registered Mayor anticipates that he/she will not be present at the Plenary/Business Session, he/she may designate, in writing, an alternate, who must be a registered official from his/her city, to receive the city's voting credential and exercise the city's vote. Such an alternate, however, may not have the floor or speak to any issue under discussion.

B. Resolution Consideration

1. Each Standing Committee shall present its report to the full membership at the Plenary/Business Session. Any member Mayor may set aside a resolution for special consideration.

2. The full membership shall consider all resolutions contained in the reports of the Standing Committees. In addition, a member Mayor may propose a new resolution, or move a resolution not reported out by a Standing Committee, with a 2/3's vote of those member Mayors present and voting in the Plenary/Business Session required for consideration.

3. At the close of the reports of the Standing Committees, the Presiding Officer, at her/his discretion, may entertain resolutions relating to privileged matters such as relate to recognition of special services, statements of appreciation, special commendations.

IV. Exceptions

By direction of the Executive Committee there shall be no exceptions to the deadlines or to the process and the staff of the Conference has been so instructed.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

The U.S. Conference of Mayors
76th Annual Meeting
June 20-24, 2008
Miami

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Resolution No.1

Submitted By:

The Honorable Ronald V. Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark NJ

STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC

1. **WHEREAS**, AIDS cases have been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. dependencies, possessions, and associated nations; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that more than one million three hundred thousand people are living with HIV/AIDS in the US today; and
3. **WHEREAS**, ten states account for more than 70 percent of the cumulative AIDS cases reported in the US since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic; and
4. **WHEREAS**, AIDS cases have been concentrated primarily in large US metropolitan areas and the top ten metropolitan areas account for more than 52 percent of the cumulative AIDS cases; and
5. **WHEREAS**, approximately 250,000 of the infections are undiagnosed, meaning that many infected people are unaware of the HIV serostatus; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that approximately one half of all new HIV infections come from HIV positive persons who do not know their status; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to have a disproportionate impact on diverse populations and communities; and

8. **WHEREAS**, racial and ethnic minorities have been disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS since the beginning of the epidemic and represented the majority of new AIDS cases (70%), people living with AIDS (64%) and AIDS deaths (72%) in 2006; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has made recommendations to encourage routine screening for HIV, removal of barriers to expand HIV testing and to allow for flexibility in the requirement(s) for pre-test counseling, thereby making HIV testing more accessible and facilitating utilization of new HIV screening technologies including rapid HIV tests; and
10. **WHEREAS**, advances in HIV/AIDS treatment have substantially reduced AIDS-related morbidity and mortality; and
11. **WHEREAS**, a variety of federally and state-supported prevention and care services are provided by state and local health departments, community and faith-based organizations; and
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors commits to working with their member Mayors to address the HIV epidemic within their respective jurisdictions by raising awareness about HIV; by encouraging people to: become aware of their HIV status; seek on-going medical care and services if they are HIV positive; participate in HIV prevention education services if HIV negative; and routinize screening for HIV in all medical and community healthcare settings; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages all Mayors to utilize all resources to end the epidemic of HIV/AIDS in their respective jurisdictions.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.2

Submitted By:

The Honorable Douglas Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

SUPPORT FOR CRADLE TO PRISON PIPELINE INITIATIVE

1. **WHEREAS**, tens of thousands of youth are funneled down life paths that lead to arrest, conviction, incarceration and even death; and
2. **WHEREAS**, a Black boy born in 2001 has a 1 in 3 chance of going to prison in his lifetime; a Latino boy a 1 in 6 chance; and a White boy a 1 in 17 chance. A Black girl born in 2001 has a 1 in 17 chance of going to prison in her lifetime; a Latino girl a 1 in 45 chance; and a White girl a 1 in 111 chance; and
3. **WHEREAS**, poverty, exacerbated by race, is the largest driving force behind the *Cradle to Prison Pipeline* crisis, with almost 13 million, or 1 in 6 children in America living in poverty, almost half of whom (5.5 million) live in extreme poverty; and
4. **WHEREAS**, 1 in 4 Latino children and 1 in 3 Black children are poor; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the number of uninsured children from birth through age 18 rose to 9.4 million in 2006; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Latino children are three times and Black children are almost twice as likely to be uninsured as White children; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the importance of the early years is dramatically underscored in a U.S. Department of Education study which found that Black and Hispanic children were substantially behind when they entered kindergarten; and
8. **WHEREAS**, 86 percent of Black, 83 percent of Latino and 58 percent of White 4th graders cannot read at grade level; and
9. **WHEREAS**, 89 percent of Black, 85 percent of Latino and 59 percent of White 8th graders cannot do grade level math; and

10. **WHEREAS**, only 48,000 Black males earn a bachelor's degree each year, but an estimated 1 in 3 Black men ages 20-29 is under correctional supervision or control; and
11. **WHEREAS**, one-size-fits-all zero tolerance school discipline policies are transforming schools into a major point of entry into the juvenile justice system as children are increasingly arrested on school grounds for subjectively and loosely defined behaviors; and
12. **WHEREAS**, a child is abused or neglected every 36 seconds but four in ten of the children who are confirmed abused or neglected get no help at all; and
13. **WHEREAS**, although they comprise only 16 percent of all children, Black children represent 32 percent of the foster care population; and
14. **WHEREAS**, a Congressional study found 15,000 children in juvenile detention facilities, some as young as 7 years old, solely because community mental health services were unavailable; and
15. **WHEREAS**, children who age out of foster care are less likely to graduate from high school or college, and experience more serious mental health problems, including post-traumatic stress disorder, than children generally and they are less likely to receive adequate health and mental health care, and are more likely to experience homelessness, and to be involved in the criminal justice system; and
16. **WHEREAS**, alcohol and other substance abuse treatment for youth and for parents and adults is in too short supply; and
17. **WHEREAS**, Black youth are about four times as likely as their White peers to be incarcerated; and
18. **WHEREAS**, most juvenile correctional facility programs focus on punishment rather than treatment and rehabilitation, often creating environments that further harden youth and makes it more difficult for them to productively reintegrate into their communities; and
19. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to fighting for policies that put

children on track to a productive adulthood and against the criminalization of children at younger and younger ages and urge the President of the United States and Congress to; and

20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to ending poverty through investments in high quality education for every child, livable wages for families, income supplements like the Earned Income and Child Tax Credits, job training and job creation, and work supports like child care and health coverage; and
21. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to ensuring every child and pregnant woman has access to affordable, seamless, comprehensive health and mental health coverage and services; and
22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to making early childhood development programs accessible to every child by ensuring such programs are affordable, available and of high quality; and
23. **BE IT RUTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to helping each child reach his/her full potential and succeed in work and life by ensuring our schools have adequate resources to provide high quality education to every child; and
24. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to expanding prevention and specialized treatment services for children and their parents, connect children to caring permanent families, improve the quality of the child welfare workforce and increase accountability for results for children; and
25. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to reducing detention and incarceration by increasing investment in prevention and early intervention strategies, such as access to quality early childhood development and education services and to the health and mental health care children need for healthy development.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.3

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lois J. Frankel
Mayor of West Palm Beach

The Honorable Wayne J. Hall Sr.
Mayor of Hempstead

The Honorable Carolyn K. Peterson
Mayor of Ithaca

The Honorable John E. Marks, III
Mayor of Tallahassee

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
UNITED STATES NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT (H.R. 676)**

1. **WHEREAS**, every person deserves access to affordable quality health care; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the number of Americans without health insurance now exceeds 47 million; and
3. **WHEREAS**, millions with insurance have coverage so inadequate that a major illness would lead to financial ruin, and medical illness and bills contribute to one-half of all bankruptcies; and
4. **WHEREAS**, proposals for "consumer directed health care" would worsen this situation by penalizing the sick, discouraging prevention and saddling many working families with huge medical bills; and
5. **WHEREAS**, managed care and other market-based reforms have failed to contain health care costs, which now threaten the international competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers; and
6. **WHEREAS**, administrative waste stemming from our reliance on private insurers consumes one-third of private health spending while the single payer Medicare system has administrative costs of less than 5%; and
7. **WHEREAS**, U.S. hospitals spend 24.3% of their budgets on billing and administration while hospitals under Canada's single payer system spend only 12.9%; and

8. **WHEREAS**, Harvard researchers estimate that more than \$300 billion could be recovered by replacing private insurance companies with a single public payer, enough to cover the *uninsured and to improve coverage for all those who now have only partial coverage*; and
9. **WHEREAS**, entrusting care to profit-oriented firms diverts billions of dollars to outrageous incomes for CEOs and threatens the quality of care; and
10. **WHEREAS**, The United States National Health Insurance Act (H.R. 676) would assure universal coverage of all medically necessary services, contain costs by slashing bureaucracy, protect the doctor patient relationship, assure patients a completely free choice of doctors, and allow physicians a free choice of practice settings; and
11. **WHEREAS**, most polls show that the majority of Americans support universal healthcare; and
12. **WHEREAS**, as of the date of this resolution, the majority of American physicians (59%) believe that Single Payer is the best method of securing universal healthcare; and
13. **WHEREAS**, The United States National Health Insurance Act (H.R. 676) will guarantee every mayor that all residents and employees of his/her city will be fully covered for healthcare and save millions of taxpayer dollars now spent on premiums to provide less than full health insurance coverage for government employees; and
14. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors expresses its support for The United States National Health Insurance Act (H.R. 676), and calls upon federal legislators to work towards its immediate enactment.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.4

Submitted By:

The Honorable Chris Koos
Mayor of Normal, Illinois

**ENSURING BICYCLING IS INTEGRATED INTO NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION,
CLIMATE, ENERGY AND HEALTH POLICY INITIATIVES**

1. **WHEREAS**, bicycling can provide multiple and cross-cutting benefits in U.S policy initiatives that seek to address transportation needs, limit climate change and energy consumption and improve public health; and
2. **WHEREAS**, we now live in a nation with 300 million people, and that number is expected to grow to 365 million by 2030 and to 420 million by 2050 with the vast majority of that growth occurring in congested urban areas where there are significant limitations on accommodating increased motor vehicle travel; and
3. **WHEREAS**, since 1980, the number of miles Americans drive has grown three times faster than the U.S. population; and
4. **WHEREAS**, a national transportation system that invests in and is conducive to bicycling reduces traffic congestion in our most heavily congested urban areas while promoting an overall improved quality of life that is valuable for the Nation; As example: More than 200 cities throughout the U.S., representing more than 35 million people have committed to implementing bicycle friendly action plans to make their communities more bicycle friendly; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the greatest potential for increased bicycle usage is in our major urban areas where 40 percent of trips are two miles or less and 28 percent are less than one mile; and
6. **WHEREAS**, surveys show that a majority of people want to ride more but are dissuaded by concern over traffic danger and other barriers, and case studies have shown that when those barriers to bicycling are removed, people start riding; and

7. **WHEREAS**, a national network of interconnected urban and rural bikeways can provide valuable community benefits, including low or no-cost recreation and alternative transportation options for people of all ages and abilities; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the transportation sector contributes one-third of the greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and passenger automobiles and light trucks alone contribute 21 percent; and
9. **WHEREAS**, Ten percent of global oil production goes solely toward fueling America's cars and trucks and the U.S. could save 462 millions of gallons of gasoline a year by increasing cycling from one percent to one and a half percent of all trips; and
10. **WHEREAS**, bicycle commuters annually save on average \$1,825 in auto-related costs, reduce their carbon emissions by 128 pounds, conserve 145 gallons of gasoline, and avoid 50 hours of gridlock traffic; and
11. **WHEREAS**, over 800 of our Nation's Mayors have signed onto the Climate Protection Agreement of the United States Conference of Mayors urging the Federal Government to enact policies and programs to meet or exceed a greenhouse gas emission reduction target of a seven percent reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and
12. **WHEREAS**, two years ago the Conference of Mayors unanimously endorsed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, whereby a key component is to implement climate-friendly land-use policies and invest in public transportation and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the Center for Disease Control estimates that if all physically inactive Americans became active, we would save \$77 billion in annual medical costs; and
14. **WHEREAS**, the United States is challenged by an obesity epidemic in which 65 percent of U.S. adults are either overweight or obese, and 13 percent of children and adolescents are overweight, due in large part to a lack of regular activity; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the percentage of U.S. children who walk or bike to school has dropped by 70 percent since 1969 such that

only 15 percent of students were walking or biking to school in 2001 while the rate of childhood obesity has tripled in recent years; and

16. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors believes that achieving increased levels of bicycling is in the national interest; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages the development and implementation of a coordinated national bicycling strategy aimed to increase safe bicycle use as a mode of transportation; and
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages the development of federal transportation, environmental and public health policies that recognize increased and safe bicycle usage for transportation is in the national interest and that we further urge Congress in the next federal transportation reauthorization to establish policies and funding mechanisms that will aim to Reduce the number of motor vehicle miles traveled (VMT); and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages improving safety conditions for bicyclists and Collect transportation and safety data needed to monitor progress; and
20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages providing incentives for state and local governments to adopt and implement Complete Street policies designed to accommodate all users; and
21. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that even absent federal incentives, Governors and state-level leadership should embrace Complete Streets policies that acknowledge the contributions of bicycles as a means to reduce vehicle miles by integrating bicycle use into standard street design; and
22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on all Mayors that sign onto the Climate Protection Agreement to develop and implement action plans to incorporate bicycling programs and policies as a key component in reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050; and

23. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages every mayor to strive to make their city a Bicycle Friendly Community.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.5

Submitted By:

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Katherine Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Tom Potter
Mayor of Portland

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Bob Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

**URGING SUPPORT FOR THE REAUTHORIZATION OF
THE INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT (HR 1328)**

1. **WHEREAS**, all people should enjoy the highest possible standard of physical and mental health as a fundamental human right; and
2. **WHEREAS**, it is unacceptable that, at this time, American Indians and Alaska Natives experience diabetes, alcoholism, mental health conditions, cancer, hypertension, arthritis, heart disease and other conditions at rates higher than the general population of the United States; and

3. **WHEREAS**, the United States government has a trust responsibility to provide health care to American Indians and Alaska Natives and the Indian Health Service (IHS) is the federal agency charged with the responsibility of delivering such health services; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the federal Indian Health Care Improvement Act (P.L. 94-437), enacted by Congress in 1976, along with the Snyder Act of 1921, provides the programmatic and legal framework for administering the health services provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act expired in 2000 and has not yet been reauthorized despite years of diligent efforts by tribal leaders and advocates around the United States; and
6. **WHEREAS**, over the last several Congressional sessions, the National Steering Committee for the Reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act has worked closely with the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Staff, House Resources Committee Staff, and House Legislative Counsel to refine the Indian Health Care Improvement Act bill language; and
9. **WHEREAS**, two bills to reauthorize the Indian Health Care Improvement Act - H.R. 1328, sponsored by Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr., and S. 1200, sponsored by Senator Byron Dorgan have been passed with significant support; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the proposed reauthorization bill will modernize and improve the healthcare of American Indians and Alaska Natives by establishing objectives for addressing health disparities;
 - Establishing programs for the delivery of Indian health care services;
 - Authorizing the construction and maintenance of health care and sanitation facilities in American Indian and Alaska Native communities;
 - Modernizing and improving Indian health care services and delivery;
 - Addressing the behavioral and mental health and well-being of American Indian and Alaska Native communities by establishing behavioral health programs in alcohol and substance abuse, social services and mental health;

- Establishing a continuum of care through integrated behavioral health programs—both prevention and treatment—to address alcohol/substance abuse problems and the social service and mental health needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people;
- Enhancing the ability of IHS and tribal health programs to attract and retain qualified Indian health care professionals;
- Allowing for in-home care for the American Indian and Alaska Native elderly population;
- Facilitating greater decision-making regarding program operations and priorities at the local tribal level in order to improve services to tribal populations.

9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the United States House of Representatives is strongly urged to pass and fully fund HB 1328, and President George W. Bush to sign into law, the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act in the 110th Congress; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that all actions necessary and appropriate to secure the actions requested in his resolution are taken, including but not limited to working collaboratively with the all Federally-Recognized Indian Pueblos, Tribes, Nations and Alaska Natives.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.6

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Michael J. Moncrief
Mayor of Ft. Worth

The Honorable Robert Cluck, MD
Mayor of Arlington

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

**OPPOSING MEDICAID REGULATIONS RESTRICTING MEDICAID PAYMENTS TO
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Administration has issued regulations restricting and in some instances eliminating Medicaid payments for Public Providers, Graduate Medical Education, School Nurses and services for Individuals with Disabilities; and

2. **WHEREAS**, these rules go way too far and will end up hurting patients and the very system that serves them by making drastic cuts in critical safety net funding; and
3. **WHEREAS**, these rules would eliminate sources of revenue for safety net providers and, after decades of supporting graduate medical education through the Medicaid program, would eliminate such support even when residents are treating Medicaid-eligible patients; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Medicaid program must continue to participate in physician training because we need more not less physicians in both urban and rural areas in the future; and
5. **WHEREAS**, these rules would eliminate a long-standing policy of Medicaid reimbursement for administrative activities and transportation for school-based health services traditionally provided by school nurses; and
6. **WHEREAS**, these rules would eliminate Medicaid support rehabilitative services, which are entwined with rehabilitative services for individuals with disabilities; and
7. **WHEREAS**, these rules would eliminate Medicaid reimbursement for certain targeted case management services that benefit low-income recipients; and
8. **WHEREAS**, health care is a critical issue facing many Americans and we must enhance access to good health care, including preventive health care, not diminish it; and
9. **WHEREAS**, rules have been estimated to cost in excess of \$20 billion over 5 years to State and local governments at a time when the economy is already straining city budgets; and
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors opposes the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services rules placing severe restrictions on the ability of state and local governments to finance the Medicaid program; and

11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors supports moratoria on regulations and calls for the Administration to rescind such regulations.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.7

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

IN SUPPORT OF FUNDING OBESITY PREVENTION

1. **WHEREAS**, between the 1970s and 2000, obesity has become a national public health epidemic; and
2. **WHEREAS**, nearly one-third of all American adults are obese and 65% are either overweight or obese, and at least 16% of children 6-19 years of age are considered overweight in the United States; and
3. **WHEREAS**, obesity has significant impacts on health and social welfare, leading to disease, disability and death as well as lost productivity and increased health care expenditures; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in 2004, the total medical cost of obesity was estimated to be \$75 billion; and
5. **WHEREAS**, between 1947 and 1997, calorically-sweetened beverage consumption increased 500%; and
6. **WHEREAS**, calorically-sweetened beverages are the leading source of added sugars in children's diets, accounting for more than 10% of the total daily caloric intake of the average child; and

7. **WHEREAS**, substantial scientific evidence, including epidemiologic and experimental studies, supports a causal relationship between the consumption of calorically-sweetened beverages and obesity and overweight; and
8. **WHEREAS**, controlled trials of removing calorically-sweetened beverages from the diet results in weight loss; and
9. **WHEREAS**, one key way to address the health and economic impacts caused by obesity and overweight is by imposing regulatory fees on the sale of calorically-sweetened beverages and other heavily marketed food and beverage items that contribute to obesity; and
10. **WHEREAS**, these impact fees could fund important public health prevention programs that reduced obesity and/or mitigate the negative impacts, including school food marketing initiatives, citywide nutrition and physical activity media campaigns, or other childhood and adult nutrition and physical activity programs; and
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors supports increased resources for cities to help combat obesity and fund obesity prevention, including consideration of regulatory impact fees on calorically-sweetened beverages, a leading contributor to the nation's obesity epidemic.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.8

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Raul Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

**OPPOSING THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES DIRECTIVE
LIMITING EXPANSION OF THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM**

1. **WHEREAS**, the number of uninsured children increased by 611,000 to 8.7 million from 2005 to 2006; and
2. **WHEREAS**, children without coverage are more likely to end up in emergency rooms when conditions could have been addressed sooner at the primary care level; and
3. **WHEREAS**, uninsured children get less medically necessary care, and are more likely to have unmet needs for care; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the State's Children Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) provides coverage to children in low-income families whose income exceeds Medicaid income eligibility limits; and
5. **WHEREAS**, every state has an SCHIP program, and SCHIP has not only been successful in covering newly eligible children but also in triggering major improvements in

Medicaid that allowed millions of uninsured children who had been eligible for Medicaid but not enrolled to gain coverage and access to care; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the Congressional Research Service have issued legal opinions stating that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) August 17, 2007 letter to state officials is a rule and must be submitted to Congress and the Comptroller General before it can take effect; and
7. **WHEREAS**, CMS has inappropriately limited states' abilities to expand SCHIP to families above 250 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) based on its August 2007 letter to state officials; and
8. **WHEREAS**, during the current environment of economic uncertainty the imposition of new requirements limiting access to SCHIP for children in families losing private coverage could adversely affect working families' access to needed healthcare; and
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S Conference of Mayors opposes the CMS August 2007 letter and its May 7, 2008 clarifying letter to states that limit states' abilities to expand coverage for children; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports moratoria on these CMS letters and calls for the Administration to rescind such directives and permit states flexibility to expand public coverage to higher income families as deemed necessary and appropriate by each state.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.9

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

**PROVIDING UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, QUALITY
HEALTH CARE**

1. **WHEREAS**, the number of people without health insurance coverage increased by 2.2 million to 46.9 million - 15.8 percent of the population - between 2005 and 2006; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the percentage of people covered by employment-based health insurance declined slightly - from 60.2 percent to 59.7 percent - between 2005 and 2006, and the percentage of people covered by government health insurance also declined slightly - from 27.3 percent to 27 percent - during the same period; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the number of uninsured children increased by 611,000 to 8.7 million from 2005 to 2006; and
4. **WHEREAS**, this year nearly one out of four non-elderly Americans—61.6 million—is in a family that will spend more than 10 percent of its pre-tax income on health care costs, and 17.8 million Americans are in families that will spend more than 25 percent of their pre-tax income on health care costs; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the number of uninsured people and people with inadequate coverage grow, cities are on the frontlines of the crisis coping with its economic impact on city services, including increased demand for mental health and substance abuse services and increased demand for other safety net services for families; and
6. **WHEREAS**, if one breadwinner in a middle class family has significant medical bills due to lack of health insurance, that family is at high risk of slipping into poverty, thus making many middle class families one accident or illness away from a catastrophe; and
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors calls on the next President and Congress to repair the nation's health care system to provide affordable, quality health care for all Americans.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.10

Submitted By:

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R. T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark, NJ

The Honorable Bob Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

HEALTH DISPARITIES

1. **WHEREAS**, racial and ethnic health disparities are a major preventable public health problem in cities across the nation; and
2. **WHEREAS**, many major national and local studies such as those analyzed in the Institute of Medicine's 2002 Report "Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Healthcare," have documented "differences in incidence, prevalence, mortality and burden of disease and other adverse health conditions," as disparities is defined by the National Institutes of Health; and
3. **WHEREAS**, these racial and ethnic health inequities are caused by many social factors, including discrimination, poverty, inequitable access to resources essential to health such as education, healthy housing, healthy environments and culturally competent health care; and
4. **WHEREAS**, cities such as Boston, Minneapolis and others have taken the initiative to eliminate disparities through model

collaborative, cross-sector approaches that bring together a group of leaders from health, business, government, and community; and

5. **WHEREAS**, local government also relies on a sustained partnership with the federal government to succeed in creating health equity; and
6. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors requests continued and expanded national support for federal programs that explicitly tackle this major social problem, such as REACH 2010, Healthy Start, and Title VII Health Professions programs such as Health Education Centers; and
7. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors urges that race and ethnicity health data across federal and state programs be collected and standardized and that reports be published annually which examine differences in health outcomes and health status by race and ethnicity.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.11

Submitted By:

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R. T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

YOUTH VIOLENCE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

1. **WHEREAS**, youth violence is the second leading cause of death nationwide for young people between the ages of 10 and 24; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the likelihood of recurrence of street violence for a victim is estimated at up to 44%; and
3. **WHEREAS**, 5,570 young people age 10-24 were murdered - an average of 16 each day - in 2003; and
4. **WHEREAS**, over 780,000 violence-related injuries in young people age 10 to 24 were treated in U.S. emergency rooms in 2004; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the plague of violence can result in a multitude of physical and psychological health problems, as well as tremendous economic costs to both the victim and society; and
6. **WHEREAS**, many young people seek medical care for violence-related injuries, some of which can lead to lasting disabilities; and

7. **WHEREAS**, violence can undo the social fabric of communities by increasing the cost of health care, decreasing property value, and disrupting social services. The cost of youth violence exceeds \$158 billion each year; and
8. **WHEREAS**, research is proving that youth violence is a preventable disease; and
9. **WHEREAS**, violence is a learned behavior that can be unlearned by systematically shifting social norms and community expectations of violence; and
10. **WHEREAS**, promising interventions in some cities have shown that public health models can be successfully applied to community violence and result in dramatic decreases in violent injury and death; and
11. **WHEREAS**, successful models for youth violence intervention have included public education, community coalitions, street outreach, and partnerships with law enforcement informed by the voices of youth and the parents of crime victims; and
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) urges the federal government, states and cities to recognize youth violence as a public health epidemic that requires a sustained multi-faceted approach focused on prevention; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages cities to work with a broad range of stakeholders to establish programs that protect the safety of all victims of violence), seeking medical care in emergency rooms, community health centers, homeless shelters and other sites; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges cities to partner with health care institutions to train health care providers in community health centers and acute care hospitals to establish protocols and effectively identify, respond and treat all victims of violence; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the federal government include as a covered benefit under all federal health insurance programs, reimbursement for case management, mental health, and health education services for all victims of violence; and

16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the federal government support investments in youth development in US cities, with an emphasis on reaching disconnected and hard to reach youth with quality programming.

Projected cost: Unknown

Resolution No.12

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Antonio Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

URGING POLICIES TO END NATION'S CHILDHOOD HUNGER CRISIS

1. **WHEREAS**, 35 million Americans, including 12.6 million children are food insecure; and
2. **WHEREAS**, food insecurity exists in 10% or more American households and above average rates of food insecurity (and risk of hunger) occur among households in America's major cities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, one in five Americans use at least one of USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs during the year, including 13.4 million children who receive food stamp benefits and 11.5 million households who participate in the free or reduced-price school lunch program; and
4. **WHEREAS**, hunger impairs our children's health in significant and long-lasting ways, including impeding growth and development, increased illness, poorer mental health, more hospitalization, and greater susceptibility to obesity and its harmful health consequences; and
5. **WHEREAS**, hunger impedes children's ability to learn and perform academically and increases their susceptibility to physical and mental illness; and

6. **WHEREAS**, our nation's youth are our future and we need to act now to address this urgent crisis; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 includes vital food security, food bank and childhood nutrition provisions that will help address our nation's childhood hunger crisis; and
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Administration to provide increased resources to help families access economic security programs, including food stamps, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and improve access for children to healthy, affordable food in shelters, food banks and pantries, schools and neighborhoods.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.13

Submitted By:

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

**FULL FUNDING & EXPANSION OF THE STEPS TO A HEALTHIER US
PROGRAM**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has found that poor nutrition, inactivity and tobacco use has led to widespread, severe health problems such as obesity, heart disease, diabetes, asthma and other chronic diseases; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the CDC has found that these chronic health issues are especially acute in low-income and minority populations; and
3. **WHEREAS**, to address these issues the CDC implemented the Steps to a Healthier US program; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Steps to a Healthier US Program has provided grants to 40 communities to implement chronic disease prevention and health promotion activities to address obesity, diabetes, and asthma, as well as related risk behaviors such as physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and tobacco use; and
5. **WHEREAS**, Steps to Healthier US communities promote improved health by creating a groundswell of activity in local communities, through schools, worksites, health care settings, and other community institutions, to support healthier lifestyles and prevent chronic diseases; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Steps to Healthier US communities have implemented programs that reach beyond public health and bring together a wide range of disciplines, such as business, transportation, and city planning that are evidence-based and have been successful in changing people's behaviors to help improve the health of communities; and

7. **WHEREAS**, communities participating in Steps to a Healthier US form partnerships with private, public and non-profit partners, including schools, businesses, work sites, and health care facilities to extend the reach of their programs and to accelerate progress toward a healthier community; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the CDC has implemented a rigorous evaluation regime for the Steps to a Healthier US program that tracks results based on core performance measures; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the CDC has used data from this evaluation process to improve the program and improve overall public health efforts; and
10. **WHEREAS**, communities participating in the Steps to a Healthier US have seen dramatic improvements in public health, including reduced obesity rates, declines in risky lifestyles and behaviors and increases in healthy lifestyles and behaviors; and
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to fully fund the Steps to a Healthier US Program so that participating communities can build on their success to date; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors calls on Congress and the Administration to expand the Steps to a Healthier US Program so that additional communities can receive the health benefits of this innovative program.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.14

Submitted By:

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

1. **WHEREAS**, Americans expect health care services to be high quality, safe and of high value; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Institute of Medicine has endorsed the implementation of health information technology including electronic medical records and the use of electronic prescribing in order to increase the quality of health care delivery and to prevent medication errors; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the implementation of health information technology will support the Institute of Medicine's vision for a transformed health care system that is safe, effective, patient centered, timely, efficient and equitable; and
4. **WHEREAS**, there are a growing number of physicians' offices, hospitals, laboratories, pharmacies and other health care providers across the nation that have already taken steps to adopt electronic medical record systems; and
5. **WHEREAS**, through public-private partnerships, many states have begun to build the initial infrastructure for systems that will facilitate the secure electronic health information exchange across health care providers; and
4. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors (USCM) hereby affirms the need to transition from a paper-based medical system to an electronic -records system; and
5. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors hereby endorses health care providers' ongoing effort to implement and utilize to maximum capability electronic health records for their patients, including all

appropriate electronic health information exchange systems that will improve the quality, safety and value of health care delivery by facilitating the secure, confidential and appropriate flow of health care information between health care providers and consumer access to their own health information; and

6. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM hereby endorses efforts by non-providers to support the ongoing work to implement and utilize to maximum capability electronic health records, including all appropriate electronic health information exchange systems that will improve the quality, safety and value of health care delivery by facilitating the secure, confidential and appropriate flow of health care information between health care providers, and consumer access to their own health information; and
7. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM hereby recognizes that health care consumers should expect that their health care providers will use electronic health records and information systems that: (1) Protect the confidentiality of health care information in accordance with the providers' professional obligations to their patients and the provisions of state and federal laws; (2) Provide the consumer with access to their healthcare information; (3) Provide appropriate security measures to protect electronic information against illicit access; (4) Interface with statewide electronic health information exchanges that facilitates the sharing of health information for coordination and continuity of care; (5) Improve health care providers' ability to apply the best available scientific evidence in the provision of health care services; (6) Reduce waste and duplication of health care services; and (7) Improve the safety of health care by ensuring that electronic orders for laboratory tests, medication and other services are created and transmitted electronically whenever possible; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM hereby supports the goal that all health care consumers will be served by providers that have adopted electronic health records systems by January 1, 2015.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 15

Submitted By:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Kathryn L. Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark, NJ

INCREASING ACCESS TO QUALITY PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, 20 percent of children entering kindergarten lack the social and emotional skills necessary for classroom learning; and
2. **WHEREAS**, less than half of children in poverty attend preschool at ages 3 and 4; and
3. **WHEREAS**, children of families with modest incomes, slightly below the average, participate less in preschool education than families in poverty; and
4. **WHEREAS**, only 30.5 percent of Hispanic 3 year olds attend center-based preschool education programs and 45.8 percent of non-Hispanic children; and

5. **WHEREAS**, almost 80 percent of total brain development occurs before the age of five; and
6. **WHEREAS**, children attending high quality preschool programs are engaged in early literacy development training; and
7. **WHEREAS**, students who have attended quality preschool programming have less grade retention and increased high school graduation rates when compared to those who have not attended; and
8. **WHEREAS**, students having attended preschool programs are less likely to smoke and are more to likely make better personal health decisions; and
9. **WHEREAS**, young adults who participated in quality early childhood education programs were arrested less often, had fewer births out of wedlock, and were less likely to use welfare than their peers who did not participate; and
10. **WHEREAS**, high quality preschool programs lead to decreased crime and delinquency rates,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors urges federal, state, and local governments to invest in expanding access to quality preschool education; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors believes that the extent of preschool education's impact depends on both quality resources for students and the professional development of teachers, paraprofessionals and staff in early education centers.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 90

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Kathryn L. Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

INCREASING ACCESS TO QUALITY AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, after-school tutoring increases the academic achievement of students on state standardized tests; and
2. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs provide extracurricular activities that expose students to arts, culture, sports, leadership development, and career exploration opportunities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs provide constructive activities, supervision, and safety for students outside of school hours; and

4. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs participation leads to increased school attendance and graduation rates among students; and
5. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs promote personal skills and social development of students,
6. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls for federal, state and local levels of government to support cities and their districts in building and investing in quality after-school programming by:
 - Creating grant opportunities for building city-wide after school initiatives to encourage access to all K-12 students;
 - Providing support and incentives for professional development training for staff and paraprofessionals; and
 - Encouraging the development of evaluations to gauge the impact of after-school programs and to identify additional needs, necessary enhancements, and supports
7. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors encourages collaboration among government agencies, non-profit organizations and the business community to develop after-school programming.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.16

Submitted By:

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

1. **WHEREAS**, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program was signed into law by President Gerald Ford as the centerpiece of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; and
2. **WHEREAS**, CDBG is the Federal government's efforts to help more than 1,100 entitlement cities, urban counties, States and their non-profit partners meet the needs of low and moderate-income communities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, CDBG helps to fund a wide range of activities, including homeownership assistance, housing rehabilitation, public governments, public services, and economic development projects; and
4. **WHEREAS**, according to HUD, over 95 percent of FY07 CDBG funding went to activities principally benefiting low and moderate-income persons; and
5. **WHEREAS**, CDBG housing projects assisted 151,107 households in FY07, including financial assistance to new homeowners and rehabilitation assistance to the elderly and other existing homeowners; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the CDBG helped create and retain 42,231 jobs in FY07 and provided vital public services to over 24 million persons; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the impact of past cuts have had a negative impact and proposed cuts will exacerbate the problem for communities that rely on CDBG funding to serve their most vulnerable residents, principally low and moderate-income persons; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the CDBG formula allocation was funded at \$4.41 billion in FY01; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the formula allocation has decreased by \$820 million - or approximately 18 percent - with a five percent cut in FY05, 10 percent cut in FY06, and a three percent cut in FY08; and

10. **WHEREAS**, the FY09 HUD budget would reduce the formula funding by \$659 million (18 percent), cutting the formula allocation by almost 37 percent in just five years; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the cuts to the formula allocation, programs and projects funded by CDBG, and the number of residents served by these activities, have also been cut; and
12. **WHEREAS**, in these hard economic times, CDBG can help state and local governments to assist the community development needs of some of the nation's most vulnerable communities and citizens,
13. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to support the nation's communities and low and moderate-income citizens by funding CDBG with at least \$4.1 billion in formula funds in FY 2009; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors also strongly supports that formula funding for the CDBG program be doubled to at least \$8 billion over the next several years.

Projected Cost: At least \$4.1 billion

Resolution No:17

Submitted By:

The Honorable Bill Baarsma
Mayor of Tacoma

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor St. Louis, MO

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

1. **WHEREAS**, it has been eighteen years since the federal government last enacted a major affordable housing production program; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the shortage of affordable rental housing for people with limited income continues to be one of our most significant urban challenges, with housing costs outstripping wages for more households than ever before; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in October 2007, the House of Representatives, led by Chairman Barney Frank of the House Financial Services Committee, passed The National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007, the largest expansion in federal housing programs in decades, with a goal of producing, rehabilitating and preserving 1.5 million housing units over the next 10 years, allocating up to \$1 billion annually directly to states and local communities, with funding derived from a portion of the profits of Government Sponsored Enterprises such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the Fund resources would be eligible for activities such as construction, rehabilitation, acquisition, preservation incentives and operating assistance to facilitate affordability, among others; and
5. **WHEREAS**, 60 per cent of funding monies will go to participating local jurisdictions and 40% to states, Indian Tribes and insular areas; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Senators John Kerry and 19 co-sponsors have introduced comparable legislation which is now pending before the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors commends Chairman Barney Frank, Subcommittee Chair Maxine Waters, the House Financial Services Committee and the full House of Representatives for its passage of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act, as well as Senators Kerry and his Senate co-sponsors for their efforts on the Senate side to advance this legislation; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Congress to enact an Affordable Housing Trust Fund as soon as possible to ensure that housing opportunities are available to all Americans.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.18

Submitted By:

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor of Louisville, KY

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark, NJ

The Honorable David N.
Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Antonio R.
Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE CRISIS

1. **WHEREAS**, the number of foreclosures soared in 2007, with 405,000 households losing their homes - an increase of 51 percent over 2006 levels; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the total number of properties with foreclosure activity in April 2008 reached the highest level on a monthly basis since RealtyTrac began issuing reports on foreclosures in January 2005; and
3. **WHEREAS**, this crisis has impacted virtually every city in the country, urban as well as rural areas, and homeowners as well as renters; and
4. **WHEREAS**, communities across this country are being devastated by the foreclosure crisis, which has already left many neighborhoods with boarded up homes, declining property values and rising crime; and
5. **WHEREAS**, foreclosures in many cases are concentrated in the poorest neighborhoods of a City, where hard-working people

have scraped together money to buy homes - often utilizing City programs to do so; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the eroding property values directly and significantly impact the quality of life in neighborhoods, reduce the tax base of local governments, and impose increasing costs to city budgets already heavily burdened by a weakened economy; and
7. **WHEREAS**, Mayors and community leaders have worked hard to make these neighborhoods thriving places to live and work and the wave of mortgage foreclosures threatens to overtake these neighborhoods where the City and state, federal and non-profit partners have invested millions of dollars to produce high quality, affordable housing,
8. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass legislation forthwith that helps stabilize neighborhoods; targets communities and populations most in need; provides flexibility in the use of the funds so that the most effective response can be designed based on local circumstances, including program alternatives for re-occupancy that do not require local governments to first purchase foreclosed properties before using funds; allows an administrative cap of up to 10 percent on grants to support grantee activities directly tied to foreclosure intervention; and distributes funds directly to local governments on the front lines fighting this crisis and best positioned to act quickly; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges that legislation not restrict unrealistically high amounts of the resources to solely target very low income households, particularly in high-cost localities where housing program experts consider the type and price of the foreclosed housing stock incompatible with sustainable affordable homeownership at those income levels or for rental conversion, which may undermine local efforts to preserve owner-occupied housing and reduce concentration of poverty in these communities, an approach proven to promote neighborhood vitality and stability for all residents; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges that the servicers responsible for the foreclosed and abandoned properties be obligated to work with local governments upon becoming responsible for a foreclosed property in an effort to facilitate the rapid purchase and renovation of foreclosed properties; and

11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors applauds the leadership of the House Financial Services Committee, House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee for addressing foreclosures and thanks them for their work on behalf of the nation's cities and residents.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.19

Submitted By:

The Honorable John S. Brenner
Mayor of York

The Honorable Michael B. Coleman
Mayor of Columbus, OH

The Honorable Frank G. Jackson
Mayor of Cleveland

**PROVIDING EMERGENCY GRANTS TO STABILIZE COMMUNITIES WITH HIGH
CONCENTRATIONS OF FORECLOSED PROPERTIES**

1. **WHEREAS**, in communities with large concentrations of foreclosures, vacant properties can create crime and arson hazards, drain local government resources, drive down the value of surrounding homes and cause overall tax base decline; and
2. **WHEREAS**, foreclosures are rampant, up 75 percent nationally above last year's levels, and the number of lender-owned homes nearly doubled in the fourth quarter of 2007 over the same period last year; and
3. **WHEREAS**, concentrations of foreclosed, vacant properties are already having devastating impacts on whole communities; and
4. **WHEREAS**, existing community development resources are being stretched far too thin and are insufficient to address the national crisis; and
5. **WHEREAS**, data from the Joint Economic Committee of the Congress shows that \$736 billion in housing wealth has already been lost and an additional \$1.14 trillion is expected to be lost in 2008 directly as a result of the mortgage foreclosure crisis; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Congress is currently developing comprehensive legislation to address the foreclosure crisis,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to include flexible, emergency community stabilization grants that will allow mayors, in partnership with other local community stakeholders, to restore vacant properties and bring them back onto the market as rental and ownership housing in order to arrest

and reverse the continued downward cycle, property abandonment, declining property values, shrinking tax base and community asset deterioration through concentrated revitalization efforts.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.20

Submitted By:

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

**PROTECTING MILITARY SERVICEMEN AND VETERANS AT-RISK OF LOSING
THEIR HOME TO MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE**

1. **WHEREAS**, cities across the country are continuing to struggle with a mortgage foreclosure crisis that is impacting millions of homeowners nationwide; and
2. **WHEREAS**, a large number of active servicemen are currently deployed and away from their homes and families for significant periods of time; and
3. **WHEREAS**, military and financial aid groups have identified a rising number of troops who say they are falling behind on their mortgage payments and struggling to keep their homes, and the Army and VA regional loan centers have seen an increase in calls from soldiers, military families, and veterans seeking foreclosure prevention assistance; and
4. **WHEREAS**, one of the most effective ways to prevent the foreclosure of a home is to negotiate a refinancing or loan modification with the borrower's mortgage servicer; and
5. **WHEREAS**, veterans and active servicemen have limited foreclosure protections and an unfair disadvantage while they are away from home, requiring them to negotiate with their lender from the battlefield; and
6. **WHEREAS**, current law makes it difficult for servicemen and veterans to refinance costly mortgages into VA-guaranteed loans, and the maximum VA-backed home loan available for refinancing makes it nearly impossible to help those struggling to escape high-interest loans; and

7. **WHEREAS**, currently, lenders can seek a court order to foreclose on a home, even if a soldier is in combat,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports increasing the loan amount eligible for VA-guaranteed refinancing and supports increasing the amount of an original VA-guaranteed home loan, expanding options available to veterans and servicemen seeking to avoid foreclosure; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports time-limited restrictions on lenders from foreclosing on active-duty servicemen, giving them more time to find a solution and prevent foreclosure of their home.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.21

Submitted by:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

FULL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8 PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, the public housing and Section 8 programs provide shelter to over 3.2 million low income Americans across the country, including families with children, elderly and disabled; and
2. **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
3. **WHEREAS**, HUD's proposed budget for fiscal year 2009 would result in a total funding shortfall in the public housing program of over \$2 billion, 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

4. **WHEREAS**, the proposed \$415 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
5. **WHEREAS**, HUD's fiscal year 2009 request for the Public Housing Operating Fund falls approximately \$1 billion short of meeting the operating needs of agencies; and
6. **WHEREAS**, HUD's proposed fiscal year 2009 budget for the project-based Section 8 program is \$2.4 billion short and Congress can no longer rely on recaptures and rescissions of large amounts of Section 8 funds to finance HUD funding needs (nearly \$2 billion in Section 8 funds were rescinded in FY08),
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors opposes the proposed HUD fiscal year 2009 budget for the public housing and Section 8 programs and calls upon Congress to appropriate funds to ensure the preservation of this valuable housing resource as follows: \$3.5 billion for Public Housing Capital Fund; \$5.3 billion for Public Housing Operating Fund; \$575 million for HOPE VI Program; and full funding for the Section 8 Program.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.22

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Mayor Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

SUPPORT FOR HOPE VI PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION AND FUNDING

1. **WHEREAS**, many of this nation's 3,100 public housing authorities operate obsolete, dilapidated and even unsafe public housing units that are in immediate need of replacement; and

2. **WHEREAS**, the Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere (HOPE VI) Program has been an important catalyst for transforming distressed and disinvested neighborhoods into viable mixed income residential communities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the HOPE VI Program has become a model for cities nationwide working to replace obsolete public housing with a range of affordable housing opportunities; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the HOPE VI Program has been credited with increasing employment opportunities and incomes for residents of public housing and improving the social fabric of neighborhoods; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the HOPE VI Program has attracted a wide range of private investment resources to reinforce public housing resources to fund the cost of public housing assisted units; and
6. **WHEREAS**, a study prepared for the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities in 2007 has shown that for every dollar spent on public housing capital and maintenance projects generates \$2.12 in regional spending; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the National Commission on Severely Distressed Public Housing originally recommended the HOPE IV Program be funded at \$750 million annually for 10 years and it was funded at that level for only its first year; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Urban Institute estimates that there are up to 80,000 units in need of HOPE VI funding, the public housing inventory has an accumulated capital needs backlog of approximately \$18 billion, with an estimated \$2 billion accruing each year.
9. **WHEREAS**, the Bush Administration has zeroed out HOPE IV in the federal budget in each of the previous five years, only to have the Congress restore funding but at significantly lower amounts; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved the "HOPE VI Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2007",
11. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the U.S. Senate to promptly consider and pass the HOPE VI reauthorization; and

12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to provide FY2009 appropriations for the HOPE VI program of \$575 million.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.23

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

PROMOTING WORKFORCE HOUSING

1. **WHEREAS**, in many cities, housing located in or near employment centers is too expensive for many working families, such that "average" income households cannot afford a median-priced home; and
2. **WHEREAS**, in most parts of the country, increases in wages have not kept pace with increases in housing prices; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the lack of housing affordable to middle-income households, typically earning between 80% and 120% of area

median income, means that workers who provide essential community services cannot live in the communities where they work; and

4. **WHEREAS**, members of the workforce priced out of housing commonly include teachers, police officers, firefighters, nurses, medical technicians, municipal employees, and retail and service industry workers; and
5. **WHEREAS**, many federal and state affordable housing incentive programs are directed toward developing homes for lower-income households, so the supply of housing for middle-income workers does not meet demand, particularly in high-cost urban areas; and
6. **WHEREAS**, mayors find it economically and socially beneficial to promote workforce housing that can offer various housing types, occupancy terms, and pricing options to accommodate economically diverse workers in communities; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the lack of workforce housing has countered smart growth efforts by forcing workers to move further from their jobs, thereby increasing urban sprawl, traffic congestion, and energy consumption; and
8. **WHEREAS**, high housing costs already have impacted employers' ability to recruit and retain employees, negatively affecting productivity and profitability, and undermining the local tax base; and
9. **WHEREAS**, collaborative efforts between the business community and local government have begun to encourage zoning, regulatory reforms, and financial incentives, including employer-assisted housing, that better promote a balanced housing supply with more workforce housing; and
10. **WHEREAS**, targeting these efforts to sectors facing severe worker shortages, such as hospitals and schools, would be particularly beneficial for communities and businesses as a whole,
11. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby urges Congress and the Administration to consider federal policies, incentives, funding, and program reforms that help localities and businesses to promote development of more economically integrated workforce housing near employment centers and transit corridors.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.24

Submitted by:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Robert Walkup
Mayor of Tuscon

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

IMPORTANCE OF GREENING AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

1. **WHEREAS**, nearly 17 percent of a low-income family's earnings are consumed by energy costs; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the greening of public and HOPE VI housing will not only lower utility costs for low-income families, but also create healthier, more vibrant home environments for

families that live in HOPE VI and public housing developments; and

3. **WHEREAS**, buildings are responsible for almost 40 percent of U.S. energy consumption, with residential housing accounting for more than half of this total; and
4. **WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, in 2005 the residential sector also accounted for 21 percent of U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, a major cause of global warming; and
5. **WHEREAS**, green building requirements for public housing will promote environmentally smart site planning near public transportation and other community resources, energy efficiency, water conservation and the use of environmentally beneficial building materials that foster healthier outdoor and indoor environments; and
6. **WHEREAS**, a number of cities have already incorporated green building criteria into their affordable housing programs; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the House of Representatives included green criteria in the HOPE VI reauthorization bill, H.R. 3524, that passed on a broad bipartisan basis with strong support from the U.S. Conference of Mayors; and
8. **WHEREAS**, that legislation, if enacted, would be the first federal housing program with green requirements,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass the HOPE VI reauthorization bill and continue to incorporate green criteria into affordable housing and community development programs and legislation on a cost-effective basis.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.25

Submitted By:

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita, KS

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor of Las Vegas

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

The Honorable Thomas C. Leppert
Mayor of Dallas

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York

The Honorable James T. Humphrey
Mayor of Fort Myers

The Honorable Mayor Dannel P.
Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

AMERICA'S ROAD HOME STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS

1. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions was developed by mayors and other elected officials in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness at a Summit in Denver; and
2. **WHEREAS**, more than 335 Mayors, County Executives and other elected officials are signatories to America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions; and

3. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions recognizes more than two million Americans across our country each year experience homelessness in our local communities, compromising the quality of life of the person, and the community; and
4. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions recognizes as that elected mayors and county officials, we are on the frontlines of homelessness and accountable to our communities for the well-being of all citizens; and
5. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions recognizes that no single level of government can remedy homelessness alone; and
6. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions affirms that we will work together with our partners in state and federal government as well as in the foundation philanthropic community and private sector to maintain and enhance the sustainable investment of resources needed to respond; and
7. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions recognizes we have taken action to create jurisdictionally-led, community-based 10 Year Plans to end chronic homelessness in our communities in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), and the National Association of Counties (NACo) to end the disgrace; and
8. **WHEREAS**, America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions encourages mayors to work together in this national partnership of every level of government and the private sector, with our fellow cities and counties and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to identify, adopt, and create innovations to prevent and end homelessness; and
9. **WHEREAS**, These principles include:
 - 1) End the homelessness of our most vulnerable and disabled citizens who reside on our streets and in our shelters, those experiencing chronic homelessness, especially including homeless veterans;
 - 2) With the support of our partners work to shorten the time any person is homeless;
 - 3) Accept jurisdictional responsibility for accountability and results in the broader partnership that includes other

levels of government and the private sector for an issue that is visible, expensive, and unacceptable in our communities:

- 4) Affirm our jurisdictionally-led, community-based 10 Year Plans as the community's primary planning strategy to effect accountability and results in ending and preventing homelessness, and
 - 5) Develop these plans to ensure that the measurable outcomes are sustainable and render lasting solutions to homelessness,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions and encourages Mayors to become signatories of to America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions; and
 11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages mayors to implement America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions in their communities; and
 12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors advances the America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions to both candidates for president to create a sustainable approach that achieves results in the lives of our poorest neighbors.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 26

Submitted By:

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita, KS

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor of Las Vegas

The Honorable Albert J. Boro
Mayor of San Rafael

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

**ENDING HOMELESSNESS FOR VETERANS BY INCREASING
INVESTMENT IN HUD-VASH VOUCHERS**

1. **WHEREAS**, the men and women of the armed services have made sacrifices to preserve the freedom of the American people and we have an obligation to care for them; and
2. **WHEREAS**, most veterans return and acclimate and live productive lives in this country; and
3. **WHEREAS**, some returning veterans, however, face difficulties in their return related to psychological or physical challenges and disabilities, and become homeless; and
4. **WHEREAS**, mayors are committed to supporting homeless veterans and assuring they have the housing and services they need to rebuild their lives; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently reported that, on any given night, there are 154,000 veterans who are homeless; and

6. **WHEREAS**, this is a decrease from 250,000 veterans that were homeless the VA reported in the late 1990's, and from 195,000 veterans that were homeless the VA reported in 2006; and
7. **WHEREAS**, decreased veteran homelessness corresponds to the creation of permanent supported housing as the primary intervention; and
8. **WHEREAS**, we have learned that homeless veterans with disabilities often need housing that is subsidized with onsite services to assist them in their return to home and community; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the FY 2006 VA CHALENG report indicates that one of the most significant unmet needs for veterans is long-term, permanent housing; and
10. **WHEREAS**, HUD VASH (the joint U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program) has provided Section 8 Vouchers for permanent housing and ongoing treatment services to the harder-to-serve homeless mentally ill veterans and those suffering from substance abuse disorders; and
11. **WHEREAS**, ongoing, rigorous evaluation of HUD-VASH indicates that this approach significantly reduces days of homelessness for veterans plagued by serious mental illness and substance abuse disorders, and offers stability and security to those who have served their country; and
12. **WHEREAS**, the FY 2008 Federal Budget funds a \$75 million investment for 10,000 new HUD-VASH Vouchers which were recently allocated to more than 135 communities for permanent housing for homeless veterans, veterans at risk of homelessness, and veterans with families, including those returning from OEF/OIF; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the President's FY 2009 Budget request includes a \$75 million investment for additional new HUD VASH vouchers anticipated to provide another approximately 10,000 vouchers for permanent housing,
14. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the HUD-VASH program as an important investment in ending homelessness among veterans; and

15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the increased investment in HUD-VASH, including the \$75 million in additional funding for new HUD-VASH vouchers included in the President's FY 2009 budget request, and encourages the Congress to increase this resource to end veteran homelessness.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Submitted By: 27

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita, KS

The Honorable Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor of Las Vegas

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Albert J. Boro
Mayor of San Rafael

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Manuel Diaz
Mayor of Miami

**ENDORISING THE INNOVATION OF NATIONAL PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT
TO ENGAGE OUR HOMELESS NEIGHBOR AND OFFER RESOURCES**

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors are committed to ending homelessness for individuals and families in our nation's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, mayors and cities are on the front lines of the response to homelessness; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the National Partnership created by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has

brought together 20 federal agencies, 52 governors of states and territories, and over 335 mayors to remedy chronic homelessness; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the partnership of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness with the U.S. Conference of Mayors has resulted in the creation of over 335 jurisdictionally based 10-Year Plans to end chronic homelessness, and many cities of all sizes now report quantifiable results in reducing street and chronic homelessness; and
5. **WHEREAS**, Project Homeless Connect was created by Mayor Gavin Newsom in San Francisco, CA in October 2004; and demonstrated remarkable results in engaging street and chronic homeless people; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness identified Project Homeless Connect as a replicable innovation and supported "pilgrimages" to experience the event, when there was a five-fold increase in the number of events hosted nationwide; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the innovation of National Project Homeless Connect disseminated by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is helping cities welcome people experiencing homelessness back into community life by mobilizing volunteers from all walks of life to provide services and housing in one-day, one-stop engagement events that support the goals of their 10-Year Plans; and
8. **WHEREAS**, over the last four years more than 170 cities of all sizes have adopted this innovation first developed in San Francisco, hosting over 300 events, and building on models of response to Katrina and veterans' Stand Downs; and
9. **WHEREAS**, mayors have organized Project Homeless Connect events specifically to engage homeless youth, homeless families, and chronically homeless individuals; and
10. **WHEREAS**, mayors have engaged business, academia, professional sports, and an expansive range of new public and private partners in executing Project Homeless Connect events; and
11. **WHEREAS**, research compiled by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness suggests that Project Homeless Connect provides consumer-centric strategies to deliver immediate results in needed services, housing, and

employment, and supports a new way of doing business to achieve results for homeless consumers; and

12. **WHEREAS**, cities of all sizes have developed best practices in Project Homeless Connect events and have been encouraged by the Interagency Council to share their strategies with other cities; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the Interagency Council has convened coordinated annual National Project Homeless Connect events in December 2005, December 2006, and December 2007 to partner with cities, and has designated December 1 -7, 2008 as 2008 National Project Homeless Connect Week,
14. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages and supports the increased involvement of Mayors in creating Project Homeless Connect events and participating in the 2008 National Project Homeless Connect Week and throughout the year in proven strategies that end homelessness; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors commends this innovative initiative and encourages mayors to adopt the National Project Homeless Connect model and participate in the 2008 National Project Homeless Connect Week.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 28

Submitted By:

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita, KS

The Honorable Albert J. Boro
Mayor of San Rafael

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

ENDING HOMELESSNESS OF EX-OFFENDERS THROUGH SECOND CHANCE ACT

1. **WHEREAS**, many ex-offenders are discharged out of the back doors of prisons and jails into the front doors of homeless programs without supports or services, increasing homelessness with few resources to respond; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) is yielding results for America's ex-offenders. In the first two years of the program, more than 12,800 offenders have enrolled in the prisoner reentry program. More than 7,900 offenders have been placed in jobs. Only 18 percent of those enrolled in the program have been arrested again within one year - less than half the estimated national average; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act formally authorized key elements of the Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) to help reduce recidivism in urban centers and other areas with the greatest need to help prisoners effectively reintegrate into the community; and
4. **WHEREAS** the Second Chance Act offers better connections to housing, employment, and treatment, all of which will reduce recidivism and prevent and end homelessness; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act enhances drug treatment, mentoring, and stabilization services for ex-offenders through partnerships with local corrections agencies and faith-based and community organizations; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act assists states and local government entities in partnership with nonprofit organizations to establish prisoner reentry demonstration projects that will aid in preventing recidivism and homelessness by providing: education, vocational training, and job placement services; coordinated supervision for offenders upon release, including housing that is permanent, affordable and linked to health, mental health, employment, and other support services that provides long-term, community-based housing options; and
7. **WHEREAS**, jurisdictionally led, community based 10 Year Plans to End Chronic Homelessness, encouraged by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, would be assisted in implementation by offering strategies and resources emphasizing the roles for every level of government and community stakeholders in developing Second Chance Act alternatives to expensive police/court interventions and prisoner release into homelessness; and
8. **WHEREAS**, such resources will re-moralize overburdened police, Judges, and jailers,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the new Second Chance Act legislation that promotes the safe and successful reintegration into the community of individuals who have been incarcerated and supports programs geared toward the rapid re-housing of ex-offenders; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President and Congress are commended for passage and signing into law of "The Second Chance Act" demonstrating that bipartisan approaches to social problems offer an avenue to remedy seemingly intractable obstacles and are encouraged to support the provision of budget resources to implement the Second Chance Act.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.29

Submitted By:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Thomas C. Leppert
Mayor of Dallas

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

ENDORISING 10-YEAR PLANS TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors in partnership with the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness are committed to ending chronic homelessness in our nation's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, mayors and cities are on the front lines of the response to chronic homelessness; and

3. **WHEREAS**, the abolition of chronic homelessness requires a partnership at all levels of government, the private sector, and all other community stakeholders, and
4. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness have been partnered for more than 5 years to prevent and end homelessness in our nation's cities, a partnership of accountability and results; and
5. **WHEREAS**, as a result of the partnership with Mayors and County Executives, the private sector, and all other stakeholders, more than 335 cities have committed to create jurisdictionally led, community based, business oriented 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness; and
6. **WHEREAS**, 10 Year Plans have identified innovations, such as assertive community treatment, housing first and rapid re-housing, private sector community champions, cost benefit analysis, and Project Homeless Connect, that have been adopted by communities across the country; and
7. **WHEREAS**, a number of communities implementing 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness, and adopting these innovations, are seeing reductions in the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness living on their streets and languishing in emergency shelters, the first such reductions communities have seen in over 20 years; and
8. **WHEREAS**, these reductions in chronic and street homelessness are improving the quality of life for all members of the community, housed and homeless alike,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses and encourage Mayors to develop and implement 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness for their communities; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages Mayors to adopt the national innovations identified through 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that are leading to reductions in chronic and street homelessness; and

11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the targeting of federal resources to housing first and rapid re-housing strategies and other innovations in 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that have demonstrated the result of reducing and ending the homelessness of our poorest neighbors.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 30

Submitted By:

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Thomas C. Leppert
Mayor of Dallas

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

**THE SELECTION OF "COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS" BY MAYORS TO INSPIRE 10
YEAR PLANNING EFFORTS WITH JURISDICTIONAL LEADERS**

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors and cities are on the front lines of the response to chronic homelessness; and
2. **WHEREAS**, mayors are committed through 10 Year Plans to ending chronic homelessness in our nation's cities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, over 335 cities and counties have created jurisdictionally-led, community-based 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness focused on ending the disgrace of homelessness, not managing it, and many of these plans are leading to results; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the development and implementation of these 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness bring together community leaders representing all stakeholder groups, including the leadership of the private sector; and
5. **WHEREAS**, these private sector leaders bring a business mindset to the development and implementation of 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness, a mindset that recognizes the importance of investing in solutions that are research and data driven, performance based, and results oriented; and
6. **WHEREAS** mayors have recognized the critical importance of the involvement of these private sector leaders and the business mindset they bring to the success of their Plan; and

7. **WHEREAS**, mayors have therefore adopted the Community Champion model, disseminated as a national innovation by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, in the appointment by the mayor of a highly visible and credible private sector leader or leaders not primarily associated with homelessness to lead the implementation of the 10 Year Plan; and
8. **WHEREAS** Community Champions have leveraged significant new resources, including drawing in new private sector partners in support of the implementation of 10 Year Plans; and
9. **WHEREAS**, these new resources have shown direct impact on the results these communities are achieving,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the national innovation of the Community Champion; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors, encourages mayors to adopt the Community Champion innovation in the development and implementation of the 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in their communities.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 31

Submitted By:

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita, KS

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

**HOUSING FIRST AND RAPID RE-HOUSING AS KEY STRATEGIES IN ENDING
HOMELESSNESS AND CREATING RESULTS IN 10 YEAR PLANS**

1. **WHEREAS**, people experiencing chronic homelessness are our most disabled and vulnerable citizens and most likely to die on the streets of our communities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, research has indicated people experiencing chronic homelessness comprise between 10 and 20% of all homeless persons, but consume 50% of the resources targeted to homelessness; and
3. **WHEREAS**, research has also shown that people experiencing chronic homelessness are very expensive in mainstream health, treatment, and law enforcement systems and, according to current research, may cost the community between \$35,000 and \$150,000 per person per year in their random ricocheting through such systems; and
4. **WHEREAS**, permanent housing is the central antidote to homelessness; and
5. **WHEREAS**, research has shown that providing permanent housing with wrap-around support services in the context of permanent housing, known as Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing, results in costs ranging from \$13,500 to \$25,000, resulting in the potential for significant cost savings to communities; and
6. **WHEREAS**, research studies across the country indicate that 85% of people experiencing chronic homelessness who move

into Housing First and Rapid Re-housing options stabilize and maintain that housing; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness has disseminated Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing as a national innovation that is leading to results, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has designated Housing First as an evidence-based practice; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the mayors and county executives of over 335 cities and counties have committed to develop and implement jurisdictionally led, community based 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness, in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; and
9. **WHEREAS**, most jurisdictionally led 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness now recognize Housing First as a core strategy in their 10 Year Plans to reduce and end chronic homelessness; and
10. **WHEREAS**, a number of communities implementing 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness with Housing First and Rapid Re-housing strategies are seeing reductions in the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness living on their streets and languishing in emergency shelters,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes Housing First and Rapid Re-housing as key strategies in ending the homelessness of the most vulnerable and disabled people in our communities; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the effectiveness of the partnership between Mayors and the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, manifested in the development of 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that are leading to reductions in chronic homelessness.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 32

Submitted By:

The Honorable Albert J. Boro
Mayor of San Rafael

The Honorable James T. Humphrey
Mayor of Fort Myers

ENDORISING 10-YEAR PLAN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors in partnership with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness are committed to ending chronic homelessness in our nation's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the abolition of chronic homelessness requires a partnership at all levels of government, the private sector, and all other community stakeholders, and
3. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness have been partnered for more than 5 years to prevent and end homelessness in our nation's cities, a partnership of accountability and results; and
4. **WHEREAS**, as a result the partnership with Mayors and County Executives, the private and all other stakeholders, more than 335 cities have committed to create jurisdictionally-based, business oriented 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness; and
5. **WHEREAS**, these 10 Year Plans business plans have identified innovations, such as assertive community treatment, housing first and rapid re-housing, private sector community champions, cost benefit analysis and Project Homeless Connect, that have been adopted by communities across the country; and
6. **WHEREAS**, a number of these communities implementing 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness, and adopting these innovations, are seeing reductions in the number of chronically homeless individuals on their streets and languishing in emergency shelters, the first such reductions communities have seen in over 20 years; and
7. **WHEREAS**, these reductions in chronic and street homelessness are improving the quality of life for all members of the community, housed and homeless alike,

8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses and encourages Mayors to develop and implement 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness for their communities; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages mayors to adopt the national innovations identified through 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that are leading to reductions in chronic and street homelessness; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the targeting of federal resources to housing first and rapid-re-housing strategies and other innovations in 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that have demonstrated the result of reducing and ending the homelessness of our poorest neighbors.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 33

Submitted By:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Mayor Dannel P.
Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita, KS

The Honorable Albert J. Boro
Mayor of San Rafael

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable James T. Humphrey
Mayor of Fort Myers

The Honorable Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor of Las Vegas

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

The Honorable Thomas C. Leppert
Mayor of Dallas

The Honorable John W.
Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

ENDORISING THE NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP TO END HOMELESSNESS

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors in partnership with the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness are committed to ending chronic homelessness in our nation's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, mayors acknowledge the importance of the initiatives and inspiration furthered in cities across the country by the work of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the National Partnership with Mayors, County Executives, the private sector and other stakeholders has

resulted in more than 335 cities committed to implementing jurisdictionally based, business oriented 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness; and

4. **WHEREAS**, mayors and cities have benefited by and recognize the importance of the direct assistance provided by the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness through access to experts, innovations, and new strategies; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the National Partnership with Mayors has brought innovation and results in ending homelessness to the lives of people experiencing homelessness; and
6. **WHEREAS**, dozens of jurisdictional partnerships have yielded reductions in the number of chronically homeless people living on the streets and long-term in shelters, the first such reductions communities have seen in over 20 years; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the results realized through the National Partnership are improving the quality of life of all citizens, housed and homeless alike,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the National Partnership to End Homelessness constellated by the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages mayors to affirm the National Partnership by committing to creating new partnerships that further the development and implementation of local 10 Year Plans to end chronic homelessness in their communities.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.34

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Antonio
Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Joseph A.
Curtatone
Mayor Somerville

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Paul D. Fraim
Mayor of Norfolk

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

**SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE POLICIES TO END AND PREVENT CHRONIC
HOMELESSNESS ACROSS THE NATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors are committed to ending chronic homelessness in our nation's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, chronically homeless individuals, those with the most persistent forms of homelessness, are afflicted not only by poverty but also by severe conditions such as mental illness and substance abuse; and
3. **WHEREAS**, mayors and cities are on the front lines of the response to chronic homelessness; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in order for persons experiencing chronic homelessness to succeed in their housing, supportive

services are necessary to mitigate health, substance abuse, and mental health problems; and

5. **WHEREAS**, numerous studies compiled by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness have shown that permanent supportive housing models to end chronic homelessness are highly effective and that the cost of providing supportive housing is substantially offset by savings in the most expensive systems of community care including hospitalizations, jails, and other correctional facilities; and
6. **WHEREAS**, these supportive strategies improve the quality of life for both the individuals being housed and the community at large; and
7. **WHEREAS**, ending chronic homelessness requires collaboration and coordination at all levels of government, together with community institutions, businesses, and faith-based organizations, to determine how best to implement prevention and intervention strategies; and
8. **WHEREAS**, more than 330 local governments have created jurisdictionally-based 10-Year Plans to end chronic homelessness, many of which are showing results; and
9. **WHEREAS**, though there is progress in many communities, new data demonstrates that homelessness continues to be one of our nation's most challenging social problems; more than 2 million people experience homelessness over the course of a year; and
10. **WHEREAS**, over 20 percent of all homeless adults are veterans and 44,000 and 64,000 veterans are chronically homeless, representing a national tragedy,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly supports the increased investment in proven strategies that end chronic homelessness, with a strong focus on permanent housing with supportive services; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors, to achieve the goal of ending chronic homelessness in 10 years, urges Congress to appropriate \$2 billion in HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants program, which would enable communities to develop 15,000 units of permanent supportive housing; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors continues to endorse and urges Congress to create new permanent funding sources for supportive services for the homeless within the Health and Human Services budget; and

14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to re-authorize the McKinney-Vento Act with provisions for regulatory relief that would allow existing federal funds appropriated through McKinney-Vento to be fully expended and more efficiently utilized each budget year; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress, through the re-authorization of the McKinney-Vento Act, to fund an innovative grants program that would provide demonstration grants to communities across the nation implementing ten-year plans to end chronic homelessness; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress and the Administration to provide permanent supportive housing to assist the nation's significant and growing homeless veterans population, including providing additional Section 8 Vouchers for the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supported Housing (HUD-VASH) program, which provides permanent housing subsidies and case management services to homeless veterans with mental and addictive disorders; and through the VA Medical Care Account, provide a dollar for dollar supportive services match for the HUD-VASH Section 8 vouchers; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and HUD to end homelessness for the roughly 600,000 families who are homeless each year by providing rapid rehousing programs that focus on helping homeless families move back into permanent housing as quickly as possible; and
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses and urges Congress to enact legislation that would provide Federal housing assistance and services to youth over the age of 18 aging out of foster care and in need of assistance; and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors affirms the value of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness and commends its initiatives to support mayors as they implement ten year plans.

Projected Cost: \$2 Billion

Resolution No.35

Submitted by:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Daniel Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence
Mayor of Southfield

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Gary Becker
Mayor of Racine

The Honorable Otis Johnson
Mayor of Savannah

**PROTECTING MAIN STREET SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS FROM PREDATORY
LENDERS**

1. **WHEREAS**, America's 26.8 million small businesses are the engine of the U.S. economy, employing half of all private-sector employees, representing 99.7% of all employers, and responsible for 45% of net new jobs generated annually in the last decade, and
2. **WHEREAS**, eight million of these small businesses pursue financing each year throughout the United States, and
3. **WHEREAS**, 65% of these eight million (5.2 million) are unable to secure traditional bank loans or lines, and
4. **WHEREAS**, as a result, many small businesses use family money, personal credit cards or personal loans and approximately 35% have relied on home-equity loans to finance their businesses.
5. **WHEREAS**, the recent turmoil in both the housing and credit markets has caused banks to tighten their lending criteria and consequently, credit opportunities to small business owners have been significantly reduced, and
6. **WHEREAS**, a perfect storm has emerged across the United States, leaving many small businesses, including millions throughout the main streets of our cities and towns,

struggling to access the capital they need to sustain and grow their businesses, and

7. **WHEREAS**, predatory lenders have emerged to exploit the current credit environment and increasing cash flow needs of small businesses and are selling usurious products known as merchant cash advances (MCA), which are advances on a business's future credit card receivables (aka "factoring of future credit card sales"), and
8. **WHEREAS**, merchant cash advances are not loans and do not have to follow state or federal lending regulations, and feature over 85% approval rates and imputed annual percentage rates as high as 200%, and in addition to these egregious rates, require daily deductions of 18-25% of the small business's credit card sales - significantly more than a business can afford, and
9. **WHEREAS**, merchant cash advance companies have already lent approximately \$2 billion at egregious rates and have been quoted in leading main stream media publications such as Forbes, Business Week, Dallas Morning News, and American Banker claiming that their new originations have increased 75% in the first half of 2008.
10. **WHEREAS**, America's cities need strong Main Street businesses to continue to have a stable tax base, safe streets and a vibrant commercial center, and
11. **WHEREAS**, as with payday lenders and predatory lenders in the home mortgage community, Mayors need to take a leadership role to scrutinize predatory merchant cash advance companies, educate small business owners of the dangers posed by these firms, and increase awareness and promotion of alternative, more affordable funding sources to support this vital segment of our economy.
12. **WHEREAS** the mayor in each of our cities can protect our small businesses by promoting and advising small business owners to ask and have answered five simple questions before agreeing to accept any type of financing from a non-traditional provider:
 - a. Is the financing product a regulated loan?
 - b. What is the total interest paid and how does that cost translate into an Annual Percentage Rate (APR)?
 - c. What is the payment amount?
 - d. What is the payment frequency?
 - e. Exactly how long will it take to repay the loan?

13. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The US Conference of Mayors strongly supports small businesses and the independent business owners located in our cities and will protect them from predatory lenders offering exploitive merchant cash advances; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the mayor in each of our cities shall educate Main Street business owners and the small business community of the dangers of merchant cash advances and promote to them alternative lending sources that are more affordable.
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that to protect the general health and viability of their small business communities, cities should investigate whether they can effectively regulate or ban merchant cash advances.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 36

Submitted By:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Mick Cornett
Mayor of Oklahoma City

The Honorable Joseph P. Riley, Jr.
Mayor of Charleston

The Honorable Patrick Henry Hays
Mayor of North Little Rock

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Dan Coody
Mayor of Fayetteville

The Honorable Melvin 'Kip' Holden
Mayor of Baton Rouge

The Honorable Carl Brewer
Mayor of Wichita

The Honorable Kathryn L. Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Robert N. Cluck, M.D.
Mayor of Arlington

The Honorable Matthew Avara
Mayor of Pascagoula

SUPPORTING CITIES INCREASED HURRICANE AND TORNADO PREPAREDNESS

1. **WHEREAS**, both tornados and hurricanes can strike many coastal and heartland cities with limited warning and threaten the lives of their citizens and cause billions of dollars of destruction; and

2. **WHEREAS**, when compared with the last three years, tornado activity and fatalities have increased each year to the highest levels in over a decade; and
3. **WHEREAS**, many cities that experience hurricanes do not have the ability to evacuate all their citizens and have limited space in designated safe havens like community shelters and high density populations combined with limited highway infrastructure prevents and discourages people for leaving their homes; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the majority of citizens who face tornados do not always have access to a safe-haven and can not seek immediate shelter when severe weather unexpectedly strikes as tornados' unpredictability give people only a few minutes or seconds to seek shelter; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in many of the cities impacted by severe weather the citizens whose homes are destroyed may lack the confidence to rebuild and in many cases it takes new and innovative building policies, building codes and building science to give the assurance back to its citizens; and
6. **WHEREAS**, mayors, state, federal and other government officials have been working for decades with universities and the building industry to develop innovative building codes and building products to help better protect their citizens,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors continues to support the collaboration between government, research and industry in the development of better building science and improved building codes for their citizens; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors adopt the latest building guidelines related to storm protection in an expedient fashion the such as the International Code Council - 500 related to storm shelter guidelines and other wind borne debris codes used for hurricane protection; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors asks Congress to consider funding initiatives for those families directly impacted by severe storm weather such as assisting homeowners to rebuild with confidence with grant money specifically for storm protection incentives for in-home storm shelters or hurricane impact resistant windows; and

10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The US Conference of Mayors encourages city residents to be prepared as an extremely active tornado and hurricane season are upon us by visiting local city websites or www.ready.gov for information as to how to be better prepared for an extreme weather event.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 83

Submitted By:

The Honorable James M. Baker
Mayor of Wilmington

The Honorable Ed Pawlowski
Mayor of Allentown

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS

1. **WHEREAS**, Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLBanks) are 12 regional government sponsored enterprises (GSEs) chartered by Congress in 1932 to provide liquidity to their 8,100 financial institution members across the country ensuring the available funding for affordable housing and community development; and
2. **WHEREAS**, FHLBanks are authorized to serve the needs of America's cities by providing their members low-cost financing for community development lending; and
3. **WHEREAS**, FHLBanks, through their Affordable Housing Program, have helped rehabilitate neighborhoods by providing over \$3 billion in grants for affordable housing projects since 1990; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the housing mission of the FHLBanks has been expanded by Congressional and regulatory action to include providing resources for community and economic development; and
5. **WHEREAS**, Section 149(b) of the Internal Revenue Code permits GSEs such as the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Government National Mortgage Association to issue letters of credit on tax exempt bonds while excluding FHLBanks; and
6. **WHEREAS**, amending Section 149(b) by adding the FHLBanks to the list of GSEs would allow the FHLBanks to better carry out their ongoing mission of supporting housing and community and economic development lending; and
7. **WHEREAS**, obtaining credit enhancement from highly-rated FHLBanks, through their members for tax exempt bonds would significantly lower the costs to cities and therefore increase their capacity to create jobs and generate new tax revenue; and

8. **WHEREAS**, proposed legislation amending Section 149, passed by the U.S. House has been scored by the Joint Tax Committee at only \$120 million over ten years, a loss of revenue that will be recouped many times over by local economic development,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Congress to pass an amendment to Section 149(b) of the Internal Revenue Code adding "any letter of credit issued by a FHLBank" to the list of permissible letters of credit enhancing tax exempt bonds; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors support legislation, regulatory changes and other initiatives designed to expand the ability of FHLBanks to serve the housing, community and economic development and public finance needs of cities through their investment authority, introduction of new business activities, and development of new initiatives.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 37

Submitted by:

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Ryback
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

THE COPS PROGRAM

1. **WHEREAS**, 14 years ago, with the strong support of America's mayors and law enforcement leaders, the United States Congress passed the Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Act, which became law on October 1, 1994 and created the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS); and
2. **WHEREAS**, COPS has made 39,000 grants to more than 13,200 law enforcement agencies representing a \$13.5 billion taxpayer investment in public safety; and
3. **WHEREAS**, COPS grants have been used to fund the hiring and redeployment of nearly 117,000 additional officers including over 6,500 School Resource Officers, expand and enhance crime-fighting technology, support crime prevention, and advance community policing; and
4. **WHEREAS**, COPS has trained over 500,000 law enforcement personnel, local government leaders, and community members

in various community policing strategies, produced over 500 publications and resource materials for law enforcement; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the taxpayer investment of over \$579 million through the COPS Office has helped state and local law enforcement agencies combat the proliferation of methamphetamine by hiring personnel, purchasing equipment, cleaning-up labs, and obtaining critical training in meth-related interdiction tactics, investigation, and prosecution; and
6. **WHEREAS**, COPS continues to enjoy a unique relationship with state and local law enforcement and does a superb job of providing vital funding, quickly and efficiently, to local communities, and is cited by mayors and police chiefs as a model federal agency; and
7. **WHEREAS**, cities across America continue to use COPS funding to hire and train police officers including school resource officers, enhance vital public safety communication and coordination, develop and implement community policing best practices, and enhance their capacity to reduce crime and prevent future acts of terror; and
8. **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 return of over 860,000 ex-offenders from prisons and jails back into local communities annually – many of whom will have not received needed drug treatment; and
9. **WHEREAS**, community policing and the COPS Office can and should play an important role in efforts to enhance homeland security; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the Administration's Fiscal Year 2009 budget proposes to cut the COPS program from \$587 million to zero, eliminating the COPS Office entirely,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the COPS program must be fully maintained in FY 2009 and beyond through the appropriations process; and

12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to pass, and the President to sign, legislation to reauthorize the COPS program; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any reauthorization of COPS should provide significant resources to address the critical needs of local law enforcement, allow for greater program flexibility, continue the COPS Office as an independent component within the Department of Justice, and preserve within COPS all of its current functions. The new program should allow for flexibility to use funding in areas including general hiring, school resource officers, officer re-deployments, officer retention, overtime, technology, and communications interoperability.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 38

Submitted by:

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Ryback
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

**THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM**

1. **WHEREAS**, in 1996 Congress began providing flexible funding directly to local governments through the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG), and cities have effectively used these block grant funds for prevention, increased police presence, and technology and equipment, among other activities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, many cities used the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant very effectively in tandem with the COPS program to expand community policing efforts; and
3. **WHEREAS**, a recent study showed that Byrne JAG programs have resulted in 220,000 arrests, 54,000 seized weapons, the destruction of 5.5 million grams of methamphetamine, and the elimination of almost 9,000 methamphetamine labs; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the nation must remain diligent in its crime prevention and control efforts to ensure that past gains are maintained and that crime rates do not increase,

especially as they relate to youth violence and crime, new and evolving drug-related crime concerns, a rise in gang violence, and in light of the return of over 860,000 ex-offenders from prisons and jails back into local communities each year - many of whom will have not received needed drug treatment; and

5. **WHEREAS**, in 2002 the Bush Administration proposed creating a new Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program by merging the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant with the state-based Byrne Formula Grant program; and
6. **WHEREAS**, in proposing this new program, the Department of Justice said, "This makes sense, because the two programs funded similar purposes and activities. The consolidation of the two grant programs should result in a simplified application process for participating state and local governments;" and
7. **WHEREAS**, in 2004 Congress approved the Administration's merger and a new Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program was created at a reduced funding level of \$634 million; and
8. **WHEREAS**, since then the Administration has consistently proposed elimination of the program in its annual budget submission to Congress; and
9. **WHEREAS**, Congress has continued to provide funding for the program, but each year that funding level has been reduced and it now stands at \$170 million for the current fiscal year,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors registers its strong support for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program and calls on Congress to fund the program at no less than the FY 2005 level of \$634 million.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 39

Submitted By:

The Honorable Michael
Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Antonio R.
Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Thomas M.
Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable John W.
Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Byron W. Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable R.T. Ryback
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable David N.
Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Richard M.
Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Manuel Diaz
Mayor of Miami

**COMMON SENSE MEASURES IN SUPPORT
OF EFFORTS TO FIGHT ILLEGAL GUNS**

1. **WHEREAS**, a loophole (i.e. the gun show loophole) in the law enables criminals to avoid background checks if they buy guns at gun shows; and
2. **WHEREAS**, gun dealers who are shut down by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) for selling guns illegally are currently permitted to sell off their remaining inventory without conducting background checks; and
3. **WHEREAS**, gun dealers are currently not required to perform background checks on their employees; and

4. **WHEREAS**, six years after 9/11, suspects on the terror watch list are able to pass background checks and purchase guns; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Tiahrt Amendments, which have been inserted into the Department of Justice appropriations bill each year since FY 2003, place unnecessarily broad restrictions on access to and use of gun trace data that is compiled by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; and
6. **WHEREAS**, on April 25, 2006 a bipartisan group of fifteen Mayors met in New York City at the Mayor's Summit on Illegal Guns, co-chaired by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Mayor Thomas M. Menino, to begin a nationwide effort to fight illegal guns; and
7. **WHEREAS**, today, over 320 mayors, representing over 50 million people across the United States are now members of Mayors Against Illegal Guns; and
8. **WHEREAS**, 30,000 Americans across the country are killed every year as a result of gun violence, destroying families and communities in big cities and small towns; and
9. **WHEREAS**, as Mayors, we are duty-bound to do everything in our power to protect our residents, especially our children, from harm and there is no greater threat to public safety than the threat of illegal guns; and
10. **WHEREAS**, licensed gun dealers are required to run criminal background checks on all buyers, but a loophole in the law enables criminals to avoid these checks if they buy from gun-sellers who do not have licenses. Often operating at gun shows, these unlicensed sellers give criminals the opportunity to sidestep the background check system and easily purchase guns. Congress should close the "gun show loophole" by passing S.2577 and H.R. 96; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the federal government can shut down a gun dealer for selling illegally, it has nevertheless permitted dealers to sell off their inventory - without conducting background checks. Congress should end such gun dealer firesales; and
12. **WHEREAS**, under the current law, if a person can't buy guns - because he or she has a criminal record or a history of

mental illness - that person cannot sell guns either. But the law fails to require dealers to conduct background checks on their employees, even though they already use the background check system in their stores every day. Congress should require gun store employee background checks; and

13. **WHEREAS**, six years after 9/11, the federal government can stop suspects on terror watch lists from getting on airplanes, but it cannot stop them from buying firearms. Congress should close the "the Terror Gap" by passing S.1237/H.R.2074,
14. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to enact legislation that would prevent guns from getting into the hands of criminals by closing serious gaps in the gun background check system. USCM calls on Congress to close the gun show loophole, end the gun dealer fire sales provision, require gun dealers to perform background checks on their employees, and close the terror gap; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to reject legislative proposals such as the Tiahrt amendment and others that limit our cities' ability to solve and prevent crime in our communities.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 40

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Francis Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable John W. Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Byron W. Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

**MICROSTAMPING: IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO FIGHT
ILLEGAL GUN TRAFFICKING AND INCREASE THE
ABILITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TO CLOSE GUN RELATED CASES**

1. **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the national clearance rate for homicide cases was only 62 percent and over 3,000 gun homicide cases went unsolved; and
2. **WHEREAS**, in approximately half of gun homicide investigations a spent cartridge casing, but not a firearm, is recovered at the crime scene; and

3. **WHEREAS**, currently deployed national ballistic identification systems cannot identify the serial number of a gun unless the gun itself has been recovered; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the serial number of a firearm allows investigators to access the existing crime gun trace database and identify the first purchaser of the firearm; and
5. **WHEREAS**, information from completed crime gun tracing is an important element utilized by COMPSTAT and other crime analysis systems; and
6. **WHEREAS**, firearm microstamping is an evolutionary technology that allows law enforcement to identify the serial number of a crime gun from an expended cartridge and enter the trace data system without having recovered the gun; and
7. **WHEREAS**, microstamping has been proven to make unique and consistent markings through thousands of rounds of testing; and
8. **WHEREAS**, microstamping will cost less than a few dollars a gun to implement; and
9. **WHEREAS**, law enforcement should have all the tools necessary to investigate gun trafficking, close gun-related cases and protect the public,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to enact the National Crime Gun Identification Act of 2007 (S. 2605/H.R. 5266) sponsored by Senator Edward M. Kennedy and Representative Xavier Becerra that would require all new semi-automatic firearms manufactured or sold after January 1, 2010 to be microstamp-enabled.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 41

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

**URGING IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION OF COMPREHENSIVE
FEDERAL ANTI-GANG LEGISLATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, criminal street gangs remain a pervasive problem nationwide, and the incidence of gang-related felony crimes and violence continues to increase in urban, suburban, and rural communities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, despite years of debate, Congress still has failed to pass legislation that would support efforts to combat gang violence in our communities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, between one-quarter and one-half of all homicides in major urban jurisdictions are now considered to be gang-related; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates there are 800,000 active gang members nationwide, which is more than the total number of law enforcement officers; and
5. **WHEREAS**, gang operations, activities, and their effects cross multiple local and state jurisdictions and cannot be adequately addressed at the local level alone, such that the federal government must take a leadership role and dedicate increased resources to this effort; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors previously adopted resolutions that recognize the broad range of harmful social and economic impacts that result from gang activity; and
7. **WHEREAS**, criminal justice experts and scientific research support the need for a comprehensive and balanced approach to address the continuing and changing nature of gangs and gang-related crimes, including prevention, intervention, suppression, and ex-offender reentry strategies; and
8. **WHEREAS**, Mayors around the country have launched successful community-based, comprehensive, anti-gang programs which include prevention and intervention activities that direct at-risk youth toward positive educational and employment opportunities; and
9. **WHEREAS**, additional federal resources also are needed to supplement state and local efforts in more effectively combating criminal street gangs; and
10. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors previously endorsed comprehensive anti-gang legislation, joining with the National Crime Prevention Council, Big Brothers / Big Sisters of America, Fraternal Order of Police, National League of Cities, and others,
11. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to immediately pass legislation that will provide resources to cities who are seeking to reduce gang activity and violence; and
1. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such legislation should assist mayors to implement strategies that prevent, deter, and suppress gang activity among at-risk youth populations, support community-based positive youth development programs, promote ex-offender reintegration to reduce gang

recidivism, and assist local governments in enforcing laws that keep communities safe from gangs.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 42

Submitted by:

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

CALLING FOR PASSAGE OF GANG ABATEMENT LEGISLATION

1. **WHEREAS**, according to the 2005 National Gang Threat Assessment, published by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Association, gangs account for several alarming trends in the U.S.:
 - Gangs remain the primary distributors of drugs;
 - Neighborhood, or homegrown gangs are being found more frequently in the Northeast;
 - The growth of gangs within certain communities of the South has brought increased levels of violence and crime to the region;
 - In the Midwest, gang activity has increased around schools and college campuses;
 - Street gangs in the West are more frequently involved in the distribution of both marijuana and methamphetamine; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Congress has engaged in serious debate over the last decade on how to address the rising gang problem in our nation; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. has the highest incarceration rate in the world with nearly 550 people to every 100,000 currently experiencing some form of incarceration; and

4. **WHEREAS**, current legislative strategies to address gangs are comprised of three parts - suppression, prevention, and intervention; and
5. **WHEREAS**, there has been a continual struggle at the local government level to assess the overall effectiveness of any or all of these approaches exclusive or combined with the other; and
6. **WHEREAS**, one matter is certain - prevention and intervention efforts save resources over the building and maintaining of prisons and welfare costs; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the recent prescription of suppression for crimes most associated with gangs does not seem to be working as current stats show gang activity on the rise in number, sophistication, and organizational diversity; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the "cradle to prison pipeline" dynamic as described by the Children's Defense Fund is describing more and more youths today; and
9. **WHEREAS**, locking-up our gang problem is not the answer as, according to the National Gang Threat Assessment, gangs can weather incarceration by simply organizing in jail or prison just as well and closely as on the street. In fact, some incarcerated youth may go into supervision without a gang affiliation and end-up being released with one; and
10. **WHEREAS**, an approach to the gang problem can not hope to work if it is more heavily targeted to the point where youths are already committing crime; for, at that point, the choices and relationships promoting a gang member lifestyle have already solidified - a more holistic and life encompassing prognosis must be sought,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conference of Mayors calls on the U.S. Congress to pass gang abatement legislation that works less to give our police more laws to enforce, but instead provides more resources for our police to enforce the laws that already exist; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference of Mayors urges Congress to concentrate less on the criminalization of gang activity at the federal level, and turns more attention to evidenced-based methods proven to reduce youth violence and

delinquency such as early childhood education, home visiting for parent training, after-school mentoring, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment services, and

13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that some of the \$65 billion the U.S. spends each year to keep 2.2 million people incarcerated (according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics) may achieve better results if spent on prevention and intervention activities; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The Conference of Mayors stands with our law enforcement community to make sure they are equipped and have the resources necessary to carry-out the suppression activities necessary to keep gangs from worsening - we support them in their efforts to enforce current law and will continue to do everything possible to increase the resources flowing to those suppression activities currently underway.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 43

Submitted by:

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

**YOUTH PRISON REDUCTION THROUGH OPPORTUNITIES,
MENTORING, INTERVENTION, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, in the last few decades national crime policies, have focused significantly more on punishment than prevention, and
2. **WHEREAS**, the United States now has the highest incarceration rate in the world, high school dropouts have considerably higher incarceration rates than high school graduates, and black high school dropouts have significantly higher incarceration rates than white high school dropouts, and
3. **WHEREAS**, a recent report by the Children's Defense Fund found that among boys born in 2001, black boys have a one in three chance of spending time in prison while white boys have a one in 17 chance, and identified poverty, a struggling education system, and an unresponsive punitive juvenile justice system as contributing factors; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott has introduced the Youth PROMISE (Prison Reduction through Opportunities Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education) Act which is intended to build on evidence- and research-based strategies to reduce gang violence and crime by directing funds to local communities facing the greatest youth gang and crime challenges; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Youth PROMISE Act would require these communities to form a local council which includes representatives of law enforcement, courts, schools, service providers and community-based organizations and develop a comprehensive plan for implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies targeted toward young people at-risk of becoming or already involved in gangs or the juvenile or criminal justice systems; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Youth PROMISE Act would provide funds through these councils to communities to develop and implement a

broad array of evidence-based prevention and intervention programs which are responsive to community needs, including summer jobs and job-training programs, teen pregnancy prevention, prenatal care, early childhood education, quality education, after-school programs, and guaranteed college scholarships; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the Act would also provide funds for the hiring and training of Youth Oriented Policing (YOPS) officers to address juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Act would also establish a National Center for Proven Practices Research, a Center for Youth Oriented Policing, and make additional improvements to current laws affecting juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Act would authorize a total of \$2.9 billion per year to carry out its purposes; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the Act already is supported by more than 90 national organizations and many more state organizations,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors endorses the Youth PROMISE Act and urges Congress to pass and the President to sign it this year.

Projected Cost: \$2.9 billion

Resolution No. 44

Submitted by:

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Jerry Abramson
Mayor of Louisville

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Francis Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

**IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING AND 'BEST PRACTICE'
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND CHANCE ACT**

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long established policy on the reintegration of ex-offenders covering the last ten years; and
2. **WHEREAS**, in 1998, the USCM called upon the federal government to implement better funding methods through the States for addressing youth violence and juvenile justice issues; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the USCM adopted policy supporting passage of the Second Chance Act as well as encouraging the efforts of faith-based and community initiatives to aid the reentry community; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in 2007, the USCM made its boldest statement to date on reentry concerns by outlining specific actions that should be taken by all levels of government to provide ex-offenders with greater opportunities to attain self-sufficiency; and

5. **WHEREAS**, in 2007, the USCM reiterated its call for better regulation of the sealing, expunging and releasing of juvenile records, particularly those associated with nonviolent crimes, so that young people affected have the maximum opportunity to become self-sufficient, successful adults; and
6. **WHEREAS**, these policies have taken on added significance thanks to the successful passage and signing into federal law of the "Second Chance Act of 2007." Now, there exists federal authorization for ex-offender efforts that have been championed by mayors for years; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act endorses a more comprehensive approach to addressing reentry, requiring collaboration amongst federal agencies such as DOJ, HHS, and DOL, as well as state/local government and private service providers; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act also helps to bridge the nexus between work and reentry by collapsing barriers to institutional aid experienced by those attempting to reenter society, including, for example, bans of financial assistance for higher education, HUD's 'one-strike-and-you're-out' policy, and a lifetime ban on TANF and food stamp benefits for ex-offenders with certain convictions; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act contains several critical authorizations for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 such as \$55 million for Adult and Juvenile Offender State/Local Reentry Demonstration Projects; \$10 million for state/local family-based abuse treatment programs; \$10 million for state/local evaluation efforts of educational methods at prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; \$15 million for state/local governments toward the Reentry Substance Abuse and Criminal Justice Collaboration Program; \$10 million for state/local governments toward the Technology Careers Training Program; \$15 million for nonprofit organizations toward Mentoring Programs; and
10. **WHEREAS**, Section 101 of the Second Chance Act requires that each local government applicant develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan that contains annual and five-year performance outcomes,

11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to fund the Second Chance Act for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 at the full authorized amount; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to begin discussions on a reauthorization of the Second Chance Act upon the convening of the 111th Congress for an additional period of more than a two years; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the USCM Ex-Offender Task Force work in close coordination with the Second Chance Act's National Resource Center, assisting the Center in meeting its mandate of collecting data and information on best practices in reentry programming and partnering with the Center in disseminating 'best practice' knowledge to state and local governments; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that mayors commit to assessing and reducing the barriers that exist in their own municipal regulations to hiring, promoting, and providing increased compensation opportunities for ex-offenders in city-paid positions; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Department of Labor to assess each state's obstructions to employing ex-offenders and list those obstructions in a timely publication that can be used by state and local governments to reduce such impediments.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 28

Submitted by:

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

**ENDING HOMELESSNESS OF EX-OFFENDERS THROUGH
SECOND CHANCE ACT**

1. **WHEREAS**, many ex-offenders are discharged out of the back doors of prisons and jails into the front doors of homeless programs without supports or services, increasing homelessness with few resources to respond; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) is yielding results for America's ex-offenders. In the first two years of the program, more than 12,800 offenders have enrolled in the prisoner reentry program. More than 7,900 offenders have been placed in jobs. Only 18 percent of those enrolled in the program have been arrested again within one year - less than half the estimated national average; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act formally authorized key elements of the Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) to help reduce recidivism in urban centers and other areas with the greatest need to help prisoners effectively reintegrate into the community; and
4. **WHEREAS** the Second Chance Act offers better connections to housing, employment, and treatment, all of which will reduce recidivism and prevent and end homelessness; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act enhances drug treatment, mentoring, and stabilization services for ex-offenders through partnerships with local corrections agencies and faith-based and community organizations; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act assists states and local government entities in partnership with nonprofit organizations to establish prisoner reentry demonstration projects that will aid in preventing recidivism and homelessness by providing: education, vocational training, and job placement services; coordinated supervision for offenders upon release, including housing that is permanent, affordable and linked to health, mental health,

employment, and other support services that provide long-term, community-based housing options; and

6. **WHEREAS**, jurisdictionally led, community-based 10 Year Plans to End Chronic Homelessness, encouraged by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, would be assisted in implementation by offering strategies and resources emphasizing the roles for every level of government and community stakeholders in developing Second Chance Act alternatives to expensive police/court interventions and prisoner release into homelessness; and
7. **WHEREAS**, such resources will remoralize overburdened police, judges, and jailers,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the new Second Chance Act legislation that promotes the safe and successful reintegration into the community of individuals who have been incarcerated and supports programs geared toward the rapid re-housing of ex-offenders; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President and Congress are commended for passage and signing into law of "The Second Chance Act" demonstrating that bipartisan approaches to social problems offer an avenue to remedy seemingly intractable obstacles and are encouraged to support the provision of budget resources to implement the Second Chance Act.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 45

Submitted by:

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

**CALLING FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF THE JUVENILE
JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT**

1. **WHEREAS**, The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJJPA) of 1974 [42 U.S.C. 5601] provides the major source of federal funding to improve states' juvenile justice systems. The JJJPA was cultivated upon the tested notion that children should not have contact with adults in jails and other institutional settings, and that status offenders should not be placed in secure detention; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the current authorization, as amended, of the JJJPA is set to expire in 2009; and
3. **WHEREAS**, according to the Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, violent crime among youth increased four percent from 2005 to 2006; and
4. **WHEREAS**, according to the Department of Justice, youth violent crime accounts for 17 percent of the total violent crime in America; and
5. **WHEREAS**, a recent study published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) finds that

transferring youth to the adult criminal justice system significantly increases crime; and

6. **WHEREAS**, in 1998, the Conference of Mayors passed a resolution requesting that Congress implement better funding methods through the States for addressing youth violence and juvenile justice issues; and
7. **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the Conference of Mayors encouraged its members to create programs to prevent and reduce violence by implementing parent education initiatives, family support programs, business programs, and faith-based organization enterprises; and
8. **WHEREAS**, also in 2007, the Conference of Mayors reiterated it's call for better regulation of the sealing, expunging and releasing of juvenile records, particularly those associated with nonviolent crimes, so that young people affected have the maximum opportunity to become self-sufficient and successful adults; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act is an essential tool toward not only helping our nation's youth but also preventing crime,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act with specific increased spending flexibility and amounts for the 1) Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program, 2) Title II Grants, and 3) New Initiatives and Programs Grant; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Conference of Mayors calls on other mayors and Congress to support youth programs with intervention targets for at-risk youth ages 14 to 25 through outreach and service connection and also attempts to link the community as a whole through a media campaign and community mobilization efforts; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a reauthorization shall include at least programs supporting job training, education, employment, housing, substance abuse treatment, mental health services and recreation to help our youth realize their true potential.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 46

Submitted By:

The Honorable Joy Cooper
Mayor of Hallandale Beach

**SUPPORTING LEGISLATION REQUIRING DONATIONS OF
SURPLUS FIRE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL TO VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES**

1. **WHEREAS**, approximately 80 percent of fire departments in the United States are volunteer; and
2. **WHEREAS**, surplus equipment and material have been donated by municipal and other fire departments to countries overseas; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the expenses of volunteer fire departments could be lessened by almost half by such donations; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the equipment and material that is paid by the taxpayers in the United States should be donated to fire departments in the United States; and
5. **WHEREAS**, a dedicated website should be established in connection with the donation and distribution of surplus fire equipment and material; and
6. **WHEREAS**, all local and state governments and the federal government should join in this effort,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports and appreciates the sacrifice and patriotic duty exemplified by our brave men and women in United States volunteer fire departments; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports legislation that requires that surplus fire equipment and material from local, state and federal government that was purchased or acquired with public funds - including taxes, grants, or other public funds - be donated to volunteer fire departments in the United States; and

9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that suitable copies of the resolution be forwarded to President George W. Bush and all members of Congress.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 47

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Byron Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Mayor Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS FUNDING

1. **WHEREAS**, the inability to directly communicate across multiple agencies and jurisdictions during emergencies is a longstanding issue that endangers both the lives of first responders and those they have pledged to protect; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States (the 9/11 Commission) prioritized interoperable communications capacity as a critical gap in emergency preparedness and response; and
3. **WHEREAS**, interoperable communications is a complex problem that will be resolved only with coordination at all levels of government and a substantial federal commitment of dedicated, yet flexible funding for localities; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the Department of Homeland Security required the 75 largest urban metropolitan areas to create a tactical interoperable communications plan to let police, fire and emergency medical departments talk to each other across agency lines during a crisis; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the annual National Governors Association survey of state homeland security directors again identified development of interoperable communications as their top priority; and
6. **WHEREAS**, local governments play the central role in developing, implementing, and financing systems to enable interoperable voice and data communications among first responders and other such agencies; and
7. **WHEREAS**, local and state governments own and manage most of the public safety system's physical infrastructure; and
8. **WHEREAS**, cost estimates for achieving interoperable communications nationwide are up to \$16 billion; and
9. **WHEREAS**, federal funding is essential to build, enhance, upgrade, or maintain interoperable emergency response voice, data, and video communication systems; support planning and management; and undertake training and exercises; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007" [Public Law 110-53] established an Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program to help localities and states to carry out initiatives that improve local, regional, state, and national multi-jurisdictional, and multi-disciplinary communications, and authorized the appropriation of \$400 million in each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the President's Fiscal Year 2009 budget proposal does not include any funding for the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program; and
12. **WHEREAS**, although other federal grant funds may be used for such efforts, Congress specifically established a separate program focused solely on interoperable communications in order to provide dedicated funding used in keeping with statewide plans and the National Emergency Communications

Plan, in response to Government Accountability Office report findings (GAO-07-301),

13. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to provide FY 2009 appropriations for the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program at the fully authorized funding level of \$400 million; and

13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Department of Homeland Security to assure that allocation of interoperable communications resources are prioritized for projects that provide the maximum benefit to the most people in areas at greatest risk.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 48

Submitted by:

The Honorable Raul Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

The Honorable Bill White
Mayor of Houston

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup,
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Mike Moncrief
Mayor of Fort Worth

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

**MAYORS CALL ON FCC TO PRESERVE
700 MHz D-BLOCK FOR PUBLIC SAFETY**

1. **WHEREAS**, the conversion from analog television broadcasting to digital television broadcasting on February 19, 2009 results in certain 700 MHz spectrum becoming available for alternative uses, including public safety; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the FCC in auctioning this spectrum set aside a block of this spectrum ("D-Block") for the establishment of a mandatory public/private partnership to create a nationwide, interoperable broadband public safety network that would serve public safety and homeland security needs; and
3. **WHEREAS**, no bidder in the recently concluded auction of the 700 MHz licenses meet the FCC's reserve price of \$1.33 billion; and,
4. **WHEREAS**, the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") to ask whether it is still in the public interest to retain a public/private partnership set-aside, or instead provide the D-Block for solely commercial uses; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Commission's NPRM also asks a number of questions on how best to achieve this public/private partnership should the FCC choose to reserve the spectrum for the public safety public/private partnership,

6. **NOW THEREFORE BE IN RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the FCC to find that preservation of the public/private partnership to create a nationwide, interoperable broadband public safety network would serve public safety and homeland security needs; and
7. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that preservation of the spectrum for first responder use must be the leading goal of any actions taken in this docket; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors shall file this resolution with the Federal Communications Commission and calls upon the FCC to meet with local government representatives as a means to best answer to the operational issues posed by the FCC in its NPRM.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 49

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Byron W. Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Raul Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

**INCREASING CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION STAFFING
AND IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE AT INTERNATIONAL
PORTS OF ENTRY**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has the dual role of facilitating trade and travel while ensuring the safety and security of our country; and
2. **WHEREAS**, CBP is the lead federal agency in charge of inspecting travelers entering the country at more than 300 international air, land, and sea ports of entry; and
3. **WHEREAS**, CBP is responsible for protecting against entry of illegal persons, contraband, and cargo through our international ports; and
4. **WHEREAS**, according to CBP's own staffing model, the agency needs to hire up to 4,000 more CBP Officers and Agriculture

Specialists, in addition to support personnel, in order to effectively perform its dual anti-terrorism, trade and travel facilitation mission; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the President's Fiscal Year 2009 budget proposal would fund only 527 additional frontline CBP Officers and no additional CBP Agriculture Specialists hires; and
6. **WHEREAS**, a recent Government Accountability Office report (GAO-08-219) documented that insufficient CBP staffing at the ports of entry has resulted in excessive overtime and scheduling that contribute to morale problems, fatigue, and safety issues, and that CBP is losing personnel faster than it can hire replacements; and
7. **WHEREAS**, inadequate infrastructure capacity at land border crossings is documented to create traffic congestion and delays for cross-border freight movements and personal trips that cost the U.S. economy billions of dollars in foregone gross output, labor income, and employment; and
8. **WHEREAS**, current CBP staffing at many of the largest international airports is not sufficient to clear passenger levels on a timely basis, and modeling forecasts anticipate increased delays, including holding airplanes and passengers on the tarmac, impacting scheduling and overall capacity; and
9. **WHEREAS**, Representative Silvestre Reyes introduced H.R. 5662 in the 110th Congress that would, subject to Congressional appropriations, authorize adequate increases in the number of full-time CBP Officers, CBP Agriculture Specialists, and security support personnel over the next four years, and would authorize an appropriation of \$5 billion over five years to improve infrastructure at existing ports of entry and for other purposes outlined within infrastructure assessment studies required in prior law,
10. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports enactment of legislation that would increase funding to assure adequate U.S. Customs and Border Protection staff resources and improve border entry infrastructure; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to increase FY 2009 funding levels for

the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, but specifically requiring use of those funds to hire full-time CBP Officers, CBP Agriculture Specialists, and security support personnel solely to meet the needs at international air, land, and sea ports of entry.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 50

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

COASTWISE CRUISES INTERPRETIVE RULE

1. **WHEREAS**, the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a proposed Interpretative Rule regulating Hawaiian Coastwise Cruises on foreign-flagged vessels between U.S. ports of call under the Passenger Vessel Services Act at the request of the United States Maritime Administration; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the proposed Interpretative Rule would require that a foreign-flagged vessel, on a coastwise cruise, to call at a foreign port for at least 48 hours, with that foreign stop constituting at least 50 percent of the cruise itinerary, and allowing passengers to disembark the cruise vessel at the foreign port before continuing the cruise to a U.S. port of call; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the proposed Interpretative Rule establishes burdensome criteria that are wholly inconsistent with industry practice, particularly the 48-hour call at a foreign port – inasmuch as the standard port call is six to eight hours – as well as the requirement that 50 percent of a cruise be spent at the foreign port; and
4. **WHEREAS**, CBP has continuously reviewed and approved the current practices and itineraries of foreign-flag cruise vessels in the coastwise cruise trade in previous rulings without reservation; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the intent of the proposed Interpretive Rule is to protect U.S. flagships and the merchant mariners employed on U.S. flagships, specifically the single vessel serving the Inter-Hawaiian Island cruise trade; and
6. **WHEREAS**, thousands of members of the International Longshore Workers Union (ILWU) are employed at U.S. ports serving cruise ships and whose jobs would be at risk if the proposed Interpretive Rule were implemented; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the proposed Interpretative Rule is vague as to the breadth of its application, i.e., to coastwise cruises between all United States ports or applied solely to coastwise cruises from West Coast ports to Hawaii; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Cruise Lines International Association estimates the proposed Interpretive Rule would upend the \$17 billion in national cruise industry spending and put at risk more than 300,000 jobs generated by the international cruise industry, including jobs held by ILWU at U.S. ports and the local allied industries supporting the cruise industry; and
9. **WHEREAS**, CBP's implementation and application of the proposed Interpretative Rule to all U.S. ports would effectively bring an end to coastwise cruises in the United States and cause severe economic harm to ports, the surrounding communities, and local businesses supporting U.S. ports,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Customs and Border Protection to rescind the proposed Interpretive Rule on Hawaiian Coastwise Cruises.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 51

Submitted by:

The Honorable David Coss
Mayor of Santa Fe

The Honorable Bob Kiss
Mayor of Burlington

**CALLING FOR COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM WHICH
PROMOTES THE REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES, PROVIDES
LEGAL STATUS WITH A PATH TO EARNED CITIZENSHIP,
AND A PLAN FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE IMMIGRANT WORKERS**

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the economic, social and cultural contributions immigrants bring to their communities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the responsibility of municipal leaders is to protect the wellbeing and safety of all the people residing in their cities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, many local governments have passed resolutions, ordinances and policy directives reaffirming non-participation in the enforcement of civil immigration law by city officials and agencies to promote immigrant trust in its police and avert racial profiling and civil rights violations; and
4. **WHEREAS**, The International Association of Chiefs of Police *Guide to Immigration Issues* concludes that local police leaders face a growing set of immigration related duties in the face of scarce and narrowing resources; and
5. **WHEREAS**, raids and deportations are increasing in scope and number in recent weeks and months, separating families and spreading terror in our communities; and
6. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors opposes the separation of families by the enforcement of our current immigration laws and supports the reunification of families that have been so separated, especially those "mixed status" families with U.S. citizen children of which there are an estimated four million children currently in this country; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the national political debate on immigration reform has tended to polarize our communities; and
8. **WHEREAS**, it is the duty of local governments to respect the rights of and provide equal services to all individuals regardless of national origin or immigration status,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by The U.S. Conference of Mayors acting on behalf of its constituents to call on the President of the United States to issue an executive order to cease and desist in the execution of all raids and deportations that do not relate to our national security or to criminal activity until comprehensive immigration reform is completed and to suspend immediately all deportations of parents with U.S. citizen children; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports comprehensive immigration reform which promotes the reunification of families, provides legal status with a path to earned citizenship to the estimated 12 million undocumented workers and designs a plan for current and future immigrant workers.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 52

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS WORKSITE ENFORCEMENT

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States is a nation of immigrants, the overwhelming majority of whom are making an important and positive contribution to both our economy and our culture; and
2. **WHEREAS**, immigration reform is one of the most pressing issues facing The U.S. Conference of Mayors; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the federal government has not been able to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation; and
4. **WHEREAS**, as a consequence of such inaction has been a dramatic increase in identity theft of the Social Security numbers of U.S. citizens; and,
5. **WHEREAS**, due to a lack of a workable immigration policy, our country is inhabited by more than 12 million undocumented individuals; and
6. **WHEREAS**, many of these undocumented individuals are working in well-established businesses that contribute significantly to the local economy; and
7. **WHEREAS**, responsible employers often have to rely on documentation that appears facially valid in order to determine an individual's status to accept employment; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the current federal E-Verify system has not been reliable in ascertaining a prospective employee's right to work; and,

9. **WHEREAS**, some employers will prey upon undocumented workers, with substandard wages, long hours and unsafe working conditions, knowing these workers will not complain to authorities; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Immigration & Custom Enforcement (ICE) has increased worksite enforcement activities;
11. **WHEREAS**, ICE worksite enforcement activities are often the result of "anonymous" tips from the competitors of legitimate employers, thereby using ICE raids to disrupt production; and,
12. **WHEREAS**, ICE enforcement activities targeting companies that have had no record or suspicion of engagement in exploitative practices will negatively impact local economies and may drive employers to locate manufacturing facilities overseas; and
13. **WHEREAS**, ICE has limited resources and time to conduct worksite enforcement activities;
14. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement to develop a national policy for its workforce enforcement activities that focuses on employers with a demonstrated history or reasonable suspicion of engaging in exploitative practices, such as violation of wage, hour or occupational safety laws and regulations; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ICE not prioritize responsible employers for worksite enforcement activities before accurate verification systems are available or comprehensive immigration reform regularizes the status of workers on whom they rely; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ICE should strive to keep in close communication with the nation's mayors when conducting worksite enforcement activities in their cities.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.53

Submitted By:

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

**SUPPORTING FULL AND DEDICATED FUNDING OF THE ENERGY
EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT**

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions for cities, communities, and the federal government to take actions to reduce fossil fuel consumption and global warming pollution; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is real and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and
3. **WHEREAS**, over 850 mayors have signed The U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, pledging their commitment to reducing their communities greenhouse gas emissions by 7 percent from their 1990 levels; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the nation has faced unprecedented energy challenges, including rapidly escalating energy costs and critical choices about energy resources that will affect the nation's future economic well-being and security; and
5. **WHEREAS**, many cities have been implementing innovative strategies at the local level, including increasing energy efficiency for public and private buildings, encouraging

energy independence through the use of alternative energy sources, switching their fleets to alternative fuels and more fuel efficient vehicles; and building alternative infrastructure to encourage their citizens to utilize other forms of greener transportation; and

6. **WHEREAS**, local governments have also implemented programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reutilization of resources, reduction of energy consumption, and improving the environment through waste reduction and recycling programs, encouraging waste-to-energy technology, and capturing methane in landfills; and
7. **WHEREAS**, many local governments have worked cooperatively with the private sector to implement innovative energy saving and environmental strategies that have resulted in energy and cost savings while improving the environment; and
8. **WHEREAS**, Mayors throughout the nation have been educating their constituents on these issues and through leading by example have positively influenced change in their citizens behavior and practices; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has held three national summits focused on energy, environment and climate change issues that have highlighted these types of innovative programs that Mayors and their local governments have been implementing that have resulted in the reduction of energy use, lower energy costs, a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and overall improving the environment; and
10. **WHEREAS**, many of these programs could be expanded or replicated throughout the country, thereby resulting in nationwide reductions in energy use which will increase our nation's energy independence and competitiveness while improving our national and global environment; and
11. **WHEREAS**, many cities have not been able to expand or implement the full range of these types of programs due to budgetary constraints; and
12. **WHEREAS**, the federal government, by supporting these types of local activities, would demonstrate its commitment to help solve some of the most important issues facing the nation - energy independence, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving the environment; and

13. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously called for the creation of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program that would provide money directly to city, county and state governments to implement innovative energy saving and environmental strategies; and
14. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors called for the creation of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program in its 2007 Mayors' 10-Point Plan: Strong Cities, Strong Families for a Strong America to support local efforts to improve community energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and stimulate the deployment of new technologies, practices and alternative/renewable energy supplies; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (P. L. 110-140) established a new Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program at the U. S. Department of Energy, authorizing \$2 billion annually over five fiscal years in formula grants to cities, counties, and states to develop energy efficiency strategies to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
16. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress and the Administration to appropriate full funding at the authorized level for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, while supporting higher authorization levels in future years; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages Congress and the Administration to establish a dedicated funding mechanism for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program to ensure that cities have the necessary funds to promote energy saving strategies, promote alternative energy sources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environment.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 54

Submitted by:

The Honorable Will Wynn Mayor of Austin	The Honorable Heather Fargo Mayor of Sacramento
The Honorable Mark Begich Mayor of Anchorage	The Honorable Shirley Franklin Mayor of Atlanta
The Honorable Michael Belsky Mayor of Highland Park	The Honorable Patrick Hays Mayor of North Little Rock
The Honorable David Berger Mayor of Lima	The Honorable John Hickenlooper Mayor of Denver
The Honorable Michael Bloomberg Mayor of New York City	The Honorable Elizabeth Kautz Mayor of Burnsville
The Honorable Marty Blum Mayor of Santa Barbara	The Honorable Scott Lang Mayor of New Bedford
The Honorable James Brainard Mayor of Carmel	The Honorable Brenda Lawrence Mayor of Southfield
The Honorable Roy Buol Mayor of Dubuque	The Honorable Tom Leppert Mayor of Dallas
The Honorable Kevin Burns Mayor of North Miami	The Honorable Gene Marks Mayor of Northbrook
The Honorable Martin Chavez Mayor of Albuquerque	The Honorable Thomas Menino Mayor of Boston
The Honorable Robert Cluck Mayor of Arlington	The Honorable Larry Nelson Mayor of Waukesha
The Honorable Dan Coody Mayor of Fayetteville	The Honorable Gavin Newsom Mayor of San Francisco
The Honorable David Coss Mayor of Santa Fe	The Honorable Thomas O'Grady Mayor of North Olmsted
The Honorable Manuel Diaz Mayor of Miami	The Honorable David Pope Mayor of Oak Park
The Honorable Tom Potter Mayor of Portland	The Honorable Laurel Prussing Mayor of Urbana

**ENDORING 30% RESIDENTIAL EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT
IN 2009 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE**

1. **WHEREAS**, America's mayors have long recognized the importance of energy efficiency in the development of a successful national energy policy; and
2. **WHEREAS**, homes and non-industrial buildings represent America's largest energy-consuming sector - using approximately 40 percent of the nation's energy and 75 percent of its electricity; and

3. **WHEREAS**, the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is the most widely used model code for residential construction in the U.S., establishing efficiency baselines that are voluntarily adopted by cities throughout the country; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the IECC is currently undergoing a review and revision process that occurs once every three years, involving committee hearings in the spring and a final vote in the fall; and
5. **WHEREAS**, calls for increasing residential efficiency by 30 percent have been issued by the Western Governors Association, ASHRAE, the U.S. EPA/DOE National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency, the American Institute for Architects, the Business Roundtable and by leaders in Congress from both parties; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the broad-based Energy Efficient Codes Coalition has compiled a series of efficiency improvements into a comprehensive package of recommendations known as The 30% Solution and submitted it for adoption; and
7. **WHEREAS**, support for The 30% Solution comes from a diverse cross-section of energy efficiency professionals, including the National Association of State Energy Officials, all five regional energy efficiency alliances, the Alliance to Save Energy, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, and electric utilities (IOUs, municipal and coops); and
8. **WHEREAS**, The 30% Solution incorporates affordable, off-the-shelf technologies and practices, and studies show these efficiency improvements would enhance the affordability and security of homeownership by creating net positive cash flow for homeowners; and
9. **WHEREAS**, at its February hearings, the IECC Development Committee took significant preliminary steps toward adopting The 30% Solution, recommending provisions estimated to improve efficiency by approximately 20 percent over the existing 2006 IECC; and
10. **WHEREAS**, this September the International Code Council (ICC), a body made up primarily of municipal code officials, will consider Development Committee recommendations and the input of voting members present and will vote to establish the 2009 IECC; and
11. **WHEREAS**, mayors are in a unique position to encourage the eligible code officials from their cities to participate in

the ICC deliberations and vote for the full package of efficiency measure outlined in The 30% Solution; and

12. **WHEREAS**, the 2009 IECC will strongly influence efficiency performance in the more than three million homes expected to be built in the U.S. through 2012, and success in achieving full adoption of The 30% Solution will have a tremendous impact in reducing energy use over the life of those homes,
13. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the full adoption of The 30% Solution at the ICC's Final Action Hearings this September in Minneapolis and encourages eligible code officials to attend these hearings and to vote in favor of the adoption of The 30% Solution.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 55

Submitted By:

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

SUPPORT OF THE ENERGY CONSERVATION THROUGH TREES ACT

1. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors 2006 Summit on Energy and the Environment called for support of efforts at the local, state, and federal level to encourage the public and private sector, as well as citizens, to do their part in conserving energy; and
2. **WHEREAS** the utility sector produces nearly 1/3 of the total greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere in the United States; and
3. **WHEREAS**, heating and cooling homes accounts for 60% of utility usage; and
4. **WHEREAS**, consumer rates for utilities have been rising unabated for years; and
5. **WHEREAS**, trees strategically planted around a home can reduce residential cooling costs by as much as 30%; and
6. **WHEREAS**, shaded surfaces may be 9 to 36°F (5° to 20°C) cooler than unshaded surfaces; and
7. **WHEREAS**, evapotranspiration alone can result in peak summer temperature reductions of 2 to 9°F (1° to 5°C); and
8. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Forest Service estimates that every 1% increase in tree canopy cover results in air temperature reductions of 0.07 to 0.36°F (0.04° to 0.2°C); and
9. **WHEREAS**, tree canopy can help cities improve air quality, reduce storm water management demands, and increase property values; and
10. **WHEREAS**, over a dozen test cities in the United States have demonstrated net savings of one to four dollars per tree from residential tree plantings; and

11. **WHEREAS**, the Energy Conservation through Trees Act will relieve pressure on utility companies by reducing peak load demand for energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting public health, and mitigating climate change by reducing carbon dioxide and lowering temperatures,
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the invaluable role of urban forests to the protection of public health and reduction of harmful greenhouse gases; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses H.R. 5867, the Energy Conservation through Trees Act; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress approve and fund H.R. 5867, the Energy Conservation through Trees Act.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 56

Submitted By:

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Mayor Robert Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable John W. Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR ENERGY

1. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has passed several resolutions calling on all levels of government to pursue environmentally sustainable municipal practices; and
2. **WHEREAS**, solar energy and other sustainable practices will support growth in all sectors of our economy; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Solar America Initiative is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) effort to make solar energy cost-competitive with conventional forms of energy by 2015; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the strategy pursues complementary activities in research and development (R&D) and in market transformation; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the goals are to reduce costs through R&D and to eliminate market barriers through deployment; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Solar America Initiative has named 25 U.S. cities as Solar America Cities to recognize partners highly committed to solar technology adoption at the local level; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the awards are intended to accelerate solar adoption in cities—our nation’s electricity load centers—by supporting cities’ innovative efforts with financial and technical assistance; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the cities selected are prepared to take a comprehensive, city-wide approach to solar technology that facilitates its mainstream adoption of photovoltaics and concentrating solar power (both produce solar electricity) as well as solar water and air heating; and
9. **WHEREAS**, Solar America Cities will lead in the development of a comprehensive city-government approach to solar implementation involving key stakeholders, utilities, and private partners, a widespread increase in solar power use, large-scale solar installations, a reduction in market barriers through activities such as streamlining solar-friendly permitting and zoning, creation of city-level solar incentives (e.g., solar rebates, financial assistance, tax credits, property tax abatements, and/or tax incentives to solar manufacturers that locate in the city), an increase in public awareness through promotions and citywide education, inclusion of renewable energy curriculum material in public schools, and integration of solar energy into city planning and emergency preparedness plans (e.g., schools as shelters or natural disaster relief),
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the Congress to adequately fund the programs related to the U.S. Department of Energy’s, Solar America Initiative and its Solar America Cities; and

11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the Congress to extend the Solar Investment Tax Credit.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 57

Submitted By:

The Honorable Kitty Piercy
Mayor of Eugene

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable T. M. Franklin Cownie
Mayor of Des Moines

HIGH-CARBON FUELS

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities, and the federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and
2. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has declared that climate change could have severe economic and environmental impacts on U.S. cities in the coming decades; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the production and burning of conventional fuel such as gasoline, and diesel by motor vehicles, contributes to air pollution, and increased carbon dioxide emissions that have been linked to global climate change; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the health of the planet, including its oceans, wildlands, rivers, air, and climate, faces increasing threats from our continued dependence on fossil fuels; and
5. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong resolutions to encourage clean, renewable energy sources and discourage our dependence on fossil fuels; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the production of fuels derived from unconventional sources, such as tar sands, liquid coal, and oil shale, emits even greater amounts of global warming pollution than conventional petroleum sources; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the production of tar sands oil from Canada emits approximately three times the carbon dioxide pollution per barrel as does conventional oil production and significantly damages Canada's Boreal forest ecosystem--the world's largest carbon storehouse; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the continued production and purchase of these higher-carbon unconventional or synthetic fuels slows the United States' transition to clean, renewable energy sources,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports federal legislation that prohibits government use of unconventional or synthetic fuels, such as tar sands, liquid coal, and oil shale, with lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions greater than fuel produced from conventional oil sources; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages the use of life cycle analyses that evaluate the greenhouse gas emissions from the production--including extraction, refining, and transportation--of fuels, including unconventional and synthetic fuels; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the creation of clear Federal and State guidelines for tracking the origin of various types of fuel in order to facilitate life cycle analysis; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages mayors to track and reduce the lifecycle carbon dioxide emissions from their municipal vehicles by preventing or discontinuing the purchase of higher-carbon unconventional or synthetic fuels for these vehicles.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 58

Submitted By:

The Honorable Patrick Henry Hays
Mayor of North Little Rock

**TAX REFORM TO PROMOTE RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION,
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GREEN FEDERAL TAX CODE**

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States, as the world's largest economy, must lead the way in responding to the global warming crisis; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the United States produces approximately 25% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions but represents only about 4 percent of the world's population; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the United Nation's report on Climate Change calls for dramatic action on the part of the world's governments to implement renewable energy production facilities and to adopt as soon as possible energy efficiency retrofits; and
4. **WHEREAS**, recent scientific measurements indicate that the polar ice caps and glaciers are melting faster than previous scientific modeling and forecasts predicted; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the nation's metro economies represent 85.7% of the nation's employment; 89.9 % of the nation's labor income; and 86.7 % of the nation's gross domestic product; and
6. **WHEREAS**, when compared to nation's U.S metros represent 42 of the world's largest economies; and
7. **WHEREAS**, historically our national government has used the federal tax code to encourage investment and implementation of technologies that meet priority national needs,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the "greening" of our tax code by passing tax reform that provides preferences to technologies and investments that reduce the emission of dangerous greenhouse gases, while eliminating or reducing those tax preferences that result in such emissions; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to adopt legislation that would increase

production of renewable electricity by making permanent and expanding the renewable energy production tax credit, the solar energy and fuel cell investment tax credit, the residential energy-efficient property credit; in addition to authorizing new clean renewable energy bonds public power providers and electric cooperatives; and

10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress adopt legislation to promote the production of renewable fuels by creating a cellulosic alcohol production credit, and extending the biodiesel production tax credit and the alternative refueling stations tax credit; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress adopt legislation to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by establishing a plug-in hybrid vehicle credit; creating fringe benefits for bicycle commuters; and increasing the fringe benefits for public transit users; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress adopt legislation to create a new category of tax credit bonds for green community programs and initiatives, allocated to states and cities; extend and expand tax credits for energy-efficiency improvement for existing homes; extend and expand the deduction for existing building energy-efficiency improvements and for smart metering.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 59

Submitted by:

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Byron Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Antonio
Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A "GREEN" ECONOMY

1. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has passed several resolutions calling on all levels of government to pursue environmentally sustainable municipal practices; and
2. **WHEREAS**, "green building" and other sustainable practices will support growth in all sectors of our economy; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Green Jobs Act was signed into law on December 19, 2007, providing funding for workforce training linked to jobs in sustainable industries such as renewable energy and energy efficiency; and

4. **WHEREAS**, a leading cause for increased recidivism, poverty, and crime is a lack of jobs that pay a livable wage; and
5. **WHEREAS**, one of the most essential elements of a "green" economy will involve increasing the production of energy from sustainable sources and retrofitting existing buildings to be more energy efficient; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the promotion of energy policies based on energy efficiency and on renewable sources will not only help our economy, but will do so in a healthy and clean way, saving our cities billions in ancillary costs such as healthcare, infrastructure decay, climate change mitigation and waste management; and
7. **WHEREAS**, according to the American Wind Energy Association, adding 30,000 megawatts of wind energy to our capacity by 2010 could reduce carbon emissions to our atmosphere by 100 million tons; and
8. **WHEREAS**, according to a National Renewable Energy Laboratory study, a Photovoltaic system meeting half of the electrical needs of a typical household would eliminate approximately half a ton of sulfur dioxide pollution from the air, and 600 pounds of nitrogen oxides; and
9. **WHEREAS**, green jobs and sustainable methods of producing energy make-up an increasing percentage of the economy. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, 117,000 jobs in wind and solar energy production can be sustained with tax credits aimed toward that industry,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to extend the Wind Production Tax Credit, Solar Investment Tax Credit, and the Energy Efficiency Tax Credit as soon as possible so that 117,000 jobs in that sector can be secured in 2009; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to fund the programs passed in the Green Jobs Act to their full authorization level for FY 2009; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to allocate additional funding for the development of new green businesses and workforce development programs for the new energy economy; and

13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that members of the USCM will take steps to better implement and increase the opportunities for green jobs development in their cities such as: 1) competing for the Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Grant to fund green jobs for the economically disadvantaged; 2) institute solar alternative power initiatives that increase the number of solar cells attached to our power grids, implement energy efficiency capital improvements, and make use of other energy forms such as wind power or geothermal; 3) work with the business community to form green job councils in our cities that can best direct human resources to growing green industries.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 60

Submitted By:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

SUPPORT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY TAX INCENTIVES

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the importance of federal energy tax incentives that promote renewable and alternative energy projects in order to help fight climate change, secure our nation's energy supply, and reduce our dependence on foreign source of oil; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the renewable Production Tax Credit, to support electricity generation through biomass, wind, geothermal, solar, and other sources; the Investment Tax Credit, for residential and business alternative energy installations; and the Clean Renewable Energy Bond program for public utilities are all set to expire on December 31, 2008; and

3. **WHEREAS**, it is recognized that sporadic, short-term extensions by Congress (even allowing for periodic lapses of the Production Tax Credit) has made renewable and alternative energy advocates increasingly anxious as the newest year-end expiration date approaches; and
4. **WHEREAS**, these short-term tax extensions deter advanced development and rapid deployment of projects by making it more difficult to appropriately plan for, and adequately secure longer term funding of, renewable energy projects to better compete with more traditional and less expensive fossil fuel energy sources; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in order to best promote and advance renewable energy technologies and their widespread deployment, the certainty of a multi-year extension would most benefit the industry, speed renewable project development, utilize clean domestic energy resources, and promote American jobs at a time of record energy prices and local or state commitments towards increasing the use of renewable resources; and
6. **WHEREAS**, renewable energy tax incentives are critically important for the emerging alternative energy industry sector, where continued federal funding can help in the development and deployment of initially higher-costs technologies - ultimately driving down consumers costs; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors believes Congress must act now to promote clean renewable energy to best advance the nation's ability to meet a federal climate change program and reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby urges Congress to approve legislation that offers a five-year extension of renewable energy tax credits, currently set to expire on December 31, 2008, to enable expedited activities that advance renewable energy projects, help fight climate change, and promote domestic jobs; and

9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to work with local leaders to ensure that Clean Renewable Energy Bond program modifications are made to benefit public sector applicants on a more equitable basis.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 61

Submitted By:

The Honorable Ronald Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

METRO ECONOMIES GREEN INITIATIVE: SUPPORTING EMERGING MODELS OF EXCELLENCE

1. **WHEREAS**, the Brookings Institution reports that the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan areas contain 65% of the nation's population and 68% of its jobs, generating three-quarters of the nation's gross domestic product; and
2. **WHEREAS**, metro economies are reported to gather even larger shares of innovative activity (78% of U.S. patent activity), educated workers (75% of graduate degree holders), and critical infrastructure (79% of U.S. air cargo); and
3. **WHEREAS**, while employment within the manufacturing sector has remained relatively constant since 1950, manufacturing jobs now account for a significantly smaller percentage of the American workforce (31% of U.S. non-farm employment in 1950, as compared to just over 10% in 2007); and
4. **WHEREAS**, an increasingly competitive global workforce and multinational supply chains within traditional manufacturing industries continue to threaten American economic competitiveness abroad and basic job security and individual self-sufficiency throughout the nation; and
5. **WHEREAS**, projections from the U.S. Census Bureau demonstrate that non-Hispanic whites will represent less than half of the nation's prime working-age (25 to 64) population by 2050, with African Americans and Hispanics accounting for more than 90% of total growth in that age range during the next 40 years; and
6. **WHEREAS**, persons from these communities are largely concentrated in metropolitan areas and remain disproportionately affected by numerous challenges related to education, employment, and incarceration; and
7. **WHEREAS**, metro communities remain beset by disproportionate high school dropout rates, with the EPE Research Center

reporting that nearly 40% of the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas suffer high school graduation rates below 50%; and

8. **WHEREAS**, minority student populations are particularly likely to demonstrate elevated high school dropout rates, with African American and Latino students demonstrating graduation rates below 60% nationally; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Center for Labor Market Studies has reported that a black male high school dropout will on average receive nearly \$190,000 more in government benefits than he will pay in payroll and income taxes throughout the course of his work life; and
10. **WHEREAS**, programs intended to provide high school students unlikely to pursue baccalaureate study with a means to transition from secondary studies to high-skill employment are a vital means to provide these students with tools for lifelong self-sufficiency; and
11. **WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute of Literacy, 70% of all prisoners function at the lowest literacy levels and less than 32% of State prison inmates have a high school diploma or a higher level of education; and
12. **WHEREAS**, According to the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, nearly 650,000 - about 1,600 a day - people are released from Federal and State incarceration into communities nationwide each year, with the majority of these individuals returning to the nation's metro communities; and
13. **WHEREAS**, transitional jobs programs have proven to help individuals with criminal records to return successfully to the workplace and to the community, and therefore can reduce recidivism; and
14. **WHEREAS**, these programs, along with traditional technical training programs, and emerging green industries provide at-risk individuals within our nation's metro communities with concrete opportunities for long-term economic self-sufficiency; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the American Solar Energy Society estimates that, in 2006 alone, more than 8 million Americans worked in green industries, generating \$933 billion of revenue; and

16. **WHEREAS**, the Society further estimates that these industries can account for more than 40 million American jobs by 2030, generating over \$4.5 trillion in annual revenue; and
17. **WHEREAS**, green industries promote employment opportunities that are necessarily local. As such, jobs within emerging green industries offer sustainable employment opportunities to Americans for decades to come,
18. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages Congress, through consideration of legislation addressing global climate change, to authorize programs within the Department of Housing and Urban Development to target designated funding resources to metro communities meeting certain criteria to enable these communities to undertake model green industry economic and workforce development programs of excellence; and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, among such programs, the U.S. Conference of Mayors will support federal efforts to authorize and fund the following initiatives:
 - Metro Area Green Zones - to support exemplary low-carbon workforce and economic development efforts already underway throughout the nation and establish best practice data consistent with efforts to provide stable employment in emerging green industries to formerly incarcerated, low-income, and difficult-to-employ populations;
 - The Metro Area Green Institute - to serve as a clearinghouse for low-carbon economic development efforts nationally, compiling and disseminating data gleaned through the Metro Area Green Zones program and providing technical assistance to local and municipal green job creation/workforce development programs throughout the country;
 - Mini-Metro Green Grants - to expand and enhance the reach and relevance of activities undertaken by Metro Area Green Zones and the Metro Area Green Institute to ensure the robust participation of smaller, developing municipalities in low-carbon workforce and economic development; and,
 - Alternative Green Academies - to enable local municipalities to partner with not-for-profit organizations, local education agencies, community and

technical colleges, and trade associations, and local businesses to provide low-carbon job training, employment opportunities, and other life skills to high school dropouts, formerly incarcerated youth, and students for whom a 4-year higher education is either undesirable or impossible.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 62

Submitted By:

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

NATIONAL INTEREST ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION CORRIDORS

1. **WHEREAS**, The United States Conference of Mayors has made climate protection a policy priority, with the nation's mayors leading all governments on this challenge before the nation; and
2. **WHEREAS**, The United States Conference of Mayors policy on climate protection supports efforts by mayors to reduce CO2 emissions by seven percent below 1990 levels by 2012, and by 80 percent by 2050 nationwide; and
3. **WHEREAS**, furthering the achievement of these short-term and long-term emission reduction goals requires a much broader commitment by cities, states, federal agencies and utilities, among others, to accelerate the adoption of energy demand side management (DSM) programs and other measures, both immediately and continuing over the next several decades; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in the absence of a national cap and trade program, limited federal incentives for increased demand management, and yet to be appropriated funds to support implementation of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, energy pricing with exceptions may principally determine the effectiveness and breadth of implementation of DSM programs, including energy efficiency and conservation strategies; and
5. **WHEREAS**, interstate transmission planning is not subject to direct federal or state oversight but rather is conducted by regional transmission organizations made up primarily of utility and merchant energy company members; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 included section 1221, authorizing the Department of Energy to conduct a National Transmission Congestion Study; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) met repeatedly with utility representatives, regional

transmission organizations (RTOs) and interstate transmission organizations (ITOs) with respect to the National Transmission Congestion Study; and

8. **WHEREAS**, U.S. DOE relied on a contractor, CRA International, to conduct the analysis of data provided by utilities, RTOs, and ISOs; and
9. **WHEREAS**, U.S. DOE has refused to provide either the supplied data or the models used by CRA International to other interested parties, asserting the proprietary nature of the models and data; and
10. **WHEREAS**, U.S. DOE's consultation with states, including state energy officials and state public utility commissions, was either absent or insufficient to validate electricity data provided by PJM Interconnection and many utilities throughout the U.S. to the Department of Energy; and
11. **WHEREAS**, in response to Congressional requests, U.S. DOE refused to consider anything but transmission solutions, dismissing the potential for other electricity and energy alternatives, including future generation and demand side management in resolving potential future congestion, before issuing a draft designation of National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors; and
12. **WHEREAS**, U.S. DOE failed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, including its refusal to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement prior to its designation of National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors, and would not consider the impact of a corridor designation on increasing the emissions of greenhouse gases and the potential anti-competitive effects that corridor designation would have on DSM measures and distributed generation, among other issues; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the scope of the U.S. DOE mid-Atlantic and Southwest NEITC designations cover more than 72 million Americans living in more than 220 cities and counties and ten states, representing nearly one quarter of the U.S. population; and
14. **WHEREAS**, several states, through their state attorneys generals, environmental agencies and/or state public utility commissions, and others have filed appeals to U.S.

DOE's October 5, 2007 order with respect to the designation of the National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors in the mid-Atlantic and southwestern regions of the United States, alleging a range of violations with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act; and

15. **WHEREAS**, fifteen U.S. Senators have already called for oversight hearings with respect to the failure of the Department of Energy to implement the Energy Policy Act of 2005 in accordance with the requirements of the statute; and
16. **WHEREAS**, this failure by U.S. DOE to implement the Energy Policy Act of 2005 in accordance with the requirements of the statute now threatens to undermine current and future city initiatives as well as others by local and state governments in many regions of the country as these leaders seek to deploy DSM practices, including energy efficiency and conservation strategies, by preferring the transmission of electricity resources across state lines through federal preemption of longstanding local and state authorities and prerogatives, including the use of federal condemnation power, over the location of transmission facilities in these designated corridors; and
17. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors remains strongly opposed to federal preemption of local and state authorities, making the NIET corridors designations even more egregious because U.S. DOE chose not to even respond to federally-prescribed conditions for the use of these federal preemptive authorities set in the 2005 Act,
18. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U. S. Conference of Mayors requests the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy to immediately withdraw its NIET designations, perform an analysis of alternatives to transmission, and give full consideration of the impacts of potential NIET corridors, including the impacts on efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases; and

19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors respectfully requests that the United States Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives to conduct oversight hearings to determine whether the U.S. Department of Energy has implemented the Energy Policy Act of 2005, specifically section 1221, in accordance with federal law.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 63

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lionel Rivera
Mayor of Colorado Springs

**FULL PORTFOLIO NECESSARY FOR MEETING CLIMATE
CHANGE CHALLENGE**

1. **WHEREAS**, Congress is currently contemplating federal legislation that would require large economy-wide reductions in greenhouse gas emissions over the next forty years; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the achievement of such reduction levels would require very substantial reductions of emissions in the electric power sector; and
3. **WHEREAS**, more than 45 million Americans are served by more than 2000 community owned electric power utilities; and
4. **WHEREAS**, all aspects of electricity use, production, and delivery must be engaged to deliver reductions of this scale; and
5. **WHEREAS**, energy efficiency and conservation are the first and best choices for limiting greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective manner, but these measures alone are not sufficient to deliver the steep reduction levels targeted from the electric power sector; and
6. **WHEREAS**, further advances are needed for renewable energy, efficient end-use technologies, cleaner processes and control technologies for coal with CO2 capture and sequestration (CCS), increased generation and transmission efficiencies, interactive grid technologies, and nuclear generation and radioactive waste management technologies; and
7. **WHEREAS**, these advances must be achieved quickly to assure rapid deployment across the entire power sector; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the full exploration of each and every element of this portfolio of reduction strategies is essential if the electric power sector is to achieve its targeted reduction levels, while maintaining an affordable and reliable

electricity supply that is key to the nation's economic prosperity; and

9. **WHEREAS**, the level of improved performance required from each element of this portfolio is substantial and requires significant investment in research, development, and deployment (RD&D) to commercialize the requisite new technologies,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports ambitious exploration of a full portfolio approach to achieving targeted reduction levels, while maintaining an affordable and reliable electricity supply that is key to the nation's economic prosperity; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges aggressive federal incentives and substantial public and private research and development spending needed to stimulate the technology development necessary to achieve the greenhouse gas reductions contemplated, recognizing that the longer the delay in funding these technology developments, the longer and costlier it will be to meet emissions reduction goals, and that, for maximum benefit, funding and incentives should begin immediately; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges that Federal financial incentives to promote development and deployment of zero- or low-emitting generation technologies and energy efficiency must be made available to all types of electric utilities. Tax-exempt community owned electric power utilities should be able to receive incentives comparable to those available to taxable entities; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass legislation to establish a workable regulatory framework for geological sequestration of CO₂.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 64

Submitted by:

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable Tom Potter
Mayor of Portland

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable James Brainard
Mayor of Carmel

The Honorable Manuel Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Dan Coody
Mayor of Fayetteville

The Honorable Jerry Abramson
Mayor of Louisville

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

CITY PRIORITIES FOR A CAP AND TRADE SYSTEM

1. **WHEREAS**, over 850 mayors across the country representing more than 80 million Americans, have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which commits to local solutions to address global warming, and calls for strong climate policy; and
2. **WHEREAS**, cities across the country are doing their part to confront the climate crisis by taking local action to reduce the carbon footprints of government operations and the community and have made climate protection a top priority; and

3. **WHEREAS**, while many climate solutions must be implemented at the local level to truly succeed cities will need strong support from new federal, regional and state policies; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States is considering legislation to develop national climate protection policy, including design of a cap and trade system, which could support local goals and climate protection actions; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors has endorsed a federal policy framework that utilizes market mechanisms to promote flexibility and foster creative approaches to climate protection; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors has endorsed an 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2050 as the necessary and appropriate goal for our nation, region, and state -- and the long-term target toward which our individual communities also should strive; and
7. **WHEREAS**, this emissions threshold would put us on a clear reduction path at the levels needed globally to stabilize greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere, and is a threshold level informed both by regional climate scientists, such as those at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group, as well as by leading international institutions such as the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); and
8. **WHEREAS**, A soft cap, or safety valve provision would allow regulated entities to exceed their emissions cap when the price of carbon goes above a ceiling price thereby undermining greenhouse gas reduction goals by prioritizing price security over emission reductions; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the use of offsets could be an alternative to a safety valve as a limited component of any compliance structure, ensuring real reductions while still mitigating cost impacts; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the greenhouse gas reduction goals of the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement are economy-wide, and so a cap-and-trade program that includes all major sources of emissions, including natural gas and transportation, is vital to cities' ability to meet their goals; and
11. **WHEREAS**, while the electricity sector has been the primary focus of most cap-and-trade discussions, transportation is one of the largest sources of GHGs in many cities; and

12. **WHEREAS**, by setting a firm cap on upstream transportation fuels, a cap and trade program provides an important safeguard and complement to other federal, state, and local regulatory policies aimed at reducing emissions in the transportation sector; and
13. **WHEREAS**, cities will need a well-rounded package of transportation policies to meet climate protection goals and meaningfully reduce emissions in the transportation sector; and
14. **WHEREAS**, natural gas, while a cleaner burning fuel than some energy sources, is still a significant contributor to carbon footprints in many cities; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the economic efficiencies associated with, and underpinning, a cap-and-trade system depend on the integrity of price signals generated by internalizing the costs of greenhouse gas emissions; and
16. **WHEREAS**, there is broad agreement among economists that, under a cap-and-trade system, auctioning greenhouse gas allowances will lead to the clearest price signals; and
17. **WHEREAS**, free allocation of emission allowances will tend to distort price signals by not fully internalizing the costs of greenhouse gas emissions, thus diminishing the relative value of, and investment in, energy efficiency and lower-carbon technologies; and
18. **WHEREAS**, Over 70% of the world's energy is consumed in or by the world's cities and will therefore have to be actively engaged in reducing emissions in order for any national climate protection program to be successful; and
19. **WHEREAS**, A substantial amount of revenue will be generated by almost any variation on a cap and trade system, either through allocation of credits directly to sources or other entities, or through distribution of auction revenues; and
20. **WHEREAS**, the markets for renewable energy and energy efficiency and new revenue sources created by a cap and trade system allow for critically needed investments in job creation, job training and entrepreneurial opportunities, particularly for disadvantaged communities,
21. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the US Conference of Mayors urges congress to pass legislation that creates a market for carbon through development of a fair and flexible national cap and trade system; and
22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, the US Conference of Mayors supports a hard cap on greenhouse gas emissions that

results in real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the scientific consensus, or 80 percent reduction below 1990 levels by 2050; and

23. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, the US Conference of Mayors opposes the inclusion of a "safety valve" provision, and instead supports alternative flexibility measures to help control costs, such as the use of offsets; and
24. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the US Conference of Mayors supports an economy-wide cap, including upstream regulation of natural gas and transportation fuels in the recommended scope for a cap and trade system; and
25. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the US Conference of Mayors supports an accelerated schedule toward full auctioning of those emission allowances going to regulated entities; and
26. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the US Conference of Mayors supports using revenues generated by a cap and trade program to recognize the important role that local governments play in climate protection by channeling some portion of funds generated directly to local governments in support of continued and expanded efforts to reduce emissions, including, but not limited to full funding of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program; investment in economic and workforce development strategies that help to build an inclusive green economy which provides pathways into prosperity and expanded opportunity, particularly for low-income communities; clean energy, transit and alternative transportation infrastructure; low income assistance; and adaptation.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 65

Submitted By:

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Patrick Henry Hays
Mayor of North Little Rock

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS

1. **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports that the warming of the climate is occurring, now evident from increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global average sea level; and
2. **WHEREAS**, due to increases in greenhouse gases, temperatures are expected to rise substantially during the next few decades with an average temperature rise of 1 to 2.3 degrees Fahrenheit by mid-century; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in recent years, the United States has experienced very significant droughts, reduced snow packs, altered precipitation patterns, severe forest fires, warmer temperatures and forest diseases; and
4. **WHEREAS**, global warming will have significant consequences for the United States, causing sea-level rise that will gradually inundate coastal areas and increase both beach erosion and flooding from coastal storms, changes in

precipitation patterns, increased risk of droughts and floods, stronger hurricanes, threats to biodiversity, rapidly declining snow packs, and a number of potential challenges for public health; and

5. **WHEREAS**, many climate change strategies have initially prioritize mitigation and adaptation, where mitigation refers to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation refers to the adjustment to the impacts of global warming through reducing vulnerability to extreme weather patterns; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines adaptation as the adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities; and
7. **WHEREAS**, specific climate impacts are not fully predictable, climate variability and weather extremes already pose significant risks to our economy, our cities and the environment and could have severe economic and environmental impacts on the U. S. economy, including effects on agriculture and tourism, infrastructure (including dams, roads, water and sewer), loss of coastal areas, changed fisheries and wildlife, water shortages, storm impacts, and soil erosion; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the nation's mayors recognize the need to be able to proactively respond to short-term climate change and variability such as drought, forest fires, significant precipitation events, and extreme heat events; and
9. **WHEREAS**, adaptation planning at the state and local level can begin to limit the damage caused by climate change, as well as the long-term costs of responding to climate-related impacts that are expected to grow in number and intensity; and
10. **WHEREAS**, state and local governments have immediate responsibilities for managing many of the resources and communities that are likely to be impacted by climate change; and
11. **WHEREAS**, state and local governments must have the necessary tools to manage the unavoidable impacts of climate change and to make adjustments to existing

activities and practices so that vulnerability to potential impacts associated with climate change can be reduced,

12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass climate change adaptation legislation that provides incentives to state and local governments to begin exploring the growing risks from climate change, conduct climate vulnerability assessments that identify the most important climate risks for a particular area or population, identify the response options, and ways to implement them; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass climate change adaptation legislation that provides assistance to state and local governments to develop climate change adaptation plans and to provide financial and technical assistance and training to state and local governments to implement those plans; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U. S. Conference of Mayors urges the Federal Government to develop a national climate change adaptation strategy to combat adverse impacts of climate change to the economy and the environment and reduce the vulnerability of the nation's cities to the impacts of climate change and also urges the Federal Government to conduct annually national climate change vulnerability assessments; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U. S. Conference of Mayors urges the Federal Government to develop methods and tools for studying climate change impacts on communities and integrating this information into state, regional, and local adaptation planning efforts.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 66

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lionel Rivera
Mayor of Colorado Springs

**CALLING ON CONGRESS TO INCLUDE CONSUMER COST
PROTECTION MECHANISMS IN GREENHOUSE GAS
REDUCTION LEGISLATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, people living in poverty and low-income elderly should not have to choose between buying fuel to light, heat or cool their homes and buying food for themselves and their families; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) program is having difficulty in reaching its goal of assisting low-income households meeting their home energy needs with current funding (serving less than 16 percent of eligible households); and
3. **WHEREAS**, rising energy prices are rapidly reducing the purchasing power of program grants: between FY 2003 and FY 2007, the purchasing power of the average LIHEAP grant for heating oil declined from 36.7 percent to 20.8 percent, natural gas from 58.2 percent to 37.6 percent, propane from 37.7 percent to 22.6 percent and electricity from 50.1 percent to 37.1 percent; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the number of households receiving energy assistance has been rising rapidly, reflecting a significant rise in home energy prices and in the numbers of low income households. Since 2002, the number of households receiving LIHEAP heating assistance has increased from 4.2 million to an estimated 5.8 million in FY 2007; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the combination of rising energy costs and stagnant appropriations is forcing many states to reduce the number of households served, reduce the average benefit, or in many cases both; and
6. **WHEREAS**, families receiving LIHEAP assistance carry a higher energy burden than most Americans - spending on average about 15 percent of their income on home energy bills, as compared to 3.4 percent for all other households;

and

7. **WHEREAS**, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) analysis of Lieberman-Warner anticipates that passage of that bill will result in electricity prices increasing 55 percent in 2015, 65 percent in 2020, and 57 percent in 2030; and
8. **WHEREAS**, those families struggling at the lower income level of the economic ladder will be hit the hardest by these increases in electricity prices; and
9. **WHEREAS**, record high gasoline prices are making it even more difficult for those families to cope with even the slightest increase in home heating and lighting costs,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to make consumer cost protection mechanisms a key component in any greenhouse gas reduction legislation that it considers; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these mechanisms must provide for certainty as to the maximum level of allowance prices in a cap and trade system, and that this maximum level be based on expected availability of control technology; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors withholds support for the Lieberman-Warner bill or similar bills until Congress commits to the development of an allowance allocation framework that protects consumers against high costs; including the free allocation of emissions allowances to municipally owned utilities.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 67

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lionel Rivera
Mayor of Colorado Springs

**CALLING ON CONGRESS TO TAKE MEANINGFUL STEPS TO
ENSURE AN EFFECTIVE GREENHOUSE GAS CAP
AND TRADE PROGRAM**

1. **WHEREAS**, Congressional leaders are currently engaged in a debate to establish targets and timetables for greenhouse gas reductions for the electricity sector; and
2. **WHEREAS**, we recognize that a continuous and secure supply of energy is critical to our economy and the safety of our communities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, coal is currently a major source of energy in the US and will continue to play a role for the foreseeable future; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Congress is currently seeking to mitigate climate change impacts by proposing cap-and-trade legislation to limit CO2 emissions from coal-fired power plants; and
5. **WHEREAS**, for any cap-and-trade system to be successful, CO2 capture technologies must be widely deployable; and
6. **WHEREAS**, current CO2 capture technology is limited to small demonstration projects; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Department of Energy has restructured and delayed the construction of its FutureGen CO2 capture demonstration project; and
8. **WHEREAS**, current capture technologies reduce net energy output by 15-35 percent, which will require larger power plants to be built to deliver comparable amounts of energy as those built without capture technologies; and
9. **WHEREAS**, carbon capture-equipped plants are restricted in where they can locate and no pipeline infrastructure has been built to transport captured CO2 from power plants to suitable geologic storage formations beyond the existing infrastructure that serves enhanced oil recovery operations; and

10. **WHEREAS**, long-term geologic storage of CO2 comes with a real risk of leakage, migration or in the worst-case scenario, storage failure through catastrophic release; and
11. **WHEREAS**, funding for future projects, especially municipal power projects, will not proceed in the absence of resolving the liability issue; and
12. **WHEREAS**, securing financing and support for long term storage projects will depend on federal ownership of the liability of the project once injection and ultimate storage begins; and
13. **WHEREAS**, to date the primary proposals put forth in Congress do not adequately address technology funding and development or unresolved policy issues, nor do the timelines established sufficiently account for the required development and deployment period to resolve these issues; and
14. **WHEREAS**, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) analysis of Lieberman-Warner anticipates that passage of that bill will result in electricity prices increasing 55 percent in 2015, 65 percent in 2020, and 57 percent in 2030,
15. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors withholds support for the Lieberman-Warner cap and trade bill or similar bills until Congress commits funding for the development, testing and commercial operation of dedicated electric utility CO2 capture and storage projects that will be necessitated by this type of legislation; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors withholds support for the Lieberman-Warner cap and trade bill or similar bills until Congress commits funding for the development, testing and commercial operation of a dedicated CO2 transportation system to be built in areas beyond the current enhanced oil recovery zones that will be necessitated by this type of legislation; and

17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the legal liability for the risks associated with CO2 sequestration must be assumed by the federal government.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 53

Submitted By:

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

**SUPPORTING FULL AND DEDICATED FUNDING OF THE
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT**

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions for cities, communities, and the federal government to take actions to reduce fossil fuel consumption and global warming pollution; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change(IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is real and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and
3. **WHEREAS**, over 850 mayors have signed The U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, pledging their commitment to reducing their communities greenhouse gas emissions by 7 percent from their 1990 levels; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the nation has faced unprecedented energy challenges, including rapidly escalating energy costs and critical choices about energy resources that will affect the nation's future economic well-being and security; and
5. **WHEREAS**, many cities have been implementing innovative strategies at the local level, including increasing energy efficiency for public and private buildings, encouraging energy independence through the use of alternative energy sources, switching their fleets to alternative fuels and

more fuel efficient vehicles; and building alternative infrastructure to encourage their citizens to utilize other forms of greener transportation; and

6. **WHEREAS**, local governments have also implemented programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reutilization of resources, reduction of energy consumption, and improving the environment through waste reduction and recycling programs, encouraging waste-to-energy technology, and capturing methane in landfills; and
7. **WHEREAS**, many local governments have worked cooperatively with the private sector to implement innovative energy saving and environmental strategies that have resulted in energy and cost savings while improving the environment; and
8. **WHEREAS**, Mayors throughout the nation have been educating their constituents on these issues and through leading by example have positively influenced change in their citizens behavior and practices; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has held three national summits focused on energy, environment and climate change issues that have highlighted these types of innovative programs that Mayors and their local governments have been implementing that have resulted in the reduction of energy use, lower energy costs, a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and overall improving the environment; and
10. **WHEREAS**, many of these programs could be expanded or replicated throughout the country, thereby resulting in nationwide reductions in energy use which will increase our nation's energy independence and competitiveness while improving our national and global environment; and
11. **WHEREAS**, many cities have not been able to expand or implement the full range of these types of programs due to budgetary constraints; and
12. **WHEREAS**, the federal government, by supporting these types of local activities, would demonstrate its commitment to help solve some of the most important issues facing the nation - energy independence, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving the environment; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously called for the creation of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program that would provide money directly to city, county and state governments to implement innovative energy saving and environmental strategies; and

14. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors called for the creation of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program in its 2007 *Mayors' 10-Point Plan: Strong Cities, Strong Families for a Strong America* to support local efforts to improve community energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and stimulate the deployment of new technologies, practices and alternative/renewable energy supplies; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (P. L. 110-140) established a new Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program at the U. S. Department of Energy, authorizing \$2 billion annually over five fiscal years in formula grants to cities, counties, and states to develop energy efficiency strategies to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
16. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress and the Administration to appropriate full funding at the authorized level for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, while supporting higher authorization levels in future years; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages Congress and the Administration to establish a dedicated funding mechanism for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program to ensure that cities have the necessary funds to promote energy saving strategies, promote alternative energy sources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environment.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 64

Submitted by

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Dan Coody
Mayor of Fayetteville

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable Jerry Abramson
Mayor of Louisville

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable James Brainard
Mayor of Carmel

The Honorable Tom Potter
Mayor of Portland

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Manuel Diaz
Mayor of Miami

CITY PRIORITIES FOR A CAP AND TRADE SYSTEM

1. **WHEREAS**, over 850 mayors across the country representing more than 80 million Americans, have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which commits to local solutions to address global warming, and calls for strong climate policy; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Cities across the country are doing their part to confront the climate crisis by taking local action to reduce the carbon footprints of government operations and the community and have made climate protection a top priority; and
3. **WHEREAS**, While many climate solutions must be implemented at the local level to truly succeed cities will need strong support from new federal, regional and state policies; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States is considering legislation to develop national climate protection policy, including design of a cap and trade system, which could support local goals and climate protection actions; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors has endorsed a federal policy framework that utilizes market mechanisms to promote flexibility and foster creative approaches to climate protection;
6. **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors has endorsed an 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2050 as the necessary and appropriate goal for our nation, region, and state -- and the long-term target toward which our individual communities also should strive; and
7. **WHEREAS**, this emissions threshold would put us on a clear reduction path at the levels needed globally to stabilize greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere, and is a threshold level informed both by regional climate scientists, such as those at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group, as well as by leading international institutions such as the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); and
8. **WHEREAS**, A soft cap, or safety valve provision would allow regulated entities to exceed their emissions cap when the price of carbon goes above a ceiling price thereby undermining greenhouse gas reduction goals by prioritizing price security over emission reductions; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the use of offsets could be an alternative to a safety valve as a limited component of any compliance structure, ensuring real reductions while still mitigating cost impacts; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the greenhouse gas reduction goals of the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement are economy-wide, and so a cap-and-trade program that includes all major sources of emissions, including natural gas and transportation, is vital to cities' ability to meet their goals; and
11. **WHEREAS**, while the electricity sector has been the primary focus of most cap-and-trade discussions, transportation is one of the largest sources of GHGs in many cities; and

12. **WHEREAS**, by setting a firm cap on upstream transportation fuels, a cap and trade program provides an important safeguard and complement to other federal, state, and local regulatory policies aimed at reducing emissions in the transportation sector; and
13. **WHEREAS**, cities will need a well-rounded package of transportation policies to meet climate protection goals and meaningfully reduce emissions in the transportation sector; and
14. **WHEREAS**, natural gas, while a cleaner burning fuel than some energy sources, is still a significant contributor to carbon footprints in many cities; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the economic efficiencies associated with, and underpinning, a cap-and-trade system depend on the integrity of price signals generated by internalizing the costs of greenhouse gas emissions; and
16. **WHEREAS**, there is broad agreement among economists that, under a cap-and-trade system, auctioning greenhouse gas allowances will lead to the clearest price signals; and
17. **WHEREAS**, free allocation of emission allowances will tend to distort price signals by not fully internalizing the costs of greenhouse gas emissions, thus diminishing the relative value of, and investment in, energy efficiency and lower-carbon technologies; and
18. **WHEREAS**, Over 70% of the world's energy is consumed in or by the world's cities and will therefore have to be actively engaged in reducing emissions in order for any national climate protection program to be successful; and
19. **WHEREAS**, A substantial amount of revenue will be generated by almost any variation on a cap and trade system, either through allocation of credits directly to sources or other entities, or through distribution of auction revenues; and
20. **WHEREAS**, the markets for renewable energy and energy efficiency and new revenue sources created by a cap and trade system allow for critically needed investments in job creation, job training and entrepreneurial opportunities, particularly for disadvantaged communities.

21. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the US Conference of Mayors urges congress to pass legislation that creates a market for carbon through development of a fair and flexible national cap and trade system; and
22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the US Conference of Mayors supports a hard cap on greenhouse gas emissions that results in real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the scientific consensus, or 80 percent reduction below 1990 levels by 2050; and
23. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the US Conference of Mayors opposes the inclusion of a "safety valve" provision, and instead supports alternative flexibility measures to help control costs, such as the use of offsets; and
24. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the US Conference of Mayors supports an economy-wide cap, including upstream regulation of natural gas and transportation fuels in the recommended scope for a cap and trade system; and
25. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the US Conference of Mayors supports an accelerated schedule toward full auctioning of those emission allowances going to regulated entities; and
26. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the US Conference of Mayors supports using revenues generated by a cap and trade program to recognize the important role that local governments play in climate protection by channeling some portion of funds generated directly to local governments in support of continued and expanded efforts to reduce emissions, including, but not limited to full funding of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program; investment in economic and workforce development strategies that help to build an inclusive green economy which provides pathways into prosperity and expanded opportunity, particularly for low-income communities; clean energy, transit and alternative transportation infrastructure; low income assistance; and adaptation.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 65

Submitted By:

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Patrick Henry Hays
Mayor of North Little Rock

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

**CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND VULNERABILITY
ASSESSMENTS**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports that the warming of the climate is occurring, now evident from increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global average sea level; and
2. **WHEREAS**, due to increases in greenhouse gases, temperatures are expected to rise substantially during the next few decades with an average temperature rise of 1 to 2.3 degrees Fahrenheit by mid-century; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in recent years, the United States has experienced very significant droughts, reduced snow packs, altered precipitation patterns, severe forest fires, warmer temperatures and forest diseases; and
4. **WHEREAS**, global warming will have significant consequences for the United States, causing sea-level rise that will gradually inundate coastal areas and increase both beach

erosion and flooding from coastal storms, changes in precipitation patterns, increased risk of droughts and floods, stronger hurricanes, threats to biodiversity, rapidly declining snow packs, and a number of potential challenges for public health; and

5. **WHEREAS**, many climate change strategies have initially prioritize mitigation and adaptation, where mitigation refers to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation refers to the adjustment to the impacts of global warming through reducing vulnerability to extreme weather patterns; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines adaptation as the adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities; and
7. **WHEREAS**, specific climate impacts are not fully predictable, climate variability and weather extremes already pose significant risks to our economy, our cities and the environment and could have severe economic and environmental impacts on the U. S. economy, including effects on agriculture and tourism, infrastructure (including dams, roads, water and sewer), loss of coastal areas, changed fisheries and wildlife, water shortages, storm impacts, and soil erosion; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the nation's mayors recognize the need to be able to proactively respond to short-term climate change and variability such as drought, forest fires, significant precipitation events, and extreme heat events; and
9. **WHEREAS**, adaptation planning at the state and local level can begin to limit the damage caused by climate change, as well as the long-term costs of responding to climate-related impacts that are expected to grow in number and intensity; and
10. **WHEREAS**, state and local governments have immediate responsibilities for managing many of the resources and communities that are likely to be impacted by climate change; and
11. **WHEREAS**, state and local governments must have the necessary tools to manage the unavoidable impacts of

climate change and to make adjustments to existing activities and practices so that vulnerability to potential impacts associated with climate change can be reduced,

12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass climate change adaptation legislation that provides incentives to state and local governments to begin exploring the growing risks from climate change, conduct climate vulnerability assessments that identify the most important climate risks for a particular area or population, identify the response options, and ways to implement them; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to pass climate change adaptation legislation that provides assistance to state and local governments to develop climate change adaptation plans and to provide financial and technical assistance and training to state and local governments to implement those plans; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U. S. Conference of Mayors urges the Federal Government to develop a national climate change adaptation strategy to combat adverse impacts of climate change to the economy and the environment and reduce the vulnerability of the nation's cities to the impacts of climate change and also urges the Federal Government to conduct annually national climate change vulnerability assessments; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U. S. Conference of Mayors urges the Federal Government to develop methods and tools for studying climate change impacts on communities and integrating this information into state, regional, and local adaptation planning efforts.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 66

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lionel Rivera
Mayor of Colorado Springs

**CALLING ON CONGRESS TO INCLUDE CONSUMER
COST PROTECTION MECHANISMS IN GREENHOUSE
GAS REDUCTION LEGISLATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, people living in poverty and low-income elderly should not have to choose between buying fuel to light, heat or cool their homes and buying food for themselves and their families; and
2. **WHEREAS**, The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Program is having difficulty in reaching its goal of assisting low-income households meeting their home energy needs with current funding (serving less than 16 percent of eligible households); and
3. **WHEREAS**, rising energy prices are rapidly reducing the purchasing power of program grants: between FY 2003 and FY 2007, the purchasing power of the average LIHEAP grant for heating oil declined from 36.7 percent to 20.8 percent, natural gas from 58.2 percent to 37.6 percent, propane from 37.7 percent to 22.6 percent and electricity from 50.1 percent to 37.1 percent; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the number of households receiving energy assistance has been rising rapidly, reflecting a significant rise in home energy prices and in the numbers of low income households. Since 2002, the number of households receiving LIHEAP heating assistance has increased from 4.2 million to an estimated 5.8 million in FY 2007; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the combination of rising energy costs and stagnant appropriations is forcing many states to reduce the number of households served, reduce the average benefit, or in many cases both; and
6. **WHEREAS**, families receiving LIHEAP assistance carry a higher energy burden than most Americans - spending on average about 15 percent of their income on home energy

bills, as compared to 3.4 percent for all other households;
and

7. **WHEREAS**, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) analysis of Lieberman-Warner anticipates that passage of that bill will result in electricity prices increasing 55 percent in 2015, 65 percent in 2020, and 57 percent in 2030; and
8. **WHEREAS**, those families struggling at the lower income level of the economic ladder will be hit the hardest by these increases in electricity prices; and
9. **WHEREAS**, record high gasoline prices are making it even more difficult for those families to cope with even the slightest increase in home heating and lighting costs,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to make consumer cost protection mechanisms a key component in any greenhouse gas reduction legislation that it considers; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these mechanisms must provide for certainty as to the maximum level of allowance prices in a cap and trade system, and that this maximum level be based on expected availability of control technology; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors withholds support for the Lieberman-Warner bill or similar bills until Congress commits to the development of an allowance allocation framework that protects consumers against high costs; including the free allocation of emissions allowances to municipally owned utilities.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 67

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lionel Rivera
Mayor of Colorado Springs

**CALLING ON CONGRESS TO TAKE MEANINGFUL STEPS TO
ENSURE AN EFFECTIVE GREENHOUSE GAS CAP
AND TRADE PROGRAM**

1. **WHEREAS**, Congressional leaders are currently engaged in a debate to establish targets and timetables for greenhouse gas reductions for the electricity sector; and
2. **WHEREAS**, we recognize that a continuous and secure supply of energy is critical to our economy and the safety of our communities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, coal is currently a major source of energy in the US and will continue to play a role for the foreseeable future; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Congress is currently seeking to mitigate climate change impacts by proposing cap-and-trade legislation to limit CO₂ emissions from coal-fired power plants; and
5. **WHEREAS**, for any cap-and-trade system to be successful, CO₂ capture technologies must be widely deployable; and
6. **WHEREAS**, current CO₂ capture technology is limited to small demonstration projects; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Department of Energy has restructured and delayed the construction of its FutureGen CO₂ capture demonstration project; and
8. **WHEREAS**, current capture technologies reduce net energy output by 15-35 percent, which will require larger power plants to be built to deliver comparable amounts of energy as those built without capture technologies; and
9. **WHEREAS**, carbon capture-equipped plants are restricted in where they can locate and no pipeline infrastructure has been built to transport captured CO₂ from power plants to suitable geologic storage formations beyond the existing

infrastructure that serves enhanced oil recovery operations;
and

10. **WHEREAS**, long-term geologic storage of CO₂ comes with a real risk of leakage, migration or in the worst-case scenario, storage failure through catastrophic release; and
11. **WHEREAS**, funding for future projects, especially municipal power projects, will not proceed in the absence of resolving the liability issue; and
12. **WHEREAS**, securing financing and support for long term storage projects will depend on federal ownership of the liability of the project once injection and ultimate storage begins; and
13. **WHEREAS**, to date the primary proposals put forth in Congress do not adequately address technology funding and development or unresolved policy issues, nor do the timelines established sufficiently account for the required development and deployment period to resolve these issues; and
14. **WHEREAS**, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) analysis of Lieberman-Warner anticipates that passage of that bill will result in electricity prices increasing 55 percent in 2015, 65 percent in 2020, and 57 percent in 2030,
15. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors withholds support for the Lieberman-Warner cap and trade bill or similar bills until Congress commits funding for the development, testing and commercial operation of dedicated electric utility CO₂ capture and storage projects that will be necessitated by this type of legislation; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors withholds support for the Lieberman-Warner cap and trade bill or similar bills until Congress commits funding for the development, testing and commercial operation of a dedicated CO₂ transportation system to be built in areas beyond the current enhanced oil recovery zones that will be necessitated by this type of legislation; and

17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the legal liability for the risks associated with CO₂ sequestration must be assumed by the federal government.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 68

Submitted By:

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Lionel Rivera
Mayor of Colorado Springs

**CALLING FOR ACTIONS AND PROGRAMS TO ASSIST IN
ADAPTATION TO THE WATER RESOURCE CHALLENGES
POSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE**

1. **WHEREAS**, a warming climate will amplify national water supply related challenges, such as smaller snowpacks, earlier snowmelt, more extreme flooding, greater evaporation, less groundwater, and more frequent droughts; and
2. **WHEREAS**, these changes will make it harder to meet the nation's water needs and interstate compact obligations, threaten recreation and agriculture, and increase wildfire; and
3. **WHEREAS**, while most municipal water resource planning has been based on past hydrology, water users can no longer assume that future conditions will reflect the past; and
4. **WHEREAS**, interstate compacts and state water laws add to the challenges of adapting to changes in water availability; and
5. **WHEREAS**, pressures from growth and changing availability even apart from climate change are straining municipal water planning resources; and
6. **WHEREAS**, more study is needed of the effects of climate change on water resources; and
7. **WHEREAS**, federal funding for water-related programs continues to erode, especially when compared to the looming challenges over Western water supplies and the more than \$100 billion investment in water infrastructure over the past 100 years; and
8. **WHEREAS**, timely major rehabilitation, advanced technology retrofits, and extraordinary maintenance of older

facilities that must now be completed should address the challenges of climate change; and

9. **WHEREAS**, most of the climate-change debate has focused on mitigation of greenhouse gases from man-made sources, with very little emphasis on adaptation as a strategy for dealing with a warming climate; and
10. **WHEREAS**, even if CO2 emissions are reduced to optimal levels today, our climate will not begin to react for approximately 50 - 60 years into the future,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls for partnerships between federal, state and local entities, to improve current understanding of climate change impacts to water resources and implications for the nation's water infrastructure; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors desires an increase in federal funding to enhance the quality and accessibility of regional climate modeling, maintain and expand collection and dissemination of climate data and support the development of decision support tools that enhance local government's ability to incorporate accurate climate change projections into real time operations and infrastructure planning efforts for the rehabilitation and modernization of existing water facilities; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors asks for an increase of federal investments in research and development for new-generation water treatment technologies and new water management techniques to help meet the challenges of climate change impacts to water supplies in the future.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 69

Submitted by:

The Honorable Robert Cluck, MD
Mayor of Arlington

The Honorable Tom Leppert
Mayor of Dallas

The Honorable Michael J. Moncrief
Mayor of Fort Worth

The Honorable Raul G. Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

**THE CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM SECURITY
ACT& WATER UTILITIES**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Public Health Protection and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 required drinking water utilities to prepare vulnerability assessment and emergency response plans to address their vulnerabilities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, water utilities completed vulnerability assessment and emergency response plans with minimal federal assistance; and
3. **WHEREAS**, water utilities filed those vulnerability assessment and emergency response plans with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and
4. **WHEREAS**, water utilities regularly update vulnerability assessment and emergency response plans; and
5. **WHEREAS**, EPA regularly audits water utility vulnerability assessment and emergency response plans; and

6. **WHEREAS**, since 2002 water utilities have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to complete and update vulnerability assessments, to harden security at drinking water facilities and to implement emergency response plans; and
7. **WHEREAS**, in addition to regulation under the Public Health Protection and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act, water utilities are subject to regulation under the Clean Air Act; to emergency planning and community notification provisions under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act; and to additional state and local standards for safe storage and handling of hazardous chemicals; and
8. **WHEREAS**, city-run water utilities operate in the public interest and are ultimately responsible to the citizens they serve; and
9. **WHEREAS**, recognizing these factors, Congress appropriately exempted water utilities from the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Security Act of 2006 (CFATS) and from the subsequent regulation of chemical facilities stemming from that act; and
10. **WHEREAS**, CFATS expires at the end of 2009 and Congress has begun work to reauthorize it and to make it permanent; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the House Committee on Homeland Security has reported a bill (HR 5577) to reauthorize CFATS permanently that would revoke the existing exemption for water utilities; and
12. **WHEREAS**, other proposals to reauthorize CFATS permanently would continue the existing exemption for water utilities; and
13. **WHEREAS**, HR 5577 includes language that would require water utilities to use "inherently safer technology" when choosing chemicals to treat drinking water; and
14. **WHEREAS**, decisions regarding drinking water treatment methods are complex and are often dependent on existing infrastructure and switching water treatment methods potentially involves massive and expensive changes to drinking water treatment plants; and

15. **WHEREAS**, the Safe Drinking Water Act requires water utilities to use some form of chlorine or chlorine combined with other chemicals to treat drinking water; and
16. **WHEREAS**, subjecting water utilities to CFATS "inherently safer technology" requirements would place an extreme regulatory burden on city-run water utilities, including the potential for contradictory regulatory directives from EPA regarding drinking water safety and public health and the Department of Homeland Security regarding chemical safety; and
17. **WHEREAS**, water treatment plants, by their nature, are generally located near population centers; and
18. **WHEREAS**, shutting down a water utility or even a single water treatment plant would create serious public safety and health problems, including, but not limited to serious impairment of fire suppression, sanitation and public health efforts,
19. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges Congress to continue the exemption of water utilities from CFATS; and
20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that should Congress expand CFATS to cover water utilities, they should, at a minimum:
 - exempt water utilities from a mandate to use "inherently safer technologies" when making drinking water treatment decisions,
 - exempt water utilities from any federal authority to shut down a chemical facility, and
 - exempt water utilities from requirements regarding the placement of chemical facilities near population centers.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 70

Submitted by:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Manuel Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Martin Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Dan Coody
Mayor of Fayetteville

The Honorable Laurel Lunt
Prussing
Mayor of Urbana

The Honorable Michael R.
Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Joseph A.
Curtatone
Mayor of Somerville

SUPPORTING MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEMS

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States' municipal water systems are among the finest in the world; and
2. **WHEREAS**, high quality, safe drinking water is already available at most public locations; and
3. **WHEREAS**, mayors are responsible for delivering safe and affordable water to our citizens; and
4. **WHEREAS**, bottled water is regulated by the FDA and municipal tap water is regulated by the EPA and has more stringent requirements for testing; and
5. **WHEREAS**, local governments invest approximately \$82 billion a year to provide water and sewer services; and

6. **WHEREAS**, bottled water often costs more than an equivalent volume of gasoline, equivalent to 1,000 to 10,000 times more than tap water; and
7. **WHEREAS**, up to 40% of bottled water on the market comes from municipal water systems and the bottled water industry generated \$15 billion in revenues in 2006 from U.S. consumers; and
8. **WHEREAS**, bottled water often travels many miles from the source, resulting in the burning of massive amounts of fossil fuels, releasing CO2 and other pollution into the atmosphere; and
9. **WHEREAS**, plastic water bottles are one of the fastest growing sources of municipal waste; and
10. **WHEREAS**, in the U.S. the production of plastic bottles for bottled water currently requires the energy equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil per year - enough to generate fuel for over a million cars for a year - and generates more than 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide; and
11. **WHEREAS**, we applaud the US Conference of Mayors for its National City Water Taste Test, which recognizes all of the great work municipal water systems do for its residents on a daily basis, year after year; and
12. **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors, per Resolution #90 adopted in June 2007, has compiled much information regarding the importance of municipal water and the impact of bottled water on municipal waste; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the evidence suggests that banning bottled water from government use highlights the importance of municipal water and decreases the impact of bottled water on municipal waste,
14. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the US Conference of Mayors encourages cities to phase out, where feasible, government use of bottled water and promote the importance of municipal water.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 71

Submitted By:

The Honorable Don L. Robart
Mayor of Cuyahoga Falls (OH)

The Honorable Patrick McCrory
Mayor of Charlotte (NC)

**IMPORTANCE OF MUNICIPAL WATER AND SUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES IN RECYCLING**

1. **WHEREAS**, sound municipal water systems - vital to the health, prosperity, and security of 286 million Americans - face severe funding challenges to replace aging infrastructure and maintain proper testing and treatment standards; and
2. **WHEREAS**, upgrading this aging infrastructure is a vital public necessity, requiring serious solutions that have broad based support; and
3. **WHEREAS**, bottled water does not in any way burden the public water infrastructure and, comprising 1/80th of 1% of municipal water use, is simply one of thousands of legitimate uses of public water and plastic water bottles are 100% recyclable and are among the most recycled consumer products on the market; and
4. **WHEREAS**, approaches that are heavy on symbol but have trivial substantive impacts on water quality, quantity, or security create the illusion that action is being taken to solve the problem, which undermines the hard work and coalition-building necessary to advance serious solutions; and
5. **WHEREAS**, restricting bottled water will simply eliminate a healthy beverage option for consumers; and
6. **WHEREAS**, creating false conflicts between these stakeholders - whose fundamental interests can be aligned - sets back solutions; and
7. **WHEREAS**, a diverse set of interests must be brought together, to upgrade public water infrastructure so that it

meets the needs of households, industry, and agriculture;
and

8. **WHEREAS**, water use is related to a broad set of environmental issues that range from packaging and recycling, to fossil fuel consumption and climate protection; meeting these challenges requires bold comprehensive thinking that brings multiple stakeholders together,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the US Conference of Mayors recommends to its members that municipal water systems seek to work in coalition with a broad range of interests to develop fair and equitable policies and rate structures to renew the nation's water infrastructure, and ensure the safe and efficient treatment and distribution of water to private and commercial customers; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the US Conference of Mayors seeks to work in coalition with broad interests to develop comprehensive policies and best practices that help drive sustainability across the spectrum of environmental imperatives, from recycling to climate change.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 72

Submitted By:

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

WATER TRUST FUND

1. **WHEREAS**, our nation's water infrastructure needs have grown while federal funding for these needs have declined; and
2. **WHEREAS**, for example the overall federal government contributions to total clean water spending has shrunk from 78 per cent in 1978 to 3 per cent today; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Government Accountability Office(GAO), the Environmental Protection Agency and the Congressional Budget Office have estimated that the nation faces a water infrastructure gap between \$300-500 billion over the next 20 years; and
4. **WHEREAS**, Congressman Earl Blumenauer of Oregon, a former City of Portland elected official, is developing proposed legislation to create a Water Trust Fund to provide a consistent source of funding to support state and local replacement, repair and rehabilitation of clean and drinking water infrastructure; and
5. **WHEREAS**, eligible activities would include water conservation, water quality assessments, security enhancements, transmission and distribution infrastructure, combined and sanitary sewer overflow remedies, non-point source pollution abatement, green solutions for water infrastructure, integrated water resource management including water reuse and energy efficiency upgrades and development of renewable energy sources at plants among others; and

6. **WHEREAS**, GAO is currently evaluating various funding mechanisms which could be used to finance the Water Trust fund, including fees on products which contribute to water pollution, and will report its results in the near future; and
7. **WHEREAS**, Congressman Blumenauer has actively sought Mayoral participation in the development of this legislation and seeks a partnership with Mayors through the legislative process,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors commends Congressman Blumenauer for his efforts in the development of a Water Trust Fund legislative initiative; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors will work with Congressman Blumenauer as this legislation is developed in areas such as funding, distribution and eligible activities to ensure that when enacted it can make an historic contribution to meeting the nation's water infrastructure needs.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 73

Submitted By:

The Honorable David Coss
Mayor of Santa Fe

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Gary Becker
Mayor of Racine

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

ENDORISING THE CLEAN WATER RESTORATION ACT

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long recognized that the programs established by the Clean Water Act, also known as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and the cooperative efforts of Federal, state and local governments and private industry to implement and comply with these programs, have dramatically improved the quality of the nation's waters; and
2. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long recognized that the protections provided by the Clean Water Act play a major role in the economic development and sustainability of the nation's cities, their populations, institutions, and cultural and industrial facilities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long recognized that the need to protect current water supplies is great, and that the nation's cities are experiencing increasing costs to ensure an adequate and dependable supply of high quality water; and
4. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes that climate disruption is happening; that strong, immediate and sustained action is required to avert the most severe environmental, health and economic impacts of climate disruption on our communities; that these impacts include increased strain on our water supply and storm water

management systems and more frequent and dangerous weather events, including increased floods and droughts; and that healthy streams and wetlands can help ameliorate these impacts; and

5. **WHEREAS**, recent Supreme Court decisions and ambiguous and complicated federal agency policy directives are undermining application of Clean Water Act protections to small headwater, intermittent and ephemeral streams and their adjacent wetlands, which play a major role in providing cities with clean water, flood protection, and recreational opportunities; and
6. **WHEREAS**, these waters - small headwater, intermittent and ephemeral streams and their adjacent wetlands - account for 53% to 59% of the total linear length of streams in the United States (excluding Alaska), and in arid regions of the country can account for 75% to 90% of stream miles; and
7. **WHEREAS**, loss of Clean Water Act protections for headwater, intermittent, and ephemeral streams could reduce water quality in the 5,646 public drinking water supply systems that rely on surface water protection areas, thereby forcing cities to pay more to provide clean drinking water to 110 million Americans served by these drinking water systems and adding to the nation's already overwhelming water infrastructure needs; and
8. **WHEREAS**, loss of Clean Water Act protections for headwater, intermittent, and ephemeral streams could force downstream communities to incur significant financial costs to clean up untreated industrial and municipal sewage discharges from some of the more than 40% of facilities (14,800) with Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits that discharge into headwater, intermittent, and ephemeral streams as facilities could discharge pollutants directly into any water not covered by the Clean Water Act without an NPDES permit; and
9. **WHEREAS**, loss of Clean Water Act protections for wetlands adjacent to headwater, intermittent, and ephemeral streams could increase flood damages and flood damage repair costs for cities as a single acre of wetland can store 1 to 1.5 million gallons of floodwater and wetlands save an estimated \$30 plus billion in annual flood damage repair costs in just the continental United States; and would undermine The U.S. Conference of Mayors commitment to

promoting green infrastructure which includes wetlands and other natural areas that naturally manage stormwater, reduce flooding risks, and improve water and air quality; and

10. **WHEREAS**, federal agency records show that a wide variety of waters have been denied Clean Water Act safeguards in recent years due to the Supreme Court decisions and agency guidance, including the 150-mile-long Rio Tularosa River in New Mexico, thousands of acres of wetlands in Florida's Suwanee River watershed, the 69-mile long Folsom South canal that is used as a back-up drinking water supply in California, and the 86-acre Gurno Lake in northern Wisconsin that is a popular fishing spot; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the Clean Water Act wetland permitting process has become even more time consuming and burdensome due to the confusion created by the Supreme Court decisions, and the additional assessment procedures imposed by the federal agencies in an effort to address this confusion; and
12. **WHEREAS**, states will not be able to step in and effectively protect waters no longer covered by the Clean Water Act as eighteen states are prohibited, as a matter of law, from protecting waters not covered by the Clean Water Act and the remaining states would have to enact new laws and programs at substantial administrative and financial costs; and
13. **WHEREAS**, a piecemeal state by state approach to protecting waters would place cities in states with more stringent water protections at an economic disadvantage to cities in states with less stringent protections, and would allow upstream communities to export their pollution downstream, forcing downstream cities to bear the financial burden of cleaning up pollution they did not create,
14. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby endorses and urges Members of Congress to support the Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007 that would restore the traditional scope of Clean Water Act protection intended by Congress and implemented by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for more than 30 years by
 - (1) adopting a statutory definition of "waters of the United States" in the Clean Water Act based on the

longstanding definition in agency regulations (40 CFR 122.2 and 33 CFR 328.3);

- (2) deleting the word "navigable" from the Clean Water Act to clarify that the Clean Water Act is principally intended to protect the nation's waters from pollution, and not just to maintain navigability; and
- (3) making findings to articulate the basis for Congress' assertion of constitutional authority over the nation's waters; and

15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to enact the Clean Water Restoration Act of 2007 during the 110th Congress.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 74

Submitted By:

The Honorable J. Christian Bollwage
Mayor of Elizabeth

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE BROWNFIELDS LAW

1. **WHEREAS**, brownfields are abandoned or underutilized properties sites whose redevelopment is hindered by either real or perceived environmental contamination; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the redevelopment of brownfield sites have been a priority for The U.S. Conference of Mayors for the past 15 years; and
3. **WHEREAS**, much progress has been made in redeveloping these sites, particularly after the enactment of the Small Business Liability and Brownfields Redevelopment Act of 2002, there is still an estimated 400-600 thousand brownfield sites throughout the nation; and
4. **WHEREAS**, brownfield sites are opportunities for economic development, job creation, and environmental improvements within the nation's communities; and
5. **WHEREAS**, EPA has invested about \$800 million in the assessment and cleanup of brownfields since 1995, leveraging more than \$9 billion in cleanup and redevelopment monies - a return of more than ten to one, and resulting in the assessment of more than 8,000 properties;
6. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors' research indicates that over 186,000 jobs have been created and over \$400 million in tax revenues have been generated;
7. **WHEREAS**, the nation's mayors recognize that additional tools are necessary to help accelerate the number of cleanups and redevelopments; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Small Business Liability and Brownfields Redevelopment Act of 2002 was technically authorized for only 5 years, and the need for reauthorization presents an opportunity to re-evaluate and propose improvements that will hasten cleanup and redevelopment of these contaminated and abandoned properties,

9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Congress should reauthorize the Brownfields Law and make improvements to the law by increasing EPA's overall funding for brownfields grants, beginning with \$350 million in FY08 and increasing by \$50 million annually to a total of \$600 million and beyond; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should increase EPA's funding limit for cleanup of a single site to up to \$1 million and under special circumstances, EPA could waive the limit and go up to \$2 million per site; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should allow EPA to grant eligible entities the option to apply for multi-purpose grants (of up to \$1.5 million) that can be used for the full range of brownfield-funded activities (assessment, cleanup, reuse planning, etc.) on an area-wide or community-wide basis; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should authorize \$20 million for brownfield pilots that demonstrate sustainable reuse, green buildings, and alternative energy and allow use of funds for site assessments, cleanup, site planning, feasibility analysis, and engineering studies related to environmentally beneficial site improvements, such as, high performance/green buildings, green infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, and/or renewable energy production; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should allow EPA grantees that seek to use assessment, cleanup or multi-purpose grants on sites with petroleum contamination should not be required to make the difficult demonstrations that the site is "low risk" and that there is "no viable responsible party" connected with the site but rather replace the "No Viable Responsible Party" language with a prohibition on using funds to pay for cleanup costs for which the recipient of the grant is potentially liable under the petroleum statutes; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Congress should create greater flexibility in use of grant funds by eliminating the currently defined set-aside of total grant funding for petroleum brownfields and instead substituting a new "Ranking Criteria" that gives some weight to petroleum-contaminated sites; and

15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should allow local government applicants to obtain funding at sites acquired prior to the January 11, 2002 enactment of the Brownfields Revitalization Act - when there was no required standard for "all appropriate inquiries" - provided that the applicant did not cause or contribute to the contamination and performed "appropriate care" -- for these sites, applicants would not have to demonstrate that they performed all appropriate inquiry; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should clarify that non-profits and related community development entities are eligible to receive brownfields assessment, cleanup, revolving loan fund, and job training grants. Currently non-profits are only eligible for cleanup and job training grants; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should exempt local and state government from CERCLA liability if the government unit
 - (a) owns a brownfield as defined by section 101(39);
 - (b) did not cause or contribute to contamination on the property; and
 - (c) exercises due care with regard to any known contamination at the site; alternative language would amend section 101(20)
 - (D) to clarify that properties acquired through eminent domain qualify for the CERCLA exemption for local governments involved in "Involuntary Acquisitions."

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 75

Submitted by:

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

**PREVENTING AND CONTROLLING AQUATIC
INVASIVE SPECIES**

1. **WHEREAS**, aquatic invasive species have already caused significant damage and are continuing to cause damage to the waters of the United States, harming the integrity, biological diversity and economic health of these ecosystems; and
2. **WHEREAS**, local governments can and have taken steps aimed at prohibiting and penalizing the release of aquatic invasive species in the waters of their communities, but local governments do not have the adequate authority, jurisdiction or resources to effective control and prevent aquatic invasive species; and
3. **WHEREAS**, many organizations, state and local governments, and businesses agree that the nations' waters and the communities located on shorelines of the nations' waters would substantially benefit from a comprehensive, well-funded federal approach to help stop the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species; and
4. **WHEREAS**, many organizations, state and local governments, and businesses agree that there is a particular need for nationally standardized methods for early detection of aquatic invasive species, standardized procedures for rapidly responding to aquatic invasive species once discovered, effective regulation of ballast water and substantial increases in funding to prevent and control aquatic invasive species; and
5. **WHEREAS**, although there has been strong support in recent years for federal aquatic invasive species legislation, and

in particular for the proposed ballast water treatment provisions in the "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2008" before the U .S. Congress, such legislation has not yet advanced; and

6. **WHEREAS**, in the absence of federal aquatic invasive species legislation in the U .S., some state governments have already enacted or are moving towards enacting their own state laws and regulations to control such species; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the existence of a number of different state and provincial laws and policies that are not necessarily similar or coordinated with each other is not the most effective or the most efficient approach to prevention and control of aquatic invasive species; and
8. **WHEREAS**, issues related to aquatic invasive species are urgent and that time is of the essence with respect to protecting the Great Lakes and other waters from their harmful ecological and economic consequences,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the United States Congress to promptly enact the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2008, including the ballast water provisions; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports research into new and innovative solutions to the problem of aquatic invasive species brought by ballast water or other means and encourages the United States Congress and the federal government to continue to fund these important projects; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the United States Congress to provide maximum funding for existing aquatic invasive species control and current prevention programs, even in the absence of new legislation.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 76

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable Muffi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable John Hieftje
Mayor of Ann Arbor

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

**CONTAINMENT AND ERADICATION OF NON-NATIVE
TREE-KILLING INSECTS AND DISEASES**

1. **WHEREAS**, city trees in parks and along streets are critical to the quality of life and livability of America's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, trees in cities provide numerous benefits including shade, reduced summer temperatures, amelioration of storm winds, improved air and water quality, civic beauty, storm water mitigation; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in recognition of their many benefits, cities often plant trees and spend resources to maintain those trees through their public agencies; and
4. **WHEREAS**, cities across the country have suffered severe financial and aesthetic losses due to the introduction and spread of non-native insects and diseases, with costs to individual municipalities often running to several million dollars over a period of two to four years; and

5. **WHEREAS**, active non-native insects and diseases affecting municipal trees in various portions of the nation now include the Asian longhorned beetle, birch leaf miner, emerald ash borer, laurel wilt, sudden oak death, and the wiliwili gall wasp; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the U.S Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) is the primary federal agency responsible for preventing introduction and spread of non-native insects and diseases that attack and kill these trees through its Emerging Plant Pests Program; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the efficacy of USDA APHIS in fulfilling that responsibility is limited by insufficient resources to enforce its regulations and to revise and update those regulations; and
8. **WHEREAS**, states and cities are constrained from establishing laws that exceed APHIS requirements by both international and domestic law,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors affirms its support of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's efforts to address the critical threat of non-native insects and diseases affecting trees; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to provide enhanced resources for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Emerging Plant Pests Program in future appropriations bills; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors Calls upon the Emerging Plant Pest Program to provide expertise and resources to assist rural and urban communities in order to implement proactive programs to detect non-native insects and other pests and eradicate them before they become widespread threats to native trees.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 77

Submitted By:

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

**THE USDA ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE AND
INVASIVE SPECIES REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

1. **WHEREAS**, trees are an integral part of urban infrastructure, as critical to the health and livability of communities as roads, sewers, and buildings; and
2. **WHEREAS**, forestry and related industries provide employment for over 1.6 million people, contributing \$231.5 billion to the U.S. economy; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the emerald ash borer threatens sixteen species of ash and puts at risk a \$25 billion timber industry in the Northeast; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Asian longhorned beetle threatens hardwood forests and \$600 billion in street trees across the nation; and,
5. **WHEREAS**, the sudden oak death pathogen threatens common ornamentals and has already disrupted interstate trade, causing unknown economic losses, and certain to cause increasing damage to the nursery industry; and,
6. **WHEREAS**, the *Sirex* woodwasp threatens \$1.9 billion in pine timber resources of the northeast and southeast; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the USDA- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is implementing quarantine and control strategies in areas affected by these serious pests; and,
8. **WHEREAS**, the USDA-APHIS Emerging Plant Pests program provides valuable technical and financial assistance to states, local governments, and community-based organizations; and
9. **WHEREAS**, successful state, county, and municipal eradication and control efforts are threatened by the continued spread of pests in states, counties, and cities

that lack the resources to quarantine, treat, or otherwise control pests,

10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors urges increased funding for APHIS for pest control and eradication, and endorses budget appropriations of \$45 million to contain the emerald ash borer, \$30 million to eradicate the Asian longhorned beetle, \$10 million to contain the sudden oak death pathogen, and \$5 million to manage *Sirex* woodwasp populations; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors endorses the Invasive Species Revolving Loan Fund championed by Senator Richard Durbin to aid municipalities in their efforts to fight invasive species, and to replace trees and other vegetation damaged as a result of infestation or eradication measures.

Projected Cost: \$90 million

Resolution No. 78

Submitted by:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Martin J. Chavez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable Juan Carlos Bermudez
Mayor of Doral

The Honorable Raul G. Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

SUPPORT FOR THE U.S.-COLOMBIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

1. **WHEREAS**, President George W. Bush transmitted implementing legislation to Congress for the United States-Colombia Free Trade Agreement on April 7, 2008; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Colombian goods currently enter the U.S. market with few tariffs while U.S. goods entering Colombia are subject to tariffs at a level that create an uneven trade relationship and represent a barrier to the equitable treatment of U.S. exports; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement will provide duty free market access for U.S exports, and immediate elimination of duties on 53 percent of U.S. trade with Colombia; and
4. **WHEREAS** the elimination of tariffs on U.S. goods through the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement will create a fairer and more balanced trade relationship that will help the U.S. agricultural, manufacturing and other sectors and create jobs in the United States; and
5. **WHEREAS**, trade and economic development are a critical building block for stable and secure democracies, and Colombia is an important and valued economic and geopolitical ally in the hemisphere; and

6. **WHEREAS**, Colombia is the longest standing democracy in South America, and the United States and Colombia have shared a long and enduring friendship, a strong economic partnership, and have been and continue to be close strategic allies; and
7. **WHEREAS**, over the past decade the United States has appropriated more than \$5 billion in aid to Colombia to battle violent insurgents and curb the production of illicit drugs; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement will strengthen civil society and promote continued economic growth and greater stability in Colombia, opening and enhancing market opportunity for U.S. producers of goods and services; and
9. **WHEREAS**, cities and metropolitan areas are recognized as the engines of the national economy representing over 85 percent of the nation's employment, income and gross domestic product, and trade liberalization provides benefits to the nation's cities in the form of increased employment and revenues; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the total trade between the U.S and Colombia for 2006 was estimated at \$14.7 billion with imports accounting for \$8.7 billion and exports at \$6.04 billion; and
11. **WHEREAS**, 90 percent of Colombian exports already enter the United States duty free as a result of the Andean Trade Preferences Act of 1991; and
12. **WHEREAS**, the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement levels the playing field for U.S. exporters and enhances competition, moving this important economic and geopolitical relationship beyond a one-way preference to reciprocal commitments and full partnership; and
13. **WHEREAS**, with passage of the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement, U.S. exports to Colombia are projected to increase by over \$1 billion; and
14. **WHEREAS**, the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement commits the United States and Colombia to effectively enforce their own domestic environmental laws and adopt, maintain and implement laws, regulations and other measures to fulfill

obligations under covered multilateral environmental agreements; and

15. **WHEREAS**, under very difficult circumstances Colombia's democratically-elected government has taken exceptional steps to ensure the rule of law, combat narcotics traffickers and the illicit drug trade and rein in paramilitary groups, with the result that security has improved greatly in Colombia since 2000; and
16. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has enjoyed a long history of close relations with the cities and government of Colombia, lending their direct support for Plan Colombia in 2000; and
17. **WHEREAS**, the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators adopted a resolution in support of the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement in November of 2007; and
18. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has endorsed such free trade agreements in the past, including the U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement in 2003 and the U.S.-Southern African Customs Union Free Trade Agreement in 2004, and the U.S. Congress recently ratified a free trade agreement with Peru in December 2007 very similar to that proposed for Colombia,
19. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors supports the speedy negotiation and passage of the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement and hereby affirms to all members of the United States Congress its strongest endorsement of such an agreement; and
20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the President of the United States, the Chairs and Ranking Members of the U.S. Senate Finance and the U.S. House Ways and Means Committees, the U.S. Trade Representative, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 79

Submitted By:

The Honorable Meyera E. Oberndorf
Mayor of Virginia Beach

**SUPPORT FOR CONTINUING INTERNATIONAL MAYORAL
COOPERATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, Mayor Manuel A. Diaz hosted the Third Hemispheric Mayors Forum, bringing U.S. mayors together with mayors of Central and South America, on June 19 and 20, 2008, in Miami, offering mayors the invaluable opportunity to network, share information, and discuss common challenges; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Mayor Richard M. Daley hosted the first U.S.-Arab Mayors Forum, held in Chicago in April 2008, bringing almost 50 mayors from 18 nations together to share best practices, exchange information, and build new relationships, and concluding with the signing of a Letter of Intent between the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Arab Towns Organization to explore the possibility of future cooperation; and
3. **WHEREAS**, mayors across the United States are working to build strong and lasting relationships with their counterparts in other nations through Sister City programs, trade and investment, and other cooperative arrangements; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors cooperates with a variety of mayors' associations in many nations, including Korea, Japan, Poland, Israel, China, Argentina, Namibia, France, Germany, and others; with international associations of mayors, including Metropolis, based in Barcelona, Spain; and with international bodies, such as UN-HABITAT,
5. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors recognizes and reaffirms the great importance of mayor-to-mayor, city-to-city, and organization-to-organization relationships and commends the energy and vision of all U.S. mayors and those of other countries, who develop and contribute to the strengthening of these international bonds.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 80

Submitted By:

The Honorable Meyera E. Oberndorf
Mayor of Virginia Beach

SUPPORT FOR MEASURES TO ADDRESS WORLD FOOD SHORTAGES

1. **WHEREAS**, global food shortages are heralding "a new era of hunger," according to the executive director of the United Nations World Food Program; and
2. **WHEREAS**, out of a confluence of problems -- rising energy costs, natural disasters linked to climate change, rising demand for meat and dairy in China and India, and competition for grain to make bio-fuels like ethanol -- a monumental world food emergency has emerged; and
3. **WHEREAS**, as of December 2007, at least 37 countries are facing food crises, and 20 have imposed food-price controls; and
4. **WHEREAS**, soaring food prices and food shortages have led to food riots in a number of nations, including Haiti, Bangladesh, Egypt, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Mozambique, and Senegal; and
5. **WHEREAS**, multiple problems exist in the world's agricultural system, and experts believe that the food surpluses of recent decades caused governments and development agencies to decrease support for the improvement of agriculture in poor countries and slash funding for vital research programs; and
6. **WHEREAS**, growth of the global food supply has slowed even as the world's population has continued to increase; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the biggest cutbacks in donations to agriculture to poor countries have come from the governments of wealthy countries and development institutions controlled by the wealthy nations, such as the World Bank; and
8. **WHEREAS**, although institutions such as the World Bank have begun to reverse the trend and are increasing lending for agricultural programs, the severe effects of this period during which support for agricultural systems lagged will take years to be overcome,

9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the United States Conference of Mayors recognizes the global food emergency faced by the people of this planet and calls upon the U.S. government, governments of other wealthy nations and development agencies to increase financial aid to help deal immediately with the severe impact of higher food and energy prices and the turmoil in global financial markets; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Conference of Mayors recognizes that coordinated and collective international action, led by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, is imperative to prevent the emergence of a larger crisis; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress and the Administration to recognize and respond to this global emergency by restoring its support for a global research network, particularly programs funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (US AID) to help poor nations improve the indigenous crop production critical to their food supply, and by increasing U.S. support for other international food programs that address this crisis.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 81

Submitted By:

The Honorable Donald M. Plusquellic
Mayor of Akron

The Honorable Thomas O'Grady
Mayor of North Olmsted

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable Jennifer Hosterman
Mayor of Pleasanton

The Honorable Kitty Piercy
Mayor of Eugene

**SUPPORT FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS
BY THE YEAR 2020**

1. **WHEREAS**, U.S. Conference of Mayors President Akron Mayor Donald M. Plusquellic led a delegation of U.S. mayors to the Conference of Mayors organized by Mayors for Peace, held at the United Nations in New York during the 2005 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference; and
2. **WHEREAS**, despite the recommendation of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Administration did not seek a decision by the 2005 NPT Review Conference to launch negotiations on the elimination of nuclear weapons, and the conference ended in failure; and
3. **WHEREAS**, since that time there have been no new agreed-upon measures in the field of nuclear disarmament; and
4. **WHEREAS**, contrary to its NPT obligation, in force since 1970 to "pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament," the United States is modernizing its nuclear weapons research and

manufacturing complex to expand production capability and is developing new delivery systems; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the 2007 World Congress of United Cities and Local Governments endorsed "the Mayors for Peace campaign, which lobbies the international community to renounce weapons of mass destruction;" and
6. **WHEREAS**, chemical and biological weapons have been outlawed under the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention; and
7. **WHEREAS**, there is no technical or economic obstacle to the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2020, and because cities and the entire world should not be held at risk of nuclear attack any longer than absolutely unavoidable; and
8. **WHEREAS**, Mayors for Peace has organized European delegations to and activities at the first two Preparatory Committee meetings for the 2010 NPT Review Conference, unveiling the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol for a nuclear-weapons-free world by the year 2020 at the most recent meeting in Geneva,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages its members to participate in the delegation and activities being organized by Mayors for Peace at the third NPT Review Conference Preparatory Committee Meeting in New York in May 2009; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages its members to sign the Cities Appeal being circulated in support of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol and to encourage other elected officials in their cities to do likewise; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recommends that the United States Government urgently consider the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol as a direct means of fulfilling the promise of the NPT by the year 2020, thereby meeting the obligation found by the International Court of Justice in 1996 "to conclude negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control"; and

12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors agrees to take up this matter at the 2009 June Conference of Mayors in Providence, Rhode Island.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 82

Submitted By:

The Honorable Bob Kiss
Mayor of Burlington

The Honorable Joy Cooper
Mayor of Hallandale Beach

The Honorable Marty Blum
Mayor of Santa Barbara

The Honorable Dan Coody
Mayor of Fayetteville

The Honorable Kevin C. Foy
Mayor of Chapel Hill

The Honorable Gayle McLaughlin
Mayor of Richmond (CA)

The Honorable Kitty Piercy
Mayor of Eugene

The Honorable Elaine N. Walker
Mayor of Bowling Green

OPPOSING MILITARY INTERVENTION IN IRAN

1. **WHEREAS**, the President and members of his Administration have alleged that Iran poses an imminent threat to the United States, U.S. troops in the Middle East and U.S. allies; and
2. **WHEREAS**, these allegations are similar to the lead-up to the Iraq War and U.S. occupation, with the selective use of information and unsubstantiated accusations about Iran's nuclear program and its supply of weapons to Iraqi forces as centerpieces of a case to the American people for aggression against Iran; and
3. **WHEREAS**, Iran has not threatened to attack the United States, and no compelling evidence has been presented to document that Iran poses a real and imminent threat to the

security and safety of the United States that would justify an unprovoked unilateral pre-emptive military attack; and

4. **WHEREAS**, we support the people of Iran who are struggling for freedom and democracy, and nothing herein should be misconstrued as support for the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, but it should be understood that a unilateral, pre-emptive U.S. military attack on Iran could well prove counterproductive to the cause of promoting freedom and democracy there; and
5. **WHEREAS**, a 2007 National Intelligence Estimate (NIE), representing the consensus of all 16 U.S. intelligence agencies, concluded that Iran froze its nuclear weapons program in 2003, and an earlier NIE concluded that Iran's involvement in Iraq "is not likely to be a major driver of violence" there; and
6. **WHEREAS**, an attack on Iran is likely to cause untold thousands of American and Iranian casualties, lead to major economic dislocations, and threaten even greater destabilization in the Middle East; and
7. **WHEREAS**, a pre-emptive U.S. military attack on Iran would violate international law and our commitments under the U.N. Charter and further isolate the U.S. from the rest of the world; and
8. **WHEREAS**, an attack on Iran is likely to inflame hatred for the U.S. in the Middle East and elsewhere, inspire terrorism, and lessen the security of Americans; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Iraq war and occupation has already cost the lives of over 4,000 American soldiers, the maiming and wounding of over 38,000 American soldiers, and the death and maiming of over one million Iraqi civilians; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the Iraq War and occupation has cost U.S. taxpayers more than \$500 billion, depriving our cities of much-needed funds for services and infrastructure; and
11. **WHEREAS**, except at our peril, we cannot ignore the history of U.S. government misinformation used to inspire U.S. aggression in Vietnam and again in Iraq, as embodied in the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution and more recently in what we know now as false claims of weapons of mass destruction; and

12. **WHEREAS**, any conflict with Iran is likely to incur far greater costs and divert more precious national resources away from critical human needs,
13. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby urges the Bush Administration to pursue diplomatic engagement with Iran on nuclear issues and ending the violence in Iraq; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to prohibit the use of funds to carry out any military action against Iran without explicit Congressional authorization; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that suitable copies of this resolution be forwarded to President George W. Bush and all members of Congress.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 46

Submitted By:

The Honorable Joy Cooper
Mayor of Hallandale Beach

**SUPPORTING LEGISLATION REQUIRING DONATIONS OF
SURPLUS FIRE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL TO VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES**

1. **WHEREAS**, approximately 80 percent of fire departments in the United States are volunteer; and
2. **WHEREAS**, surplus equipment and material have been donated by municipal and other fire departments to countries overseas; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the expenses of volunteer fire departments could be lessened by almost half by such donations; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the equipment and material that is paid by the taxpayers in the United States should be donated to fire departments in the United States; and
5. **WHEREAS**, a dedicated website should be established in connection with the donation and distribution of surplus fire equipment and material; and
6. **WHEREAS**, all local and state governments and the federal government should join in this effort,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports and appreciates the sacrifice and patriotic duty exemplified by our brave men and women in United States volunteer fire departments; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports legislation that requires that surplus fire equipment and material from local, state and federal government that was purchased or acquired with public funds - including taxes, grants, or other public funds - be donated to volunteer fire departments in the United States; and

9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that suitable copies of the resolution be forwarded to President George W. Bush and all members of Congress.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 84

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Kathryn L. Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

INVESTING IN AMERICA'S YOUTH

1. **WHEREAS**, The Conference of Mayors is committed to promoting the well-being and positive development of the nation's young people; and

2. **WHEREAS**, Mayors know how early work experience provides educational and enrichment opportunities leading to academic improvement for millions of disadvantaged youth; and that youth who work are more apt to: stay in school, finish high school, and pursue post-secondary education and/or vocational training; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the labor market for the nation's teens has deteriorated considerably since 2000, when 45% of U.S teens had summer jobs, to the historic low of 34% last summer (2007); and
4. **WHEREAS**, matching the youth unemployment crisis is the nation's troubling dropout rate: *one in three youth will not graduate from high school with their peers*; and fifty percent (50%) of African-American and Hispanic youth are not completing high school; and
5. **WHEREAS**, by 2010 the largest segment of the nation's labor force will be teens and young adults as 41 million new workers enter the workforce beginning to replace 76 million retiring workers; and
6. **WHEREAS**, millions of young people are being left behind, disconnected from school and the world of work, and unable to participate in the U.S. economy; and
7. **WHEREAS**, only a significant reinvestment in all youth, but most especially those young people with low educational attainment and poor connections to work, will reconnect them to the economic mainstream; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) provides the nation's only comprehensive youth system to improve the education and training prospects for at-risk in-school and out-of-school youth; and
9. **WHEREAS**, WIA reauthorization has stalled in Congress and it is growing increasingly unlikely that work will be completed on the Workforce Investment Act this year; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the Department of Labor's WIA Youth Opportunity Grants represented a major commitment to addressing these conditions and increasing the long term employability of youth living in the poorest communities in our country; and

11. **WHEREAS**, the Administration eliminated the Youth Opportunity Grants program in the federal budget, and Congress did not earmark the Summer Jobs Act of 2008 for funding in the first and second economic stimulus packages; and
12. **WHEREAS**, disadvantaged youth have been severely underserved since 2000 with the elimination of a separate funding stream for summer job programs; and
13. **WHEREAS**, well-organized summer jobs programs bring immediate and long term benefits to teen workers, their communities, and the business sector; and
14. **WHEREAS**, developing skills to be productive workers, learning about various industries, and participating in the adult world of work are all important aspects of cultivating the next generation of workers,
15. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to make a major new investment in our nation's youth of at least \$1 billion to address the unmet needs of youth who have been adversely affected since 2000; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this new investment provide funding for a new Summer Jobs initiative to generate summer job and learning opportunities for economically disadvantaged youth both in-school and out-of-school which includes:
 - Promoting career exploration across a variety of industries and fields helping young people learn more about their interests, aptitudes and the ways these can be applied in the local labor market; and
 - Providing internships allowing students to combine academic and employment pursuits; and
 - Developing connections to local school curricula so lessons learned at work relate to academics; and
 - Developing training for youth supervisors, ensuring summer work experiences are appropriate and fulfilling; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in WIA reauthorization legislation, The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to:
 - Retain the WIA Youth formula program and authorization funding for the formula program at not less than \$1

billion, with an additional \$250 million to automatically reestablish the Youth Opportunity Grants program;

- Provide flexibility to local areas to allow for a wide range of programs and strategies, including summer jobs, as currently provided in WIA;
- Retain services to both in-school and out-of-school youth;
- Preserve in-school youth programs and in-school services for 14 and 15 year olds.
- Maintain the focus on youth development;
- Ensure that any new targeted grant program for youth be available for both in-school and out-of-school youth, particularly those in high poverty communities and that it must be funded only in excess of the \$1 billion dedicated for the youth formula program.
- Further, ensure funding in excess of \$1 billion to include \$250 million so that successful Youth Opportunity and Youth Offender programs continue to be funded as part of any new national youth program, assuring local support for such efforts; and

18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any change in the youth formula allocation and any formula for new programs like the Youth Challenge Grants be substantially weighted to reflect the population to which the funds are targeted, such as high school drop outs, youth in the juvenile justice system, and youth aging out of foster care; and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to incorporate lessons learned from the Youth Opportunity (YO) Grant program into WIA reauthorization and incorporate the YO philosophy of long term, comprehensive support focused on youth development into all youth workforce policies and programs.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 85

Submitted by:

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

STRENGTHENING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

1. **WHEREAS**, the unemployment rate is currently 5.1 percent, and long-term unemployment is higher than it has ever been at this point in the economic cycle; and
2. **WHEREAS**, in the month of April 2008, the nation suffered a loss of 80,000 jobs and almost 20 percent of all unemployed have been out of work for six months or longer; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Workforce Investment Act, the law creating the nation's largest program for providing skills training, can provide training for less than one percent of the nation's workforce; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the federal government has cut funding for job training programs by over \$1 billion since FY 2002; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the Administration has proposed an additional \$1 billion in funding cuts for job training programs in the FY 2009 budget; and

6. **WHEREAS**, other developed countries now invest more per capita in workforce skills, have created new entitlements for technical education, and are graduating more people from college; and, as a result, they are growing promising industries, spreading prosperity, and threatening to displace the U.S. as the world's future economic leader; and
7. **WHEREAS**, one of America's greatest challenges is to maintain its prosperity, standard of living, and competitive position in the current world economy; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. must create a workforce system that supports businesses to compete effectively by providing talent to fuel an innovative economy and enabling businesses to grow and create jobs; and
9. **WHEREAS**, an effective workforce system should serve as the lynchpin to identify where businesses have needs for labor and how to array workforce assets to meet these needs,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors urges the federal government to strengthen the Workforce Investment Act by significantly increasing its funding to adequately reflect its importance; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors urges the federal government to strengthen the Workforce Investment Act by:
 - improving regional and private-sector coordination, and expanding outreach to immigrants;
 - Providing incentives for public-private partnerships in workforce development;
 - Providing additional training and apprenticeship programs which prepare workers for jobs in the building trades;
 - Enlisting regional employers as partners having a vested interest in the success of workforce development programs;
 - Providing adequate funding for federal programs which have demonstrated success in developing a competitive workforce, such as summer youth employment, adult education/G.E.D, literacy, Pell grants, TRIO,

vocational education, and incumbent worker programs;
and

12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors calls on business leaders to:
 - Invest in workforce education and career exploration counseling for high school students;
 - Encourage employees (especially within large businesses) to participate in workforce development programs available in high schools, particularly those with lower college placement rates;
 - Work with educators and local leaders to develop appropriate curriculum that is responsive to regional workforce trends;
 - Collaborate with state education and workforce leaders to identify key regional job trends;
 - Support federal and state standards-based education.

13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to ensure that public workforce development resources are accessible to all workers in need of assistance—including adults and youth who have been subject to decreasing investments by the Department of Labor, as well as low-income workers, whose access to Pell grants has been restricted; and

14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that within the context of a business-driven, locally-controlled workforce system, data systems and measures must be developed to accurately reflect local service strategies, economies, and business metrics. Additionally metrics should include not only the measure of an individual's success but also the business's success; and

15. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors encourages local workforce systems to have leveraged partnerships with multiple stakeholders allowing local areas to bring more to the workforce system thereby strengthening it to provide comprehensive, cohesive services to jobseekers.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 61

Submitted By:

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

**METRO ECONOMIES GREEN INITIATIVE:
SUPPORTING EMERGING MODELS OF EXCELLENCE**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Brookings Institution reports that the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan areas contain 65 percent of the nation's population and 68 percent of its jobs, generating three-quarters of the nation's gross domestic product; and
2. **WHEREAS**, metro economies are reported to gather even larger shares of innovative activity (78 percent of U.S. patent activity), educated workers (75 percent of graduate degree holders), and critical infrastructure (79 percent of U.S. air cargo); and
3. **WHEREAS**, while employment within the manufacturing sector has remained relatively constant since 1950, manufacturing jobs now account for a significantly smaller percentage of the American workforce (31 percent of U.S. non-farm employment in 1950, as compared to just over 10 percent in 2007); and
4. **WHEREAS**, an increasingly competitive global workforce and multinational supply chains within traditional manufacturing industries continue to threaten American economic competitiveness abroad and basic job security and individual self-sufficiency throughout the nation; and
5. **WHEREAS**, projections from the U.S. Census Bureau demonstrate that non-Hispanic whites will represent less than half of the nation's prime working-age (25 to 64) population by 2050, with African Americans and Hispanics accounting for more than 90 percent of total growth in that age range during the next 40 years; and
6. **WHEREAS**, persons from these communities are largely concentrated in metropolitan areas and remain disproportionately affected by numerous challenges related to education, employment, and incarceration; and

7. **WHEREAS**, metro communities remain beset by disproportionate high school dropout rates, with the EPE Research Center reporting that nearly 40 percent of the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas suffer high school graduation rates below 50 percent; and
8. **WHEREAS**, minority student populations are particularly likely to demonstrate elevated high school dropout rates, with African American and Latino students demonstrating graduation rates below 60 percent nationally; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Center for Labor Market Studies has reported that a black male high school dropout will on average receive nearly \$190,000 more in government benefits than he will pay in payroll and income taxes throughout the course of his work life; and
10. **WHEREAS**, programs intended to provide high school students unlikely to pursue baccalaureate study with a means to transition from secondary studies to high-skill employment are a vital means to provide these students with tools for lifelong self-sufficiency; and
11. **WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute of Literacy, 70% of all prisoners function at the lowest literacy levels and less than 32% of State prison inmates have a high school diploma or a higher level of education; and
12. **WHEREAS**, According to the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, nearly 650,000 - about 1,600 a day - people are released from Federal and State incarceration into communities nationwide each year, with the majority of these individuals returning to the nation's metro communities; and
13. **WHEREAS**, transitional jobs programs have proven to help individuals with criminal records to return successfully to the workplace and to the community, and therefore can reduce recidivism; and
14. **WHEREAS**, these programs, along with traditional technical training programs, and emerging green industries provide at-risk individuals within our nation's metro communities with concrete opportunities for long-term economic self-sufficiency; and

15. **WHEREAS**, the American Solar Energy Society estimates that, in 2006 alone, more than 8 million Americans worked in green industries, generating \$933 billion of revenue; and
16. **WHEREAS**, the Society further estimates that these industries can account for more than 40 million American jobs by 2030, generating over \$4.5 trillion in annual revenue; and
17. **WHEREAS**, green industries promote employment opportunities that are necessarily local. As such, jobs within emerging green industries offer sustainable employment opportunities to Americans for decades to come,
18. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages Congress, through consideration of legislation addressing global climate change, to authorize programs within the Department of Housing and Urban Development to target designated funding resources to metro communities meeting certain criteria to enable these communities to undertake model green industry economic and workforce development programs of excellence; and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, among such programs, The U.S. Conference of Mayors will support federal efforts to authorize and fund the following initiatives:
 - Metro Area Green Zones - to support exemplary low-carbon workforce and economic development efforts already underway throughout the nation and establish best practice data consistent with efforts to provide stable employment in emerging green industries to formerly incarcerated, low-income, and difficult-to-employ populations;
 - The Metro Area Green Institute - to serve as a clearinghouse for low-carbon economic development efforts nationally, compiling and disseminating data gleaned through the Metro Area Green Zones program and providing technical assistance to local and municipal green job creation/workforce development programs throughout the country;
 - Mini-Metro Green Grants - to expand and enhance the reach and relevance of activities undertaken by Metro Area Green Zones and the Metro Area Green

Institute to ensure the robust participation of smaller, developing municipalities in low-carbon workforce and economic development; and,

- Alternative Green Academies - to enable local municipalities to partner with not-for-profit organizations, local education agencies, community and technical colleges, and trade associations, and local businesses to provide low-carbon job training, employment opportunities, and other life skills to high school dropouts, formerly incarcerated youth, and students for whom a 4-year higher education is either undesirable or impossible.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 59

Submitted by:

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Byron Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Antonio
Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A "GREEN" ECONOMY

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has passed several resolutions calling on all levels of government to pursue environmentally sustainable municipal practices; and
2. **WHEREAS**, "green building" and other sustainable practices will support growth in all sectors of our economy; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Green Jobs Act was signed into law on December 19, 2007, providing funding for workforce training linked

to jobs in sustainable industries such as renewable energy and energy efficiency; and

4. **WHEREAS**, a leading cause for increased recidivism, poverty, and crime is a lack of jobs that pay a living wage; and
5. **WHEREAS**, one of the most essential elements of a "green" economy will involve increasing the production of energy from sustainable sources and retrofitting existing buildings to be more energy efficient, and
6. **WHEREAS**, the promotion of energy policies based on energy efficiency and on renewable sources will not only help our economy, but will do so in a healthy and clean way, saving our cities billions in ancillary costs such as healthcare, infrastructure decay, climate change mitigation and waste management; and
7. **WHEREAS**, according to the American Wind Energy Association, adding 30,000 megawatts of wind energy to our capacity by 2010 could reduce carbon emissions to our atmosphere by 100 million tons; and
8. **WHEREAS**, according to a National Renewable Energy Laboratory study, a Photovoltaic system meeting half of the electrical needs of a typical household would eliminate approximately half a ton of sulfur dioxide pollution from the air, and 600 pounds of nitrogen oxides; and
9. **WHEREAS**, green jobs and sustainable methods of producing energy make-up an increasing percentage of the economy. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, 117,000 jobs in wind and solar energy production can be sustained with tax credits aimed toward that industry,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to extend the Wind Production Tax Credit, Solar Investment Tax Credit, and the Energy Efficiency Tax Credit as soon as possible so that 117,000 jobs in that sector can be secured in 2009; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to fund the programs passed in the Green Jobs Act to their full authorization level for FY 2009; and

12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to allocate additional funding for the development of new green businesses and workforce development programs for the new energy economy, and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that members of The U.S. Conference of Mayors will take steps to better implement and increase the opportunities for green jobs development in their cities such as: 1) competing for the Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Grant to fund green jobs for the economically disadvantaged; 2) institute alternative power initiatives to increase the number of solar cells attached to our power grids, implement energy efficiency capital improvements, and make use of other energy forms such as wind power or geothermal; and 3) work with the business community to form green job councils in our cities that can best direct human resources to growing green industries.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 86

Submitted by:

The Honorable Martin J. Chávez
Mayor of Albuquerque

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable Patrick Henry Hays
Mayor of North Little Rock

The Honorable Michael A. Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Frank Cownie
Mayor of Des Moines

GREEN JOBS PLEDGE

1. **WHEREAS**, more than 850 mayors from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, representing a total population of over 80 million citizens, have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Mayors and local governments are critical when it comes to leading in practical solutions in job creation, climate change and healthy communities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Federal government has already approved funds through the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act to stimulate the market for and promote the use of renewable energy technologies through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program that includes specific support for green jobs, and

4. **WHEREAS**, private sector investments in the green economy are growing and can be used to leverage local economic development that benefits all of our residents; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the purchasing power of our local governments can increase the markets for energy efficiencies and other green industries; and
6. **WHEREAS**, we can invest new local government resources into programs and initiatives that align existing public resources, and private sources of capital and finance, toward these same goals,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors shall strengthen and make further progress on our stated commitment to improving the environment in ways that grow both the economy and green jobs locally; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, signatory cities shall work to enhance and develop job training programs in the public and private sector that provide pathways out of poverty for our residents by equipping them for high demand jobs in the green economy; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, signatory cities shall catalyze green job creation and training by supporting policies that drive public and private investment in an inclusive local green economy; and
10. **BE IT FINNALLY RESOLVED THAT**, we commit to sign on to the green jobs pledge (www.usgreenjobspledge.org) and join together as a movement of local governments across the United States to seize the economic, environmental and social opportunities offered by building an inclusive green economy of high quality jobs and a thriving green workforce.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolutions No. 87

Submitted by:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Phil Gordon
Mayor of Phoenix

**URGING INCREASED INVESTMENT IN COLLEGE READINESS AND ACCESS
INITIATIVES**

1. **WHEREAS**, only 70 percent of American students currently earn a high school diploma; and
2. **WHEREAS**, minority and low-income students are at greater risk of dropping out of high school and not enrolling in post-secondary education; and
3. **WHEREAS**, less than 2,000 high schools (about 12% of all high schools) account for the majority of the nation's dropouts, with 40 percent of all African-American and 33 percent of all Hispanic students attending these schools; and
4. **WHEREAS**, high School drop-outs suffer personally for failing to graduate but the nation as a whole also suffers. Every school day 7,000 students become dropouts. More than

12 million students are expected to drop out of high school in the next decade - at a cost of more than \$3 trillion to the U.S. economy; and

5. **WHEREAS**, In today's competitive, high-tech economy, employers need workers with the knowledge and skills who can compete globally, with the fastest-growing and best-paying jobs now requiring some postsecondary training; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Federal government must address this national crisis and support schools that help at-risk students stay in school and obtain the necessary skills for higher education; and
7. **WHEREAS**, mayors must work with local education leaders, including school superintendents and college presidents, to significantly improve the high schools responsible for the majority of our nation's dropouts and develop programs that will provide students a pathway to higher education through college readiness activities and financial assistance; and
8. **WHEREAS**, successful federal college-readiness initiatives, such as GEAR UP and Trio, are only reaching a fraction of the eligible students and continue to be under-funded every year; and
9. **WHEREAS**, S. 1185 and H.R. 2928, the Graduation Promise Act would create a federal-state-local partnership focused on transforming the nation's lowest-performing high schools, including new federal funds for a High School Improvement and Dropout Reduction Fund; and
10. **WHEREAS**, S. 1920, the GRADUATES Act would create a \$500 million Secondary School Innovation Fund to support partnerships to create models of innovation in secondary schools to increase student achievement and prepare students for success in post-secondary education and the workforce; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the US Conference of Mayors supports the idea that all school-age children who want to attend college should be provided the opportunity,
12. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes that to compete with their international peers, American students must graduate from high school with the academic foundation they will need to participate

in post-secondary education and succeed in a 21st century economy; and

13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the federal education policymakers to work closely with Mayors to ensure a sound federal investment in education initiatives and programs that prepare students for and provide access to college, including increased funding for the GEAR UP and TRIO programs, adopt and fund the Graduation Promise Act and the GRADUATES Act and support financial assistance for all students who desire to do so to attend college.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 88

Submitted by:

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark, NJ

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS FOR AMERICA'S FAMILIES

1. **WHEREAS**, our nation must use its most effective publicly-funded early childhood resources to strengthen American families and provide our youngest citizens with the best prospects for a productive and rewarding future; and
2. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has consistently supported Head Start and subsidized child care and pre-kindergarten programs; and
3. **WHEREAS**, a comprehensive approach to these early childhood care and education services under the leadership of chief local elected officials will help keep America's cities working, expand parent choice and promote quality care for all children; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the availability, affordability and accessibility of these programs are vital for millions of families struggling to cope with the rising cost of everyday essentials, and are the key factor in their being able to continue working; and
5. **WHEREAS**, approximately 63 percent of the nation's children under 5 are in nonparental care during part or all of the day while their parents work; and
6. **WHEREAS**, according to 2005 data from the Bureau of the Census, nearly 12,000,000 children under the age of 5 are in some type of child care arrangement; and

7. **WHEREAS**, almost 80 percent of an individual's total brain development occurs before the age of five; and
8. **WHEREAS**, millions of low-income children could benefit from high-quality child care; in 2007, 43 percent of America's children under age 6 lived in families with incomes below 200 percent of poverty; and
9. **WHEREAS**, only 30.5 percent of Hispanic 3 year olds attend center-based preschool education programs and 45.8 percent of non-Hispanic children; and
10. **WHEREAS**, students who have attended quality preschool programming have less grade retention and increased high school graduation rates when compared to those who have not attended; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the Head Start program for over four decades has successfully delivered comprehensive early childhood education, health and social services, and has a proud history of bipartisan support in Congress; and
12. **WHEREAS**, almost one million of America's most at-risk children and their families currently depend on Head Start programs for a solid foundation for their future, for their first educational experiences, for immunizations, dental and health care, for learning social skills and good nutrition habits; and
13. **WHEREAS**, young adults who participated in quality early childhood education programs were arrested less often, had fewer births out of wedlock, and were less likely to use welfare than their peers who did not participate; and
14. **WHEREAS**, one-third more at-risk children who attended a quality early childhood program graduated from high school than those who did not attend; and
15. **WHEREAS**, these publicly-funded early childhood programs are locally-run and locally-focused, help educate and care for our children, improve and enrich the lives of their parents and siblings, and engage and benefit the residents, organizations and institutions of the neighborhoods and cities in which they operate,

16. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that The United States Conference of Mayors urges federal, state, and local governments to invest in expanding access to quality early childhood care and education; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to fully fund the Head Start program and the Child Care and Development Block Grant so that all eligible children can have access to these highly valuable early childhood development and enrichment services; and
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Conference believes that investing in quality, affordable child care is one of the most cost-effective economic stimulus measures to lessen the financial burden for our working families, reduce public assistance costs and move families out of poverty; and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that low-income families' co-payments for publicly-funded child care be set at appropriate levels that do not present a significant barrier to access. Currently, low-income families spend as much as 18% of their annual income on their child care co-payment while the average American family spends only 9% on child care--a major impediment for those struggling to stay afloat in today's economy; and
20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Congress and the Executive Branch recognize how universally Head Start, child care and preschool programs are melded and leveraged at the local level to meet the early childhood needs of families and communities, and that they acknowledge and support this beneficial coordination by providing sufficient administrative and financial flexibility in these programs.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 15

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Kathryn L. Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

INCREASING ACCESS TO QUALITY PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, 20 percent of children entering kindergarten lack the social and emotional skills necessary for classroom learning; and
2. **WHEREAS**, less than half of children in poverty attend preschool at ages 3 and 4; and
3. **WHEREAS**, children of families with modest incomes, slightly below the average, participate less in preschool education than families in poverty; and
4. **WHEREAS**, only 30.5 percent of Hispanic 3 year olds attend center-based preschool education programs and 45.8 percent of non-Hispanic children; and

5. **WHEREAS**, almost 80 percent of total brain development occurs before the age of five; and
6. **WHEREAS**, children attending high quality preschool programs are engaged in early literacy development training; and
7. **WHEREAS**, students who have attended quality preschool programming have less grade retention and increased high school graduation rates when compared to those who have not attended; and
8. **WHEREAS**, students having attended preschool programs are less likely to smoke and are more to likely make better personal health decisions; and
9. **WHEREAS**, young adults who participated in quality early childhood education programs were arrested less often, had fewer births out of wedlock, and were less likely to use welfare than their peers who did not participate; and
10. **WHEREAS**, high quality preschool programs lead to decreased crime and delinquency rates,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors urges federal, state, and local governments to invest in expanding access to quality preschool education; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors believes that the extent of preschool education's impact depends on both quality resources for students and the professional development of teachers, paraprofessionals and staff in early education centers.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 90

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Kathryn L. Taylor
Mayor of Tulsa

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

INCREASING ACCESS TO QUALITY AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

1. **WHEREAS**, after-school tutoring increases the academic achievement of students on state standardized tests; and
2. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs provide extracurricular activities that expose students to arts, culture, sports, leadership development, and career exploration opportunities; and
3. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs provide constructive activities, supervision, and safety for students outside of school hours; and

4. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs participation leads to increased school attendance and graduation rates among students; and
5. **WHEREAS**, after-school programs promote personal skills and social development of students,
6. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls for federal, state and local levels of government to support cities and their districts in building and investing in quality after-school programming by:
 - Creating grant opportunities for building city-wide after school initiatives to encourage access to all K-12 students;
 - Providing support and incentives for professional development training for staff and paraprofessionals; and
 - Encouraging the development of evaluations to gauge the impact of after-school programs and to identify additional needs, necessary enhancements, and supports
7. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors encourages collaboration among government agencies, non-profit organizations and the business community to develop after-school programming.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 91

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

MAYORAL LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

1. **WHEREAS**, cities are beginning to redefine their roles in education; and
2. **WHEREAS**, mayors are increasing their interest and engagement in education; and
3. **WHEREAS**, mayoral involvement includes both mayors with and without control of their school districts; and
4. **WHEREAS**, approximately 3 million students live in cities with formal mayoral control and over 50 million do not; and
5. **WHEREAS**, districts under mayoral control have shown the greatest academic improvements in low performing schools; and

6. **WHEREAS**, mayoral control has led to increased spending in support services in their district budgets; and
7. **WHEREAS**, mayoral engagement leads to new visions in education for a city's student population; and
8. **WHEREAS**, mayors use their bully pulpit to build civic capacity among stakeholders across government, non-profit, and business sectors to create education initiatives,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges state and local governments to encourage the engagement of mayors in education in both circumstances where there is mayoral control and informal mayoral engagement; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognized and supports the rightful role of mayors to do what needs to be done to promote the interests of public school student and parents, and the schools, align the efforts of the city and the school system, and improve the lives, education outcomes and opportunities of the children who attend public schools; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors supports mayoral leadership and involvement in education that makes a positive difference in the quality of teaching and learning in the city's schools, whether through direct forms of involvement or informal means; and
12. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors fully supports a myriad of choices in selecting the level of mayoral leadership and involvement in education including utilization of the bully pulpit to build political support for education improvement that provides the impetus school districts need to speed reforms; fostering greater student achievement; providing greater visibility to important issues which forces decisions to be made; creating programs when needed; increasing public participation; working to enhance funding and resources; and setting new priorities when necessary.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 92

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Melvin L. "Kip"
Holden

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

Mayor of Baton Rouge
The Honorable David N.
Cicilline

The Honorable Michael R.
Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

Mayor of Providence
The Honorable Ray Nagin
Mayor of New Orleans

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark, NJ

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor San Jose

The Honorable Richard Cortez
Mayor of McAllen, TX

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor of Las Vegas

The Honorable John W.
Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

SUPPORT FOR TEACH FOR AMERICA

1. **WHEREAS**, The educational inequity that persists along socio-economic lines is our nation's greatest domestic challenge; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the mission of Teach For America is to enlist our nation's most promising future leaders in the movement to eliminate educational inequity; and
3. **WHEREAS**, Teach For America recruits, selects, prepares and develops outstanding recent graduates of all majors and career interests to commit two years to teach in urban and rural public schools; and

4. **WHEREAS**, through their teaching experience, Teach For America Corps Members gain added commitment to address the problem, and insight about real solutions;
5. **WHEREAS**, Teach For America alumni become leaders in education and across all sectors, where they attack the challenges of poverty and build the capacity of school systems; and
6. **WHEREAS**, since its inception in 1990, the Teach For America network has grown to include more than 17,000 individuals, including some 5,000 corps members currently teaching in 26 urban and rural communities; and
7. **WHEREAS**, rigorous research studies conducted by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. and the Urban Institute have demonstrated that Teach For America corps members have a positive impact on student achievement; and
8. **WHEREAS**, a significant and growing number of Teach For America alumni hold leadership roles—as lead teachers, principals, nonprofit directors, school board members, and social entrepreneurs—in high-need communities across the country.; and
9. **WHEREAS**, Teach For America is in the midst of an aggressive growth plan to maximize the impact of its corps members and alumni; and
10. **WHEREAS**, public support of Teach For America is critical to achieving this goals,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors urges federal, state, and local governments to increase their investment in Teach For America so that it may grow to scale and build a truly effective movement to eliminate educational inequity.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 93

Submitted by:

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

**EXPAND THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE
WORKING FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is the nation's largest wage support for low-income workers; and
2. **WHEREAS**, while the EITC is an effective support for many low-income workers, it does not provide needed assistance to most low-wage childless workers and noncustodial parents; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the broad expansion would be used to encourage and incentivize work for those populations that otherwise would not substantially benefit from the EITC; and
4. **WHEREAS**, studies show that non-custodial fathers who earn more, pay more child support, visit their children more often and are more likely to marry; and
5. **WHEREAS**, expanding EITC to non-custodial parents that are paying child support encourages both work and responsible parenting; and
6. **WHEREAS**, waiting until age 25, as the current EITC for singles does, may unnecessarily penalize young, non-college-bound workers who are supporting families; and
7. **WHEREAS**, currently, if a couple is married both parents' earnings are counted when calculating the EITC, therefore, married families receive significantly less EITC benefits than unmarried couples with children, which creates a marriage penalty; and
8. **WHEREAS**, current EITC policy disadvantages low-income married families compared to single parent families and it also discourages couples who otherwise might marry; and

9. **WHEREAS**, eliminating the EITC marriage penalty for low-income workers will strengthen American families; and
10. **WHEREAS**, public policy that supports low-income working individuals and families and encourages work strengthens American society; and
11. **WHEREAS**, since EITC is not indexed to protect against inflation, its value to low-income workers becomes eroded over time,
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to reform the Earned Income Tax Credit so that the benefits available to lower income families and individuals will be increased, simplified, and easier to access; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress substantially expand the EITC amount by tripling it so that it better rewards hard working, lower income families; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress expand the eligibility for single adults by significantly increasing the maximum earnings cap for those workers from \$12,000 to \$18,000; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress expand the eligibility for non-custodial parents who are paying child support by significantly increasing the maximum earnings cap for those workers from \$12,000 to \$18,000; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress ensure that the EITC encourages an increased attachment to the workforce; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should lower the age of eligibility for the EITC from 25 years of age to 21 years of age with the exception of making payments to full-time college students who often have other means of support; and
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should increase benefits for working single adults and non-custodial parents by increasing the phase-in phase-out rate; and.
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress allow families with married parents to file for EITC separately and allow the parent who claims the children to receive the EITC rates

for families and allow the other parent to receive the new EITC rate for single individuals, and thereby alleviate the "marriage penalty"; and

20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that Congress index the EITC to the minimum wage.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 94

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis G. Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable David N. Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland, CA

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

1. **WHEREAS**, there are over 5 million English Language Learners (ELL) enrolled in Pre-k through 12th grade classes; and
2. **WHEREAS**, there is a need to help ELL students build oral English skills to verbalize conceptual understandings; and
3. **WHEREAS**, there is a need to empower students and communities to overcome the challenges of language barriers; and
4. **WHEREAS**, by the year 2010, over thirty percent of all school-age children will come from homes in which the primary language is not English,
5. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages federal, state, and local governments to support educational initiatives geared towards addressing the needs of ELL students and the related challenges it presents to districts and communities; and
6. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors deems city wide multi-cultural events and programs as tools that

help to create a supportive environment for ELL students to both share and learn of various cultural backgrounds.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 2

Submitted By:

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

SUPPORT FOR CRADLE TO PRISON PIPELINE INITIATIVE

1. **WHEREAS**, tens of thousands of youth are funneled down life paths that lead to arrest, conviction, incarceration and even death; and
2. **WHEREAS**, a Black boy born in 2001 has a 1 in 3 chance of going to prison in his lifetime; a Latino boy a 1 in 6 chance; and a White boy a 1 in 17 chance. A Black girl born in 2001 has a 1 in 17 chance of going to prison in her lifetime; a Latino girl a 1 in 45 chance; and a White girl a 1 in 111 chance; and
3. **WHEREAS**, poverty, exacerbated by race, is the largest driving force behind the *Cradle to Prison Pipeline* crisis, with almost 13 million, or 1 in 6 children in America living in poverty, almost half of whom (5.5 million) live in extreme poverty; and
4. **WHEREAS**, 1 in 4 Latino children and 1 in 3 Black children are poor; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the number of uninsured children from birth through age 18 rose to 9.4 million in 2006; and
6. **WHEREAS**, Latino children are three times and Black children are almost twice as likely to be uninsured as White children; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the importance of the early years is dramatically underscored in a U.S. Department of Education study which found that Black and Hispanic children were substantially behind when they entered kindergarten; and
8. **WHEREAS**, 86 percent of Black, 83 percent of Latino and 58 percent of White 4th graders cannot read at grade level; and
9. **WHEREAS**, 89 percent of Black, 85 percent of Latino and 59 percent of White 8th graders cannot do grade level math; and

10. **WHEREAS**, only 48,000 Black males earn a bachelor's degree each year, but an estimated 1 in 3 Black men ages 20-29 is under correctional supervision or control; and
11. **WHEREAS**, one-size-fits-all zero tolerance school discipline policies are transforming schools into a major point of entry into the juvenile justice system as children are increasingly arrested on school grounds for subjectively and loosely defined behaviors; and
12. **WHEREAS**, a child is abused or neglected every 36 seconds but four in ten of the children who are confirmed abused or neglected get no help at all; and
13. **WHEREAS**, although they comprise only 16 percent of all children, Black children represent 32 percent of the foster care population; and
14. **WHEREAS**, a Congressional study found 15,000 children in juvenile detention facilities, some as young as 7 years old, solely because community mental health services were unavailable; and
15. **WHEREAS**, children who age out of foster care are less likely to graduate from high school or college, and experience more serious mental health problems, including post-traumatic stress disorder, than children generally and they are less likely to receive adequate health and mental health care, and are more likely to experience homelessness, and to be involved in the criminal justice system; and
16. **WHEREAS**, alcohol and other substance abuse treatment for youth and for parents and adults is in too short supply; and
17. **WHEREAS**, Black youth are about four times as likely as their White peers to be incarcerated; and
18. **WHEREAS**, most juvenile correctional facility programs focus on punishment rather than treatment and rehabilitation, often creating environments that further harden youth and makes it more difficult for them to productively reintegrate into their communities; and
19. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to fighting for policies that put

children on track to a productive adulthood and against the criminalization of children at younger and younger ages and urge the President of the United States and Congress to; and

20. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to ending poverty through investments in high quality education for every child, livable wages for families, income supplements like the Earned Income and Child Tax Credits, job training and job creation, and work supports like child care and health coverage; and
21. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to ensuring every child and pregnant woman has access to affordable, seamless, comprehensive health and mental health coverage and services; and
22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to making early childhood development programs accessible to every child by ensuring such programs are affordable, available and of high quality; and
23. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to helping each child reach his/her full potential and succeed in work and life by ensuring our schools have adequate resources to provide high quality education to every child; and
24. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to expanding prevention and specialized treatment services for children and their parents, connect children to caring permanent families, improve the quality of the child welfare workforce and increase accountability for results for children; and
25. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors is committed to reducing detention and incarceration by increasing investment in prevention and early intervention strategies, such as access to quality early childhood development and education services and to the health and mental health care children need for healthy development.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 44

Submitted by:

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Jerry Abramson
Mayor of Louisville

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Francis Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

**IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING AND 'BEST PRACTICE' IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE SECOND CHANCE ACT**

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long established policy on the reintegration of ex-offenders covering the last ten years; and
2. **WHEREAS**, in 1998, the USCM called upon the Federal Government to implement better funding methods through the States for addressing youth violence and juvenile justice issues; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in 2005, the USCM adopted policy supporting passage of the Second Chance Act as well as encouraging the efforts of faith-based and community initiatives to aid the reentry community; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in 2007, the USCM made its boldest statement to date on reentry concerns by outlining specific actions that should be taken by all levels of government to provide ex-

offenders with greater opportunities to attain self-sufficiency; and

5. **WHEREAS**, in 2007, the USCM reiterated its call for better regulation of the sealing, expunging and releasing of juvenile records, particularly those associated with nonviolent crimes, so that young people affected have the maximum opportunity to become self-sufficient, successful adults; and
6. **WHEREAS**, these policies have taken on added significance thanks to the successful passage and signing into federal law of the "Second Chance Act of 2007." Now, there exists federal authorization for ex-offender efforts that have been championed by mayors for years; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act endorses a more comprehensive approach to addressing reentry, requiring collaboration amongst federal agencies such as DOJ, HHS, and DOL, as well as state/local government and private service providers; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act also helps to bridge the nexus between work and reentry by collapsing barriers to institutional aid experienced by those attempting to reenter society, including, for example, bans of financial assistance for higher education, HUD's 'one-strike-and-you're-out' policy, and a lifetime ban on TANF and food stamp benefits for ex-offenders with certain convictions; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act contains several critical authorizations for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 such as \$55 million for Adult and Juvenile Offender State/Local Reentry Demonstration Projects; \$10 million for state/local family-based abuse treatment programs; \$10 million for state/local evaluation efforts of educational methods at prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; \$15 million for state/local governments toward the Reentry Substance Abuse and Criminal Justice Collaboration Program; \$10 million for state/local governments toward the Technology Careers Training Program; \$15 million for nonprofit organizations toward Mentoring Programs; and
10. **WHEREAS**, Section 101 of the Second Chance Act requires that each local government applicant develop a comprehensive

strategic reentry plan that contains annual and five-year performance outcomes,

11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to fund the Second Chance Act for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 at the full authorized amount; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to begin discussions on a reauthorization of the Second Chance Act upon the convening of the 111th Congress for an additional period of more than a two years; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM Ex-Offender Task Force work in close coordination with the Second Chance Act's National Resource Center, assisting the Center in meeting its mandate of collecting data and information on best practices in reentry programming and partnering with the Center in disseminating 'best practice' knowledge to state and local governments; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that mayors commit to assessing and reducing the barriers that exist in their own municipal regulations to hiring, promoting, and providing increased compensation opportunities for ex-offenders in city-paid positions; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Department of Labor to assess each state's obstructions to employing ex-offenders and list those obstructions in a timely publication that can be used by state and local governments to reduce such impediments.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.76

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mark Begich
Mayor of Anchorage

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

The Honorable John Hieftje
Mayor of Ann Arbor

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

**CONTAINMENT AND ERADICATION OF NON-NATIVE TREE-KILLING INSECTS
AND DISEASES:**

1. **WHEREAS**, city trees in parks and along streets are critical to the quality of life and livability of America's cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, trees in cities provide numerous benefits including shade, reduced summer temperatures, amelioration of storm winds, improved air and water quality, civic beauty, storm water mitigation; and
3. **WHEREAS**, in recognition of their many benefits, cities often plant trees and spend resources to maintain those trees through their public agencies; and
4. **WHEREAS**, cities across the country have suffered severe financial and aesthetic losses due to the introduction and spread of non-native insects and diseases, with costs to individual municipalities often running to several million dollars over a period of two to four years; and
5. **WHEREAS**, active non-native insects and diseases affecting municipal trees in various portions of the nation now

include the Asian longhorned beetle, birch leaf miner, emerald ash borer, laurel wilt, sudden oak death, and the williwili gall wasp; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the U.S Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) is the primary federal agency responsible for preventing introduction and spread of non-native insects and diseases that attack and kill these trees through its Emerging Plant Pests Program; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the efficacy of USDA APHIS in fulfilling that responsibility is limited by insufficient resources to enforce its regulations and to revise and update those regulations; and
8. **WHEREAS**, states and cities are constrained from establishing laws that exceed APHIS requirements by both international and domestic law.
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors affirms its support of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's efforts to address the critical threat of non-native insects and diseases affecting trees; and
10. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to provide enhanced resources for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Emerging Plant Pests Program in future appropriations bills, and
11. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that The United States Conference of Mayors Calls upon the Emerging Plant Pest Program to provide expertise and resources to assist rural and urban communities in order to implement proactive programs to detect non-native insects and other pests and eradicate them before they become widespread threats to native trees.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.77

Submitted By:

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

**THE USDA ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE AND
INVASIVE SPECIES REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

1. **WHEREAS**, trees are an integral part of urban infrastructure, as critical to the health and livability of communities as roads, sewers, and buildings; and
2. **WHEREAS**, forestry and related industries provide employment for over 1.6 million people, contributing \$231.5 billion to the U.S. economy; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the emerald ash borer threatens sixteen species of ash and puts at risk a \$25 billion timber industry in the Northeast; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Asian longhorned beetle threatens hardwood forests and \$600 billion in street trees across the nation; and,
5. **WHEREAS**, the sudden oak death pathogen threatens common ornamentals and has already disrupted interstate trade, causing unknown economic losses, and certain to cause increasing damage to the nursery industry; and,
6. **WHEREAS**, the *Sirex* woodwasp threatens \$1.9 billion in pine timber resources of the northeast and southeast; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the USDA- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) is implementing quarantine and control strategies in areas affected by these serious pests; and,
8. **WHEREAS**, the USDA-APHIS Emerging Plant Pests program provides valuable technical and financial assistance to states, local governments, and community-based organizations; and
9. **WHEREAS**, successful state, county, and municipal eradication and control efforts are threatened by the

continued spread of pests in states, counties, and cities that lack the resources to quarantine, treat, or otherwise control pests,

10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors urges increased funding for APHIS for pest control and eradication, and endorses budget appropriations of \$45 million to contain the emerald ash borer, \$30 million to eradicate the Asian longhorned beetle, \$10 million to contain the sudden oak death pathogen, and \$5 million to manage *Sirex* woodwasp populations; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors endorses the Invasive Species Revolving Loan Fund championed by Senator Richard Durbin to aid municipalities in their efforts to fight invasive species, and to replace trees and other vegetation damaged as a result of infestation or eradication measures.

Projected Cost: \$90 million

Resolution No.95

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE ARTS, HUMANITIES AND MUSEUMS

1. **WHEREAS**, the arts, humanities and museums are critical to the quality of life and livability of America's cities; and
2. **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
3. **WHEREAS**, the NEA's and the NEH's 43 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, more than 40,000 nonprofit arts organizations, and 5,000 local arts agencies in cities throughout the country; and
4. **WHEREAS**, federal funding leverages up to 7 times more 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
5. **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
6. **WHEREAS**, federal arts funding to cities, towns and states has helped stimulate the growth of local arts agencies in America's cities and counties and more than \$800 million annually in local government funding and more than \$350

million in state government funding to the arts and humanities; and

7. **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 family income; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the NEA has undergone a major restructuring of its grants programs to more directly reach and help build communities across the nation through its Challenge America grant program; and
9. **WHEREAS**, although the federal cultural agencies have received funding increases in an effort to begin restoring the devastating 40 percent cuts made in 1995, major increases are still needed to address the growing needs of our cultural organizations; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the President has proposed a \$16 million decrease in funding for the NEA, and
11. **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
12. **WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors has unanimously passed policy resolutions and 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 increase federal funding for the arts and humanities; and
13. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors reaffirms its support of the National Endowment for the Arts (and specifically the valuable Challenge America program), National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Office of Museum Services within the Institute of Museum and Library Services and calls upon Congress to restore full funding for these agencies in the FY'09 appropriations bills.

Projected Cost:NEA \$176 Million; NEH \$177 Million OMS\$55 million

Resolution No.96

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

JAZZ APPRECIATION

1. **WHEREAS**, jazz is an original American art form that affirms the noblest aspirations of our national character, individual discipline, perseverance, and innovation; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Jazz has produced some of America's leading creative artists and ranks as one of America's greatest exports to the world; and
3. **WHEREAS**, jazz has inspired dancers, choreographers, poets, novelists, filmmakers, classical composers, and musicians in many other kinds of music; and
4. **WHEREAS**, The United States Conference of Mayors members participated in Jazz Appreciation Month this past April; and
5. **WHEREAS**, jazz has spoken eloquently of freedom for people in the United States and abroad, and has become an international language that bridges differences and brings people of all races, ages, and backgrounds together; and
6. **WHEREAS**, we honor and recognize the outstanding work that all jazz artists, educators, and enthusiasts present; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the month of April 2009 has been designated as Jazz Appreciation Month, and
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges mayors to build partnerships with their local jazz society and other members of the arts and music community in their cities to proclaim, to participate in, and to celebrate the month of April as Jazz Appreciation Month.

Projected Cost: None

Resolution No. 97

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

1. **WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of all Americans; and
2. **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
3. **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
4. **WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors has actively participated in National Arts and Humanities Month since 1984; and
5. **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
6. **WHEREAS**, the nation's 40,000 cultural organizations, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the nation's 5,000 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 asked to participate again this year in this national celebration; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the month of October 2008 has been designated as National Arts and Humanities Month, and

8. **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.

Projected Cost: None

Resolution No.98

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR ARTS EDUCATION

1. **WHEREAS**, Americans for the Arts, in partnership with the Advertising Council and the NAMM Foundation will launch the second phase of its award-winning public service advertisements (PSAs), titled "The Arts. Ask for More." The campaign will feature brand new creative television, radio and print ads promoting the benefits of arts education in America; and
2. **WHEREAS**, these PSAs build on the original series of ads first launched in 2002 in partnership with more than 350 local, state, and national partners, during the first phase of the campaign including The United States Conference of Mayors, to help promote the campaign in media markets across the country; and
3. **WHEREAS**, Americans for the Arts and The Advertising Council in the past secured media distribution relationships with numerous networks and media outlets including -- CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX, BRAVO, VH1 as well as with *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, Conde Nast publications and many other local, regional and national media companies and will seek to expand the distribution even further during the second phase of the campaign; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the first phase of the PSA campaign generated more than \$150 million in donated media making it one of the Ad Council's most successful campaigns over the past several years; and
5. **WHEREAS**, "The Arts. Ask for More." PSA materials will be distributed to thousands of television stations, radio stations, newspapers, magazines, billboard companies, and websites; and
6. **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 into homes, schools and communities; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the PSAs direct parents to visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org where they will find ten simple ways on how to include the arts in their children's lives, including registering their children for school and community programs, reinforcing the benefits of the arts in your conversations, and communicating the importance of the arts with teachers, principals and elected officials. The site also features an online resource center to help parents, teachers, school board leaders, and advocates increase the presence and quality of arts education in their schools; and
8. **WHEREAS**, The United States Conference of Mayors unanimously passed a resolution in 2001 endorsing partnership in the public awareness campaign to promote arts education; and
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors specifically endorses the second phase of "The Arts. Ask for More." public awareness campaign.
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors urges the nation's local arts agencies 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 schools.

Projected Cost: None

Resolution No.99

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

**OPPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON LOCAL USE OF TAX-EXEMPT BONDS FOR
PUBLICLY OWNED PROFESSIONAL SPORTS FACILITIES**

1. **WHEREAS**, language was inserted into the Senate version of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, in order to provide a revenue offset for an unrelated tax incentive, that would have prohibited the use of tax-exempt bond financing for professional sports facilities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, such proposed legislation represents a dangerous precedent for federal intrusion into state and local governments' financing decisions by dictating the types of projects that state and local governments may finance through tax-exempt bonds; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation even prohibits use of tax-exempt bond financing for mixed-purpose facilities that occasionally are used by professional sports teams, including minor league teams and events; and
4. **WHEREAS**, sports facilities and mixed-purpose facilities used for professional sports events often serve as an important stimulus for local economic development; and
5. **WHEREAS**, by eliminating tax-exempt financing for sports facilities, the cost to state and local taxpayers for building new sports facilities or rehabilitating existing ones would be dramatically increased or possibly become unaffordable,
6. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges members of Congress to oppose legislation that would impose limitations on state and local governments' use of tax-exempt bond financing.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.100

Submitted By:

The Honorable Heather Fargo
Mayor of Sacramento

**THE URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM AND URBAN FOREST
RESEARCH**

1. **WHEREAS**, One of the three actions of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement is to use urban forest restoration to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, trees are an integral part of urban infrastructure, as critical to the health and livability of communities as roads, sewers, and buildings; and
3. **WHEREAS**, tree canopy can help increase property values, attract redevelopment, support walkable communities, enhance tourism, and promote active lifestyles; and
4. **WHEREAS**, urban forests provide valuable, cost effective ecological services that include energy conservation, mitigating climate change, carbon sequestration, improving air quality, reducing stormwater management demands, and supporting nutrients cycles, wildlife habitat, soil conservation, and watershed protection; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the US Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program (U&CF) and urban forest research conducted by the US Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) provide valuable technical and financial assistance to states, local governments, and community-based organizations; and
6. **WHEREAS**, U&CF was responsible in FY 2007 for providing direct assistance in all States and territories to nearly 7,000 communities where 165 million people live, comprising 77% of the 215 million Americans living in cities, suburbs and towns; and
7. **WHEREAS**, U&CF and urban forest R&D provide scientifically-based, technically accurate information and assistance to facilitate the orderly planting and proper maintenance of

trees to provide maximum benefits and minimum risk to the public,

8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Congress fund the U&CF program annual budget at no less than \$100 million; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED;** that Congress fund urban forest research investments within R&D at no less than \$24 million by 2015.

Projected Cost: \$100 million

Resolution No. 101

Submitted by:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

**URGING THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS TO INCREASE EFFORTS
AND SUPPORT FOR TIMELY EXPANSION OF THE U.S. VISA WAIVER PROGRAM**

1. **WHEREAS**, travel and tourism is one of America's largest and most important economic industries contributing an expected \$740 billion in direct expenditures, \$109 billion in local, state and federal tax revenue, \$177 billion in payroll and \$7.5 million in direct travel jobs; and
2. **WHEREAS**, since 9/11, America has suffered a significant loss of long-haul/overseas visitors (long-haul excludes visitors from Canada and Mexico) and has become increasingly perceived abroad as an unfriendly and unwelcoming destination.
3. **WHEREAS**, from 2000 to 2007, there has been a worldwide increase in long-haul travel of 35 million, while over that same period, the U.S. saw 2 million fewer overseas visitors; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), established by Congress in 1986, permits business and leisure travelers from 27 selected countries to visit the U.S. for up to 90 days without the expense and delay of obtaining a non-immigrant visitor visa.
5. **WHEREAS**, the program was intended to facilitate and promote overseas travel to the U.S. while simultaneously allowing the State Department to shift visa screening resources to higher-risk countries; and

6. **WHEREAS**, the following 27 countries currently participate in the VWP: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom; and
7. **WHEREAS**, in 2006, approximately 14 million overseas visitors arriving in the U.S. originated from one of the 27 VWP countries, representing approximately two-thirds of all overseas visitors; and
8. **WHEREAS**, in August 2007, President Bush signed into law legislation that authorized the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to reform the VWP by strengthening the security arrangements required of participant countries, as well as to expand the conditions for additional countries to join the program; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the biggest challenge to joining the VWP for aspiring countries is a country's visa "refusal rate," or the annual percent of visa applications rejected by the U.S. Department of State. The reformed VWP allows the Secretary of DHS to waive the visa refusal rate threshold from 3 to 10 percent if certain security requirements are met by aspiring countries; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. has signed a Visa Waiver Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) this year with eight aspiring Visa Waiver Program countries that currently meet the new visa refusal rate threshold, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, Malta and South Korea and each country has agreed to the meeting the new security requirements; and
11. **WHEREAS**, required follow-up procedures in the MOU include the introduction of electronic passports for citizens; setting up a traveler information sharing system between the two governments; and establishment of the U.S. Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA), which requires citizens of aspiring Visa Waiver Program countries to submit biographical and other security-related information to U.S. authorities in advance of travel and also commits these countries and the U.S. to conduct a joint outreach campaign to inform foreign citizens of their obligation to use the ESTA system. However, the U.S.

currently lacks an effective communications strategy to carry out this aspect of the MOU; and

12. **WHEREAS**, South Korea is one of America's closest allies and one of the fastest growing economies in the world. In April 2007, the U.S. and South Korea signed the KORUS FTA, a free-trade agreement that boosts economic ties between the two countries creating the third-largest free-trade area after the EU and NAFTA; and
13. **WHEREAS**, providing Visa Waiver Program status to South Korea represents an incredible economic opportunity for the United States. Canada lifted its visa restriction for South Korea in 1994, and in two years, Korean arrivals jumped 79 percent; and
14. **WHEREAS**, in 2007, there were 13.3 million Korean outbound travelers representing 28 percent of its 48 million total population and 52 percent of these travelers traveled more than once a year at an average per capita spending overseas of \$1,576 and of the 13.3 million South Korean outbound travelers in 2007, only 806,175 visited the U.S. Travelers were deterred in large part by the U.S. visa process which requires a \$131 visa-application fee and an in-person interview at a single U.S. Embassy location in Seoul; and
15. **WHEREAS**, if South Korea joins the VWP, the U.S. could expect at least 1.45 million visitors in the first year, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, boosting the American economy and helping to reverse the drastic decline in overseas travel to the U.S.; and
16. **WHEREAS**, under US-VISIT (U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology), a post-9/11 program designed to keep track of visitors to the U.S., DHS agents have used biometric fingerprinting to identify nearly 100 million people entering the country by air or sea since January 2004. The VWP reforms set a June 30, 2009 congressional deadline to fingerprint visitors departing the U.S. by air in order to maintain the expanded visa refusal rate waiver authority; and
17. **WHEREAS**, on April 22, 2008, DHS announced a controversial proposed rule to establish biometric exit procedures at all U.S air and sea ports of departure that would require airlines and cruise ship operators to collect the biometric fingerprints and transmit them to DHS within 24 hours of

their passengers' departure, and which DHS intends to implement by January 2009; and

18. **WHEREAS**, an effective air exit system is important to America's security, a critical element of a credible immigration system and a requisite for a secure and expanded Visa Waiver Program. The primary purposes of an air exit system - to enforce compliance with U.S. immigration laws and to serve as a counterterrorism tool - are inherently governmental responsibilities; and
19. **WHEREAS**, timely execution of an air exit system that is supported by the government, the aviation community and the travel industry is needed to ensure that the June 30, 2009 deadline is met. Failure to meet this deadline will result in delays or halt the expansion of the VWP for all aspiring countries including South Korea.
20. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Congress, the Administration and the DHS to work cooperatively to quickly develop and implement the new security systems necessary to allow the continued expansion of the Visa Waiver Program for aspiring countries that meet admission requirements, such as South Korea.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No.102

Submitted By:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

USCM SUPPORTS TRAVEL PROMOTION AND FACILITATION

1. **WHEREAS**, travel and tourism is a powerful economic generator in all 50 states, accounting for an expected \$740 billion in expenditures, \$110 billion in local, state and federal taxes and 7.5 million jobs in 2007; and
2. **WHEREAS**, travel is America's leading service sector export, generating \$107.9 billion in 2007 from international travelers; and
3. **WHEREAS**, travel and tourism creates one of the nation's only balance of trade surpluses (valued at \$8.3 billion in 2007); and
4. **WHEREAS**, the world travel market is expanding, but the U.S. share has declined 35 percent over the past 15 years; and
5. **WHEREAS**, travel to the United States from "overseas" destinations has yet to rebound to pre-9/11 levels; and
6. **WHEREAS**, since 9/11 the United States is often perceived to no longer be a friendly and welcoming destination, which has cost America \$150 billion in lost visitor spending and 250,000 American jobs - losses that affect every city across the country; and
7. **WHEREAS**, international travelers are 74 percent more likely to have a favorable opinion of America and Americans after having visited; and
8. **WHEREAS**, all major industrialized nations except the United States have national tourism policies and spend significant funds on promoting their destinations overseas, and, in turn, see substantial returns on their investments; and

9. **WHEREAS**, the facilitation of secure, yet efficient, travel across American borders must be a priority of the federal government; and
10. **WHEREAS**, U.S. Senator Dorgan of North Dakota and U.S. Representative Delahunt of Massachusetts have introduced companion bills in Congress each entitled the Travel Promotion Act, which creates a public-private partnership to educate travelers about U.S. travel policies and promote the United States as a destination of choice; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the Travel Promotion Act will benefit every city, create jobs, enhance national security, contribute to a favorable balance of trade for the U.S. economy, and improve our national image around the world; and
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) now calls upon the U.S. Congress to promptly pass the Travel Promotion Act (S. 1661/H.R. 3232) and thus create a public-private partnership that will restore the U.S. to its place as the world's premier international visitor destination; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that USCM urges the federal government to implement reasonable visa and entry policy reforms -- including but not limited to the reduction of visa interview wait times, the use of advanced technology for visa interviews, increased staffing for U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers at air, land and sea ports of entry, and the strengthening and expansion of the Visa Waiver Program -- to create a balance between increased security and travel facilitation.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 103

Submitted by:

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

DIGITAL TELEVISION (DTV) TRANSITION OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

1. **WHEREAS**, full-powered analog broadcasting will cease on February 17, 2009, and thereafter all full analog television broadcasts will be in digital format; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Congress allocated up to \$1.5 billion for an analog to digital converter box subsidy program through the U.S. Department of Commerce - making two \$40.00 coupons available to every home that applies to partially pay for up to two converter boxes - but the current budget does not adequately fund outreach and education directed toward the approximately 5% of viewers who depend exclusively on over-the-air reception and will need to replace their analog television sets with a digital tuner, subscribe to cable or satellite services, or purchase a converter box in order to continue to receive broadcast television; and the current budget does fund technical support for viewers who opt to purchase the converter box and need assistance with installation or selecting the appropriate antennae; and
3. **WHEREAS**, public outreach and education play a vital role to ensure a successful transition to digital transmission, particularly for low-income, elderly, rural area households, and Spanish-speaking households most in need of support and information; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the federal government has allocated just \$5 million in public outreach and education funding to the National Telecommunications and Information Association, and that the Federal Communications Commission has requested only \$1.5 million for the same purpose; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in contrast, the United Kingdom is spending up to \$400 million on its digital transition public education campaign for a population about one-fifth the size of the United States population; and

6. **WHEREAS**, one of the benefits of shifting to digital television is the freeing up 700 mhz block of spectrum and making it available to first responders across the country so that police, fire and rescue services can interact with one another, will directly benefit our local communities,
7. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the digital television transition and calls upon Congress to increase funding in order to make the transition as smooth as possible by ensuring overall public awareness and preparedness; and
8. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to provide increased federal funding targeted for public broadcast television stations to undertake these activities; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that mayors should meet with their local broadcasters, as well as employ local Public, Education and Governmental (PEG) channels, to better educate their constituents on the impending deadline.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 104

Submitted by:

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

CALLING FOR FEDERAL ACTION ON A NATIONAL BROADBAND POLICY

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States was the birthplace of the Internet, and in the 1990s it was a global leader in broadband deployment and technology innovation; and
2. **WHEREAS**, since 2001, the United States has plunged from fourth place in the world in per capita broadband deployment to as low as 19th place in some surveys, and has also fallen in global rankings among industrialized countries with respect to download/upload and affordability; and
3. **WHEREAS**, broadband is no longer a luxury for our communities - it is a necessity and an essential service; just as our citizens have come to expect world-class transportation, water, electricity, sewer and other critical infrastructure, they are now demanding access to an advanced digital infrastructure; and
4. **WHEREAS**, access to and use of advanced Internet applications is critically important for the economic, social and civic growth of individuals and families; and
5. **WHEREAS**, broadband is critical to the health of our local economies and our ability to compete on a global scale; the Brookings Institution has estimated that the nation's broadband decline could lead to a potential loss of \$1 trillion in economic productivity over the next decade, as well as more than 1.2 million jobs that could be created by better broadband; and

6. **WHEREAS**, residents and visitors to U.S. cities require high speed connections in order to compete in the 21st Century global economy; and
7. **WHEREAS**, broadband is also critical for our local governments to protect and serve; events like 9/11, Hurricane Katrina and others have demonstrated that our ability to communicate within and across various agencies has a dramatic impact on our ability to respond; and
8. **WHEREAS**, reclaiming the United States' worldwide leadership in this area will take an unprecedented cooperation between all levels of government, the private sector, and community-based organizations,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that if U.S. cities are to thrive as engines of economic growth and be globally competitive in the 21st Century, then the Administration, Congress and the FCC should take action now to develop a comprehensive national broadband policy that includes high speed broadband deployment to cities as an imperative; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the national broadband policy should support measures to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services within their communities; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said national broadband policy should ensure that the speed of Internet access available to American consumers, enterprises and institutions is comparable to that available in the most advanced industrialized nations; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said national broadband policy should ensure that these high-speed Internet services are ubiquitous in availability to all American households in all neighborhoods; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said national broadband policy should ensure that affordable high-speed Internet access is attainable for all American consumers and families; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if American cities are to undertake appropriate and necessary broadband planning, the FCC should immediately begin collecting detailed information on broadband coverage and use and share said data with local

governments as such information is a matter of public concern; and

15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Administration, Congress and the FCC should work with local governments to facilitate an expansion of resources to speed the development of affordable globally-competitive infrastructure in American cities

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 105

Submitted by:

The Honorable Bill White
Mayor of Houston

The Honorable Raul Salinas
Mayor of Laredo

The Honorable Tom Leppert
Mayor of Dallas

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Mike Moncrief
Mayor of Fort Worth

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

2008 Communications Policy

1. **WHEREAS**, mayors support the entry of traditional telephone companies into the video marketplace and the entry of traditional cable operators into the offering of voice services; and
2. **WHEREAS**, mayors, as the CEOs of local governments, which are themselves significant and sophisticated users of communications technology, eagerly anticipate the further conversion of voice, video and data services from analog to digital technology and the resulting increase in choice of providers, faster speeds and lower prices; and
3. **WHEREAS**, mayors recognize the increasing and vital role communications plays in both homeland and hometown security; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Conference of Mayors' advocacy efforts with Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the Administration has been to highlight that the Federal government must:
 - Recognize and respect the inherent police powers of local governments and city's right to manage and charge for the use of the public right-of-way;

- Require that new technologies bear the same social obligations as the services they seek to replace such as supporting E-911 services, universal service;
- Appreciate the neighborhood-by-neighborhood expertise local government brings to overseeing the social obligations, including public safety, broadband deployment, and preventing economic redlining;
- Homeland and hometown security require the dedication of interference free dedicated interoperable spectrum for first responders; and
- Mayors are grateful to the many leaders in Congress that continue to distinguish a tax from a fee for benefit rendered, such as use of the rights-of-way.

5. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the United States Conference of Mayors' advocacy efforts shall seek to achieve policies that:

- Preserve the local cable franchising scheme set out in 1984 federal Cable Act (and affirmed in 1992 and 1996) in which municipalities have the right to require all providers address each community's needs in exchange for using our rights of way. Such authority must continue to empower localities with the authority to require as compensation for use of rights of way:
 - Build-out to all residents, not just the most affluent;
 - Adequate capacity for community channels, equipment and financial support, (The Cable Act should be amended to permit local governments to use PEG support for both capital and operating support.);
 - "Institutional Networks" for use by local government for non-commercial purposes;
 - Preservation of local police powers and consumer protections.
- Respect local governments' ability to control the rights-of-way and regulate the actions of providers who reside in the city's rights-of-way.
- Require that new technologies bear the same social obligations as the services they seek to replace such as supporting E-911 services, universal service;
- Oppose any preemption of state and local governments' consumer protection laws and zoning authority. Wireless

providers, like their competitors, should be subject to local fair business practices and local cell tower siting authority.

- Encourage competition among multiple IP service providers by assuring non-discriminatory access and interconnection to broadband connections (net neutrality);
 - Resist attempts to auction for private purposes the so called D-Block of 700 MHz spectrum earmarked for state and local public safety and to properly fund the operations of the Public Safety Spectrum Trust.
 - Fund and assist establish national standards for interoperable public safety standards for first responders;
 - Preserve and extend municipal government authority to provide communications services to their constituents.
 - Enact legislation to treat Internet commerce in the same manner as main street vendors.
6. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors advocacy efforts shall be guided by these principles for the remainder of the 110th Congress, with the platform writing committees of the Democratic and Republican Parties, the 111th Congress and the 44th President of the United States.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 106

Submitted by:

The Honorable John Robert Smith
Mayor of Meridian

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

SUPPORT FOR THE EXPANSION OF INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL

1. **WHEREAS**, Amtrak annually provides intercity passenger rail travel to over 25 million Americans residing in 46 states; and
2. **WHEREAS**, highways and airports are increasingly congested; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Texas Transportation Institute has estimated Americans spend over 4 billion hours annually in traffic and the FAA has estimated airport delays cost the economy over \$10 billion; and
4. **WHEREAS**, in highly populated regions Amtrak trains and infrastructure carry more than 800,000 commuters to and from work every day in congested metropolitan areas providing a reliable rail option, reducing congestion on roads and in the skies; and
5. **WHEREAS**, traveling by passenger rail is energy efficient, contributing 18 percent less per passenger mile to greenhouse gas emissions than either cars or airplanes, according to the U.S. Department of Energy; and
6. **WHEREAS**, when combined with all modes of transportation, passenger railroads emit only 0.2 percent of the travel industry's total greenhouse gases; and

7. **WHEREAS**, Amtrak service removes 8 million cars from the road and eliminates the need for 50,000 fully-loaded passenger airplanes each year; and
8. **WHEREAS**, railroad stations in our communities provide a source of civic pride and a tool for economic growth; and
9. **WHEREAS**, passenger rail has been undercapitalized in this country,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors supports the passage of federal legislation recognizing the current Amtrak system as a national asset and encourages the development of higher speed rail corridors throughout the country to enhance our transportation network.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 107

Submitted by:

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable John Robert Smith
Mayor of Meridian

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AND EXPAND AMTRAK'S
NORTHEAST CORRIDOR TRAIN SERVICE**

1. **WHEREAS**, 25.8 million passengers used Amtrak last year to travel between America's towns and cities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, passenger rail provides a more fuel-efficient transportation system thereby providing cleaner transportation alternatives and helping to reduce our dependence on foreign oil; and
3. **WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, Amtrak uses 17 percent less energy than domestic airline travel and 21 percent less than autos to move one person one mile; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the Northeast Corridor is home to the busiest, most complex, technically advanced track structures in the world with over 2,600 trains each weekday including freight trains, commuter trains, and intercity passenger trains; and

5. **WHEREAS**, the Northeast Corridor links 91 cities, and serves a population of 49.5 million people; and
6. **WHEREAS**, an average of 750,000 passengers take trains which use the Northeast Corridor each day; and
7. **WHEREAS**, between certain cities in the Northeast, like New York City and Washington, DC, more travelers choose to take the train than to fly on a commercial airline; and
8. **WHEREAS**, Amtrak owns and operates 363 miles of the Northeast Corridor between Washington, DC, and Boston, MA; and
9. **WHEREAS**, Amtrak has demonstrated sound fiscal stewardship by taking positive steps to reduce costs, streamline corporate structure and dramatically increase the transparency of Amtrak's fiscal condition,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conference of Mayors supports the passage of federal legislation recognizing the Northeast Corridor as a national asset and encourages the development and growth of high-speed rail corridors throughout the country to enhance our national passenger rail network.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 108

Submitted by:

The Honorable Robert Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Antonio Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Shirley Franklin
Mayor of Atlanta

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York City

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

**PROVIDING ADEQUATE FUNDING SOURCES TO ADDRESS
CAPACITY NEEDS IN THE NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM
THROUGH FAA REAUTHORIZATION**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has identified at least seven metropolitan areas and 18 hub airports that need additional air capacity improvements to meet anticipated demand by 2015, and 15 metropolitan areas and 27 hub airports by 2025; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Congress in 1990, in order to meet the growing demand for airport capacity, authorized commercial service airport sponsors to impose a user fee of up to \$3 per flight of each paying passenger, called a "Passenger Facility Charge" (PFC); and
3. **WHEREAS**, PFC revenue has served as a major source of funding for the construction of runways, taxiways, terminals and gates, as well as for debt service, and the

Secretary of Transportation has praised the PFC program as "very successful at providing a stable source of revenue to fund capital development projects"; and

4. **WHEREAS**, by using PFCs to fund major airside and landside capacity improvements, airports have kept these costs out of the rates and charges airport impose on airlines; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in 2000, the Congress increased the maximum PFC to \$4.50, but the rise in construction costs and inflation have eroded the value of PFCs, so that a \$4.50 PFC in 2000 is now worth only \$2.86; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the Congress will consider whether to increase the PFC cap in legislation to reauthorize Federal Aviation Administration programs that are set to expire at the end of this fiscal year; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the Administration's FAA reauthorization proposal recognizes the importance of the PFC program to our national air transportation system and the need to increase the PFC to meet the growing airport capacity needs; and
8. **WHEREAS**, in proposing an increase in the PFC cap to \$6.00, the Administration's proposal did not take into account the rise in construction costs or the effect of inflation; and
9. **WHEREAS**, an increase to \$7.20 is needed simply to restore the buying power of the PFC increase enacted in 2000; and
10. **WHEREAS**, under the Administration's proposal, large and medium hub airports would no longer be eligible for apportionment funding under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), because the Administration believes these airports can obtain adequate funding through the imposition of PFCs; and
11. **WHEREAS**, large and medium hub airports are willing to forego future AIP apportionment funding so long as the PFC cap is increased to \$7.50, which would offset the expected impact of inflation and the further increase in construction costs over the next several years; and
12. **WHEREAS**, enacting a \$7.50 PFC cap while removing large and medium hub airports from AIP apportionment eligibility would benefit all airports in the national air transportation system, because the larger airports would

rely even more heavily on PFC funding, while smaller airports would benefit by receiving a greater portion of AIP funds than under current law; and

13. **WHEREAS**, the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, the National Association of State Aviation Officials, the Airports Council International-North America, the American Association of Airport Executives, the Associated General Contractors, the American Road and Transportation Builders Association, and the American Association of Civil Engineers have endorsed an increase in the PFC cap; and
14. **WHEREAS**, it also is important to reauthorize the Airport Improvement Program at a level that will meet the needs of both large and small airports; and
15. **WHEREAS**, to account for the rise in construction costs and the impact of inflation, AIP funding should be increased over the current authorized level of \$3.7 billion,
16. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon the Congress to act now to reauthorize this vital legislation rather than utilizing continuing resolutions making it difficult for airport officials to plan future projects, thereby allowing an increase in the PFC cap and an increase in the authorized level of AIP funding to meet the rise in construction costs, the impact of inflation, and the demand for airport capacity growth; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Congress to raise the maximum PFC cap to \$7.50 per flight, to index this increase to inflation, and to authorize at least \$3.8 billion in AIP funding, with an increase of \$100 million each year thereafter.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 4

Submitted by:

The Honorable Chris Koos
Mayor of Normal

**ENSURING BICYCLING IS INTEGRATED INTO NATIONAL
TRANSPORTATION, CLIMATE, ENERGY AND
HEALTH POLICY INITIATIVES**

1. **WHEREAS**, bicycling can provide multiple and cross-cutting benefits in U.S policy initiatives that seek to address transportation needs, limit climate change and energy consumption and improve public health; and
2. **WHEREAS**, we now live in a nation with 300 million people, and that number is expected to grow to 365 million by 2030 and to 420 million by 2050 with the vast majority of that growth occurring in congested urban areas where there are significant limitations on accommodating increased motor vehicle travel; and
3. **WHEREAS**, since 1980, the number of miles Americans drive has grown three times faster than the U.S. population; and
4. **WHEREAS**, a national transportation system that invests in and is conducive to bicycling reduces traffic congestion in our most heavily congested urban areas while promoting an overall improved quality of life that is valuable for the Nation; As example:
 - More than 200 cities throughout the U.S., representing more than 35 million people have committed to implementing bicycle friendly action plans to make their communities more bicycle friendly; and
 - The greatest potential for increased bicycle usage is in our major urban areas where 40 percent of trips are two miles or less and 28 percent are less than one mile; and
 - Surveys show that a majority of people want to ride more but are dissuaded by concern over traffic danger and other barriers, and case studies have shown that when those barriers to bicycling are removed, people start riding; and

5. **WHEREAS**, a national network of interconnected urban and rural bikeways can provide valuable community benefits, including low or no-cost recreation and alternative transportation options for people of all ages and abilities
6. **WHEREAS**, the transportation sector contributes one-third of the greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and passenger automobiles and light trucks alone contribute 21 percent
7. **WHEREAS**, 10 percent of global oil production goes solely toward fueling America's cars and trucks and the U.S. could save 462 millions of gallons of gasoline a year by increasing cycling from one percent to one and a half percent of all trips; and.
8. **WHEREAS**, bicycle commuters annually save on average \$1,825 in auto-related costs, reduce their carbon emissions by 128 pounds, conserve 145 gallons of gasoline, and avoid 50 hours of gridlock traffic; and
9. **WHEREAS**, over 800 of our Nation's Mayors have signed onto the Climate Protection Agreement of the United States Conference of Mayors urging the Federal Government to enact policies and programs to meet or exceed a greenhouse gas emission reduction target of a seven percent reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and
10. **WHEREAS**, two years ago the Conference of Mayors unanimously endorsed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, whereby a key component is to implement climate-friendly land-use policies and invest in public transportation and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure; and
11. **WHEREAS**, the Center for Disease Control estimates that if all physically inactive Americans became active, we would save \$77 billion in annual medical costs
12. **WHEREAS**, the United States is challenged by an obesity epidemic in which 65 percent of U.S. adults are either overweight or obese, and 13 percent of children and adolescents are overweight, due in large part to a lack of regular activity; and
13. **WHEREAS**, the percentage of U.S. children who walk or bike to school has dropped by 70 percent since 1969 such that only 15 percent of students were walking or biking to

school in 2001 while the rate of childhood obesity has tripled in recent years,

14. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors believes that achieving increased levels of bicycling is in the national interest; and
15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages the development and implementation of a coordinated national bicycling strategy aimed to increase safe bicycle use as a mode of transportation; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages the development of federal transportation, environmental and public health policies that recognize increased and safe bicycle usage for transportation is in the national interest and that we further urge Congress in the next federal transportation reauthorization to establish policies and funding mechanisms that will aim to:
 - Reduce the number of motor vehicle miles traveled (VMT); and
 - Improve safety conditions for bicyclists; and
 - Collect transportation and safety data needed to monitor progress; and
 - Provide incentives for state and local governments to adopt and implement Complete Street policies designed to accommodate all users; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that even absent federal incentives, Governors and state-level leadership should embrace Complete Streets policies that acknowledge the contributions of bicycles as a means to reduce vehicle miles by integrating bicycle use into standard street design; and
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on all Mayors that sign onto the Climate Protection Agreement to develop and implement action plans to incorporate bicycling programs and policies as a key component in reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050; and

19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages every mayor to strive to make their city a Bicycle Friendly Community.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 109

Submitted by:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Patrick McCrory
Mayor of Charlotte

The Honorable John Robert Smith
Mayor of Meridian

**SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN LIGHT OF
INCREASING FUEL COSTS**

1. **WHEREAS**, oil prices have nearly doubled in a year due to demand outpacing the growth in oil supplies; and
2. **WHEREAS**, in 2008 gasoline prices are expected to rise over 71 cents, and are likely to exceed \$4.00 per gallon; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the average American household is now spending more on transportation costs than on food and healthcare combined; and
4. **WHEREAS**, fuel prices are the single most important factor that is driving people to public transportation; and
5. **WHEREAS**, a household using public transit can save more than \$6,200 per year in transportation costs; and
6. **WHEREAS**, as riding public transportation reduces congestion, public transportation is more environmentally friendly and reduces our dependence on foreign oil; and

7. **WHEREAS**, in 2007, over 10.3 billion trips were made on public transit, the highest in 50 years, and 2008 ridership is exceeding record levels of 2007; and
8. **WHEREAS**, cities like Minneapolis, Seattle, Dallas, Spokane and San Francisco have seen record growth in public transit ridership; and
9. **WHEREAS**, cities like Houston, Nashville, Salt Lake City and St. Louis have seen dramatic growth in the number of people taking advantage of new bus and train lines; and
10. **WHEREAS**, cities like Honolulu, Charlotte, Denver, Phoenix and Tucson are seeking to build new or expand rail service; and
11. **WHEREAS**, meeting the greater demand for mass transit is proving difficult due to increased fuel and power costs decline in local sales tax receipts and increased construction costs,
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the President and Congress to provide cities with financial resources and tools to create, promote and expand public transportation thereby improving the economic condition of the American family, eliminating dependence on oil and improving the environment.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 110

Submitted by:

The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

**INCREASING FEDERAL ROLE IN SETTING CLEAR
PRIORITIES AND ADEQUATELY FUNDING THE
NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States Conference of Mayors recognizes the critical importance of infrastructure to our national economic competitiveness, to our communities' health, safety and quality of life, and to our environmental sustainability; and
2. **WHEREAS**, traffic congestion, deteriorating assets, and soaring demand are straining our national infrastructure networks and costing the U.S. billions in lost productivity; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the American Society of Civil Engineers has assessed our nation's current infrastructure stock as poor, with an average grade of "D", and has estimated that we need to spend at least \$1.6 trillion in the next five years alone to maintain and expand our infrastructure network; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the federal government's share of infrastructure spending has declined steadily since the 1950s, so that state and local governments now account for three out of every four public dollars spent on infrastructure; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the federal government now spends only 4 percent of its entire annual non-military budget on infrastructure, from a peak of 10 percent; and
6. **WHEREAS**, transportation projects are often characterized as pork belly spending in the absence of a clear, coherent, and strategic national transportation policy guiding federal spending; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the upcoming Congressional debate on the surface transportation funding bill offers a key opportunity for the federal government to re-establish national

transportation priorities as well as commit adequate funding to achieve those priorities; and

8. **WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to go beyond short-term fixes and tackle the difficult choices of how to fund our surface transportation needs; and
9. **WHEREAS**, there is also a need to promote ways to leverage funding sources through innovative financing tools, including public-private partnerships, national, regional, and state infrastructure banks, and private activity bonds; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the next surface transportation authorization bill should seek to allocate federal funding through clear, performance-based criteria that promote sustainable, multi-modal transportation systems which lower our carbon footprint; and
11. **WHEREAS**, Building America's Future, an organization formed by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Governor Edward G. Rendell and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, is bringing state and local officials together to advocate for increased federal investment using performance-based criteria,
12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby urges Members of Congress to immediately provide renewed leadership in making infrastructure a national priority and providing funding to maintain and expand our infrastructure networks, help fight climate change, and promote domestic jobs, both through the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization and future legislation; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Mayors should become active in the infrastructure debate through the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Building America's Future, and other avenues in order to bring attention to the serious infrastructure needs of the country

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 111

Submitted by:

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR FEDERAL
SUCCESSOR LEGISLATION TO SAFETEA-LU**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the multi-year federal surface transportation law, is due to expire September 30, 2009; and
2. **WHEREAS**, this law was the second renewal of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, the landmark transportation reform statute that provided state and local decision-makers with added flexibility to develop and fund a range of transportation solutions, reduced modal bias in federal planning and funding rules, expanded public participation in shaping transportation investment programs, allowed increased focus on multi-modal investments, and extended greater decision-making authority to local elected officials served by Metropolitan Planning

Organizations (MPOs), key features that were largely retained by reauthorizations in 1998 and 2005; and

3. **WHEREAS**, despite increasing federal financial commitments to the nation's surface transportation needs, local efforts to use these flexibilities and diversify the mix of transportation investments through improved transit services, enhanced facilities for safer walking and bicycling, deployment of congestion relief strategies through better system operations and the adoption of transportation control measures (TCMs), or maintenance of local infrastructure especially local bridge repair - have been challenged on several fronts; and
4. **WHEREAS**, unlike federal transit resources which largely flow to local, regional and state agencies providing transit services, based mostly on passengers served, existing law continues to vest states with broad authority to decide how other federal transportation funds are invested within the state, with either few or no federal standards to measure and report on performance and outcomes, maintain existing facilities in a state of good repair, distribute funds equitably among local areas or regions within the state, or target resources to specific national goals such improving air quality; and
5. **WHEREAS**, many states have either reduced or restrained the relative share of federal transportation funds allocated to city and local area transportation priorities, such as safety improvements, transit capital needs, pedestrian and bicycling facilities, local maintenance projects and bridge repairs, air quality projects, and TCMs, which raises important issues as mayors and local government leaders in metropolitan areas seek to provide alternatives to automobile use that will reduce congestion, improve air quality, curb energy use, address climate protection goals, and help households and businesses address rising transportation costs; and
6. **WHEREAS**, current law enables these practices in many states because local officials have limited authority over project selection and funding allocations, controlling less than ten cents of every federal transportation dollar, even though cities and other local governments own most of the nation's highways, bridges, transit systems, airports, ports and related surface transportation facilities, such as sidewalks, traffic signals, and public parking

facilities, including ownership of more than 62 percent of all highways on the Federal-Aid Highway System in urbanized areas of the nation; and

7. **WHEREAS**, such state allocation practices governing the use of federal transportation resources have occurred while cities and other local governments have been raising their highway investment levels well beyond those of the federal government and state governments; and
8. **WHEREAS**, since 2000, cities and other local governments increased their new revenue commitments to highway investment by 47 percent, as compared to the federal government at 38 percent and all state governments at 23 percent; and
9. **WHEREAS**, actions and practices by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) also have made it more difficult for mayors and other local leaders to utilize federal transportation resources in meeting their local and regional priorities; and
10. **WHEREAS**, existing federal rules and policies administered by the FHWA and FTA often have prevented local decision-makers from incorporating future transit commitments into federally-supported transportation improvement programs, a prerequisite for future federal funding, or from securing needed FTA approvals to gain access to federal discretionary funds for new transit investments, while such rules generally are not applicable to new state highway capacity projects; and
11. **WHEREAS**, FHWA oversight of state transportation programs, where most federal surface transportation resources are directed, has been limited, even as the financial capacity of many programs declines due to unconstrained capital programs, rising new construction, rehabilitation and maintenance costs, escalating transportation debt burdens and declining state transportation revenue commitments; and
12. **WHEREAS**, as one example, state governments since 2000 have increased state highway program debt by 57 percent -- more than two and one-half times highway revenue growth during the same period -- exclusive of other future liabilities (e.g., Advance Construction, TIFIA loans) incurred under

FHWA programs where future federal transportation resources to the states are encumbered; and

13. **WHEREAS**, after nearly three years, the FHWA has yet to comply with SAFETEA-LU provisions requiring the agency to provide more transparency on how states are allocating federal transportation dollars, a directive intended to inform local officials and the public on how federal transportation resources are being allocated within each state by local area, program category, and type of investment; and
14. **WHEREAS**, federal transportation funding allocations are based on a formula that rewards increased vehicle miles traveled (VMT), thereby encouraging more spending on roads than on transit and travel demand reductions, increasing greenhouse gas emissions, limiting transportation choices, continuing petroleum dependence, and promoting expenditures on inefficient infrastructure development; and
15. **WHEREAS**, there is a clear national need to ensure balanced investment of available federal resources that supports all users of the transportation network and increases people-trip carrying capacity and mobility, including transit, bicycling, walking, and travel demand management, as well as highway and street improvements, and provides incentives for development patterns, including transit-oriented development, that help to reduce energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, and demand for capital expenditures that serve solo driving; and
16. **WHEREAS**, after lengthy review and deliberations, the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Commission released its report recommendations in January 2008, calling for significant reforms to the current federal surface transportation policy framework before the President and Congress commit new federal revenues to surface transportation needs, including accountability and performance measures; and
17. **WHEREAS**, the Commission's recommendations identified numerous shortcomings in the existing federal policy framework, urging reforms and other changes to ensure that metropolitan mobility needs are addressed through a new Metropolitan Mobility Program, existing transportation assets are kept in a state of good repair, intercity passenger, freight rail and other freight needs are more

fully incorporated into the federal program, and safety is made a national priority with performance metrics and other requirements, among other proposals; and

18. **WHEREAS**, cities and other local governments in the nation's many metropolitan areas already account for a substantial proportion of U.S. economic growth, and are projected to capture an even larger share of the nation's future population and economic growth; and
19. **WHEREAS**, continued growth in these metropolitan economies will depend upon increasing commitments to transportation infrastructure and investment decisions that address the nation's energy and climate goals, , with local elected officials in their local areas and regions best positioned to decide these priorities,
20. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors concurs with the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Commission's recommendation that Congress and the President should not provide additional revenues in support of the nation's surface transportation needs until necessary program reforms are incorporated into successor legislation to SAFETEA-LU; and
21. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that The U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to develop and implement a comprehensive, forward-looking federal vision for the nation's overall transportation policy to which tangible investment outcomes must be tied, as well as expanded data collection and transparency, in order to enable evidence-based decisions and greater accountability focused on improving economic productivity, the environment, and the range of transportation choices that allow personal mobility to access economic and social opportunities; and
22. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that federal transportation policy and program decisions should reflect greater modal neutrality focused on achieving substantive outcomes, with more equivalent treatment in the assessment of both highway and transit capacity projects by applying comparable criteria and mechanisms, such as investment studies that apply cost-benefit analyses and disclosure of long-term financial requirements, as well as lesser disparity in typical federal match by mode to reduce distortion of local decisions; and

23. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports efforts to incorporate a Metropolitan Mobility Program, consistent with the recommendation of the National Commission, a new initiative that fully empowers local elected officials in metropolitan areas to allocate available resources and make project selection decisions among all surface transportation modes, with the share of federal transportation resources to states and/or within states calibrated to the economic output of these metropolitan areas; and
24. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that federal transportation funding decisions should place priority on local and state projects that reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions when utilizing available federal transportation resources, especially when investing in new system capacity, including proper weighting for the value of stimulating efficient, high-density transit-oriented development and its environmental benefits; and
25. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that current federal formula for apportioning funding among the states should be modified to ensure that it does not provide incentives for greater consumption versus conservation; and
26. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in addition to user fees, Congress should consider other transportation financing strategies including how the federal government might reward greater state investment, modal neutrality in use of state transportation funds, and the potential value of federal capital budgeting approaches in infrastructure programs, creation of national bond funds, and other proposals, consistent with these reforms; and
27. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that public-private partnerships that support transportation priorities, including use of congestion pricing and variable tolling, also should be considered as potentially valuable tools in addressing congestion, travel demand management, and infrastructure investment needs, depending on local circumstances, but should be viewed in a holistic context and not simply for a financing objective; and
28. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that reforms should consider other incentives for a range of market-based demand management strategies such as commuter choice, car sharing, feebate

programs, location-efficiency, parking cash-out, and pay-as-you-drive (PAYD) auto insurance programs; and

29. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that other important reforms should include requiring maintenance of existing transportation assets in a state of good repair, standardizing of federal rules governing all new surface capacity investments (i.e., highways, transit, port connections, freight facilities and intercity rail), mainstreaming of planning and funding eligibilities for intercity passenger and freight rail projects, and applying new performance requirements to measure how program resources are being used, such as reductions in fatalities and injuries, household transportation expenditures, maintenance liabilities, congestion, unhealthy air quality, energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 112

Submitted by:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

FUNDING THE 2010 CENSUS

1. **WHEREAS**, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution mandates a decennial census; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the United States Census Bureau is preparing to conduct the 2010 Census on April 1, 2010 to update census data which will be used to determine each state's congressional representation in Washington, D.C.; and
3. **WHEREAS**, data obtained from the 2010 Census will also be used to apportion billions of dollars in federal funds to both state and local governments which will have a direct, lasting, and substantive impact on state and local issues of importance—socio-economic, political, and educational—among many other matters; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the apportionment of federal funds based on census data will affect the standard of living of all municipal residents for many years following the completion of the census; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in previous census counts including 1980, 1990 and 2000, mayors across the nation have expressed grave concerns that high levels of low-income individuals have been undercounted and, as a direct result, cities have been deprived of millions of dollars owed to them in federal funds for critical programs, including those serving low-income families and the homeless; and
6. **WHEREAS**, in preparation for the 2010 Census, the United States Census Bureau has sought to reengineer the decennial census with three goals in mind: (1) to reduce operational risk; (2) improve the accuracy and relevance of data, and (3) contain overall cost of the census; and
7. **WHEREAS**, recent reports indicate that the United States Census Bureau is facing serious challenges that threaten the development of a sound, efficient and effective program

which will ensure that each and every resident is counted on April 1, 2010; and

8. **WHEREAS**, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Guitierrez has recognized these challenges as being "unacceptable" and has opined that the U.S. Census Bureau "must immediately revamp some programs, refocus priorities and get on top of the challenges" to have a successful decennial census; and
9. **WHEREAS**, to better ensure a more accurate count in 2010, the President and the Congress should secure that the decennial census program receives the appropriate oversight and resources it needs to address immediately the serious concerns raised by recent reports; and
10. **WHEREAS**, although Congress approved the President's budget request for fiscal year 2008 to enable the Census Bureau to continue its long-term planning for the 2010 Census, additional funds are now deemed necessary to revamp the program in time to ensure a successful census program;
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the President and Congress to immediately address the serious concerns raised regarding the operational, programmatic, and budgetary planning of the decennial census to ensure that an accurate count takes place on April 1, 2010; support adequate funding of the 2010 Census so that the necessary revamping and long-term, strategic planning highlighted by recent reports can commence immediately; ensure that the 2010 Census be designed to more accurately identify and count all segments of a city's population, including low-income individuals, the homeless, and immigrants; and secure that federal funds supporting low-income populations can be more accurately allocated among states and local communities.

Projected cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 113

Submitted By:

The Honorable Lois J. Frankel
Mayor of West Palm Beach

The Honorable Mark Mallory
Mayor of Cincinnati

The Honorable Robert L. Bowser
Mayor of East Orange

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

2010 CENSUS PARTNERSHIPS

1. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Census Bureau is required by the Constitution of the United States of America to conduct a count of the population every ten years, and provides a historic opportunity for The U.S. Conference of Mayors to help shape the foundation of our society and play an active role in American democracy; and
2. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors is committed to ensuring every resident is counted; and
3. **WHEREAS**, more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities, and decisions are made on matters of national and local importance based on census data including healthcare, community development, energy, housing, education, transportation, social services, employment, and much more; and
4. **WHEREAS**, census data determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the redistricting of state legislatures, county and city councils and voting districts; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the 2010 Census will create hundreds of thousands of jobs across the nation; and
6. **WHEREAS**, every Census Bureau worker takes a lifetime oath to protect confidentiality and ensure that data identifying respondents or their household not be released or shared for 72 years; and

7. **WHEREAS**, a united voice from businesses, government, community-based and faith-based organizations, educators, media and other stakeholders will allow the 2010 Census message to reach a broader audience, providing trusted advocates who can spark positive conversations about the 2010 Census,

8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors:
 - Supports the goals and ideals for the 2010 Census and will disseminate 2010 Census information to encourage participation.
 - Asks its affiliates and membership to partner with the U.S. Census Bureau and other stakeholders to achieve an accurate and complete count of all people in every community in the 2010 Census.
 - Encourages all Mayors, particularly those who are members of The U.S. Conference of Mayors to participate in events and initiatives that will raise overall awareness of the 2010 Census and increase participation among all populations.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 114

Submitted by:

The Honorable Francis Slay
Mayor of St. Louis

The Honorable George K. Heartwell
Mayor of Grand Rapids

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Rhine L. McLin
Mayor of Dayton

The Honorable Frank G. Jackson
Mayor of Cleveland

The Honorable Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor of Louisville

The Honorable Michael B. Coleman
Mayor of Columbus

The Honorable Michael N. Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Mark Funkhouser
Mayor of Kansas City

**MOBILE WORKFORCE STATE INCOME TAX FAIRNESS AND
SIMPLIFICATION ACT**

1. **WHEREAS**, at a time when local governments throughout the nation are experiencing a reduction in revenues due to the down turn in the economy fueled primarily by rising energy prices and the home mortgage foreclosure crisis; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the Mobile Workforce State Income Tax Fairness and Simplification Act was introduced in the House of Representatives in August 2007 and is currently pending subcommittee action; and

3. **WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation would prohibit state and local governments from taxing the income of non-resident workers performing duties within their borders for 60 days or less; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the House Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held hearings on the proposed legislation but did not invite The U.S. Conference of Mayors or any local group to testify on behalf of local elected officials to explain how the legislation would impact local revenues; and
5. **WHEREAS**, according to the Internal Revenue Service 17 states have cities and/or counties that levy taxes on mobile workers and over 600 cities and political subdivisions would be negatively affected by passage of this legislation resulting in hundreds of millions in lost revenue; and
6. **WHEREAS**, legislation preempting state and local taxing authority would curtail their ability to collect taxes and thereby infringing upon their ability to raise the necessary revenues to support their infrastructure and provide public safety and other critical services to support the well being of workers and city residents; and
7. **WHEREAS**, many cities that do not currently levy an earnings or income tax on non-resident workers do not want to have that option foreclosed in the future, considering the fact that most states have granted local governments very limited taxing authority; and
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors opposes any legislation that would preempt state and local governments' authority to levy earnings and income taxes on mobile workers and urges all members of Congress to oppose any efforts to pass such legislation.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 115

Submitted by:

The Honorable Elaine Walker
Mayor of Bowling Green

The Honorable Richard Kaplan
Mayor of Lauderhill

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence
Mayor of Southfield

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

REFORM OF THE CREDIT CARD INDUSTRY

1. **WHEREAS**, over 1.22 billion credit card accounts are in the U.S. representing about \$850 billion credit card debt; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the average credit card debit per household is \$7,430 and the average credit card debt per card-holding Household is \$8,568; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the average credit card debt per card-holding household that carries a balance is \$17,103; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the credit card industry mailed 5.2 billion solicitations in 2007, representing an average of 36 per household; and
5. **WHEREAS**, 35 percent of all credit card accounts (242 million cards) paid a late fee in 2005; and
6. **WHEREAS**, in 2005 the six largest credit card issuers had \$7.4 billion of income from penalty fees; and
7. **WHEREAS**, credit card issuers aggressively solicit young adults and college students; and
8. **WHEREAS**, many consumers are unaware of the conditions or powers credit card issuers have over their accounts to set interest rates, impose fees, and make other changes governing their accounts; and
9. **WHEREAS**, U.S. households now have a negative savings rate for the first time in our nation's history,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to pass legislation to reform and more closely regulate the credit card industry to

protect the consumer from deceptive and unjust terms, interest rates and fees, by banning retroactive rate increases, ending unilateral adverse changes in terms for no reason, banning universal default in all forms, stopping late fees for payments mailed on time, and ending roll-over or repeat late and over-limit fees, among other reforms that protect the consumer, and

11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such reforms include a requirement that credit card issuers provide the consumer a more simplified disclosure of the terms and rates of credit card accounts and offers, and that deceptive credit card offers be banned; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the credit card industry be required to use sound underwriting principles based on the ability of consumers to pay.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 116

Submitted by:

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

ADDRESSING THE CONSUMER CREDIT CRISIS

1. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes escalating problem of consumer credit in the United States; and
2. **WHEREAS**, according to the Federal Reserve, the total debt by consumers increased by \$15.3 billion in the month of March 2008 alone, which is more than double what was expected; and
3. **WHEREAS**, according to a 2004 study conducted by the Federal Reserve, 46% of American households carry credit card debit; and
4. **WHEREAS**, almost 30% of households in the lowest income quintile also hold credit card debt, which is double the amount that held debt in 1989; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the increased inflation and harsh economic period in America has forced many Americans to increasingly rely on credit cards to make ends meet; and
6. **WHEREAS**, credit card companies have used questionable practices in their establishment of hidden fees, penalties for paying-off credit cards, and impenetrable credit card agreement language; and
7. **WHEREAS**, credit card debt among those that are 18 to 24 grew 22% between 1989 and 2004; and
8. **WHEREAS**, proposed federal legislation such as the Credit Card Holder's Bill of Rights and the CARD Act can work to provide assistance to credit card holders; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the current foreclosure crises is related to an overarching credit crises where credit has been issued to those with little to no financial literacy at exorbitant rates replete with hidden and excessive fees on predatory basis,

10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to pass legislation that:
- Provides further regulation and supervision of the credit card industry to ensure compliance with existing and new regulations;
 - Prevents the credit card industry from changing terms of the contract and the interest rate in an inequitable manor;
 - Encourages payments to be made to the balance with the higher interest rates and prohibits unreasonable deadlines;
 - Requires credit card companies to provide a more reasonable means for a consumer to pay on time and not incur late fees;
 - Ends duplicate and exorbitant fees charged by credit card companies;
 - Increases the level of disclosure of terms that are entered into under the credit agreement;
 - Provides greater protection for those under the age of 21 when entering into a credit card agreement; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Mayors examine what credit counseling services their cities can provide to those that are victims of predatory credit practices such as, but not limited to, call-in credit help centers, credit/personal finance workshops, and/or official action taken against those companies that continually engage in deceptive practices.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 58

Submitted By:

The Honorable Patrick Henry Hays
Mayor of North Little Rock

**TAX REFORM TO PROMOTE RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION,
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GREEN FEDERAL TAX CODE**

1. **WHEREAS**, the United States, as the world's largest economy, must lead the way in responding to the global warming crisis; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the United States produces approximately 25% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions but represents only about 4 percent of the world's population; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the United Nation's report on Climate Change calls for dramatic action on the part of the world's governments to implement renewable energy production facilities and to adopt as soon as possible energy efficiency retrofits; and
4. **WHEREAS**, recent scientific measurements indicate that the polar ice caps and glaciers are melting faster than previous scientific modeling and forecasts predicted; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the nation's metro economies represent 85.7% of the nation's employment; 89.9% of the nation's labor income; and 86.7% of the nation's gross domestic product; and
6. **WHEREAS**, when compared to other nations, U.S. metros represent 42 of the world's largest economies; and
7. **WHEREAS**, historically our national government has used the federal tax code to encourage investment and implementation of technologies that meet priority national needs,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the "greening" of our tax code by passing tax reform that provides preferences to technologies and investments that reduce the emission of dangerous greenhouse gases, while eliminating or reducing those tax preferences that result in such emissions; and

9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls on Congress to adopt legislation that would increase production of renewable electricity by making permanent and expanding the renewable energy production tax credit, the solar energy and fuel cell investment tax credit, the residential energy-efficient property credit; in addition to authorizing new, clean, renewable energy bonds, public power providers and electric cooperatives; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress adopt legislation to promote the production of renewable fuels by creating a cellulosic alcohol production credit, and extending the biodiesel production tax credit and the alternative refueling stations tax credit; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress adopt legislation to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by establishing a plug-in hybrid vehicle credit; creating fringe benefits for bicycle commuters; and increasing the fringe benefits for public transit users; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress adopt legislation to create a new category of tax credit bonds for green community programs and initiatives, allocated to states and cities; extend and expand tax credits for energy-efficiency improvement for existing homes; extend and expand the deduction for existing building energy-efficiency improvements and for smart metering.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 59

Submitted by:

The Honorable Michael Nutter
Mayor of Philadelphia

The Honorable Thomas Menino
Mayor of Boston

The Honorable Ralph Becker
Mayor of Salt Lake City

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Byron Brown
Mayor of Buffalo

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Cory Booker
Mayor of Newark

The Honorable R.T. Rybak
Mayor of Minneapolis

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable Richard Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Robert E. Walkup
Mayor of Tucson

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Antonio R.
Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A "GREEN" ECONOMY

1. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has passed several resolutions calling on all levels of government to pursue environmentally sustainable municipal practices; and
2. **WHEREAS**, "green building" and other sustainable practices will support growth in all sectors of our economy; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Green Jobs Act was signed into law on December 19, 2007, providing funding for workforce training linked to jobs in sustainable industries such as renewable energy and energy efficiency; and
4. **WHEREAS**, a leading cause for increased recidivism, poverty, and crime is a lack of jobs that pay a livable wage; and

5. **WHEREAS**, one of the most essential elements of a "green" economy will involve increasing the production of energy from sustainable sources and retrofitting existing buildings to be more energy efficient; and
6. **WHEREAS**, the promotion of energy policies based on energy efficiency and on renewable sources will not only help our economy, but will do so in a healthy and clean way, saving our cities billions in ancillary costs such as healthcare, infrastructure decay, climate change mitigation and waste management; and
7. **WHEREAS**, according to the American Wind Energy Association, adding 30,000 megawatts of wind energy to our capacity by 2010 could reduce carbon emissions to our atmosphere by 100 million tons; and
8. **WHEREAS**, according to a National Renewable Energy Laboratory study, a Photovoltaic system meeting half of the electrical needs of a typical household would eliminate approximately half a ton of sulfur dioxide pollution from the air, and 600 pounds of nitrogen oxides; and
9. **WHEREAS**, green jobs and sustainable methods of producing energy make-up an increasing percentage of the economy. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, 117,000 jobs in wind and solar energy production can be sustained with tax credits aimed toward that industry,
10. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the United States Conference of Mayors calls upon the U.S. Congress to extend the Wind Production Tax Credit, Solar Investment Tax Credit, and the Energy Efficiency Tax Credit as soon as possible so that 117,000 jobs in that sector can be secured in 2009; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to fund the programs passed in the Green Jobs Act to their full authorization level for FY 2009; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the USCM calls upon the U.S. Congress to allocate additional funding for the development of new green businesses and workforce development programs for the new energy economy; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that members of the USCM will take steps to better implement and increase the opportunities for green jobs development in their cities such as: 1) competing for the Pathways Out of Poverty Demonstration Grant to fund green jobs for the economically disadvantaged; 2) institute solar alternative power initiatives that increase the number of solar cells

attached to our power grids, implement energy efficiency capital improvements, and make use of other energy forms such as wind power or geothermal; and 3) work with the business community to form green job councils in our cities that can best direct human resources to growing green industries.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 60

Submitted By:

The Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor of Los Angeles

The Honorable Will Wynn
Mayor of Austin

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable David Cicilline
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of Seattle

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

SUPPORT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY TAX INCENTIVES

1. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the importance of federal energy tax incentives that promote renewable and alternative energy projects in order to help fight climate change, secure our nation's energy supply, and reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the renewable Production Tax Credit, to support electricity generation through biomass, wind, geothermal, solar, and other sources; the Investment Tax Credit, for residential and business alternative energy installations; and the Clean Renewable Energy Bond program for public utilities are all set to expire on December 31, 2008; and

3. **WHEREAS**, it is recognized that sporadic, short-term extensions by Congress (even allowing for periodic lapses of the Production Tax Credit) has made renewable and alternative energy advocates increasingly anxious as the newest year-end expiration date approaches; and
4. **WHEREAS**, these short-term tax extensions deter advanced development and rapid deployment of projects by making it more difficult to appropriately plan for, and adequately secure longer term funding of renewable energy projects to better compete with more traditional and less expensive fossil fuel energy sources; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in order to best promote and advance renewable energy technologies and their widespread deployment, the certainty of a multi-year extension would most benefit the industry, speed renewable project development, utilize clean domestic energy resources, and promote American jobs at a time of record energy prices and local or state commitments towards increasing the use of renewable resources; and
6. **WHEREAS**, renewable energy tax incentives are critically important for the emerging alternative energy industry sector, where continued federal funding can help in the development and deployment of initially higher-costs technologies - ultimately driving down consumers costs; and
7. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors believes Congress must act now to promote clean renewable energy to best advance the nation's ability to meet a federal climate change program and reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors hereby urges Congress to approve legislation that offers a five-year extension of renewable energy tax credits, currently set to expire on December 31, 2008, to enable expedited activities that advance renewable energy projects, help fight climate change, and promote domestic jobs; and

9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors calls upon Congress to work with local leaders to ensure that Clean Renewable Energy Bond program modifications are made to benefit public sector applicants on a more equitable basis.

Project Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 61

Submitted By:

The Honorable Ron Dellums
Mayor of Oakland

**METRO ECONOMIES GREEN INITIATIVE:
SUPPORTING EMERGING MODELS OF EXCELLENCE**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Brookings Institution reports that the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan areas contain 65% of the nation's population and 68% of its jobs, generating three-quarters of the nation's gross domestic product; and
2. **WHEREAS**, metro economies are reported to gather even larger shares of innovative activity (78% of U.S. patent activity), educated workers (75% of graduate degree holders), and critical infrastructure (79% of U.S. air cargo); and
3. **WHEREAS**, while employment within the manufacturing sector has remained relatively constant since 1950, manufacturing jobs now account for a significantly smaller percentage of the American workforce (31% of U.S. non-farm employment in 1950, as compared to just over 10% in 2007); and
4. **WHEREAS**, an increasingly competitive global workforce and multinational supply chains within traditional manufacturing industries continue to threaten American economic competitiveness abroad and basic job security and individual self-sufficiency throughout the nation; and
5. **WHEREAS**, projections from the U.S. Census Bureau demonstrate that non-Hispanic whites will represent less than half of the nation's prime working-age (25 to 64) population by 2050, with African Americans and Hispanics accounting for more than 90% of total growth in that age range during the next 40 years; and
6. **WHEREAS**, persons from these communities are largely concentrated in metropolitan areas and remain disproportionately affected by numerous challenges related to education, employment, and incarceration; and
7. **WHEREAS**, metro communities remain beset by disproportionate high school dropout rates, with the EPE Research Center reporting that nearly 40% of the nation's 50 largest metropolitan areas suffer high school graduation rates below 50%; and

8. **WHEREAS**, minority student populations are particularly likely to demonstrate elevated high school dropout rates, with African American and Latino students demonstrating graduation rates below 60% nationally; and
9. **WHEREAS**, the Center for Labor Market Studies has reported that a black male high school dropout will on average receive nearly \$190,000 more in government benefits than he will pay in payroll and income taxes throughout the course of his work life; and
10. **WHEREAS**, programs intended to provide high school students unlikely to pursue baccalaureate study with a means to transition from secondary studies to high-skill employment are a vital means to provide these students with tools for lifelong self-sufficiency; and
11. **WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute of Literacy, 70% of all prisoners function at the lowest literacy levels and less than 32% of State prison inmates have a high school diploma or a higher level of education; and
12. **WHEREAS**, According to the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, nearly 650,000 – about 1,600 a day – people are released from Federal and State incarceration into communities nationwide each year, with the majority of these individuals returning to the nation’s metro communities; and
13. **WHEREAS**, transitional jobs programs have proven to help individuals with criminal records to return successfully to the workplace and to the community, and therefore can reduce recidivism; and
14. **WHEREAS**, these programs, along with traditional technical training programs, and emerging green industries provide at-risk individuals within our nation’s metro communities with concrete opportunities for long-term economic self-sufficiency; and
15. **WHEREAS**, the American Solar Energy Society estimates that, in 2006 alone, more than 8 million Americans worked in green industries, generating \$933 billion of revenue; and
16. **WHEREAS**, the Society further estimates that these industries can account for more than 40 million American jobs by 2030, generating over \$4.5 trillion in annual revenue; and
17. **WHEREAS**, green industries promote employment opportunities that are necessarily local. As such, jobs within emerging

green industries offer sustainable employment opportunities to Americans for decades to come,

18. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages Congress, through consideration of legislation addressing global climate change, to authorize programs within the Department of Housing and Urban Development to target designated funding resources to metro communities meeting certain criteria to enable these communities to undertake model green industry economic and workforce development programs of excellence; and
19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, among such programs, the U.S. Conference of Mayors will support federal efforts to authorize and fund the following initiatives:
 - Metro Area Green Zones - to support exemplary low-carbon workforce and economic development efforts already underway throughout the nation and establish best practice data consistent with efforts to provide stable employment in emerging green industries to formerly incarcerated, low-income, and difficult-to-employ populations;
 - The Metro Area Green Institute - to serve as a clearinghouse for low-carbon economic development efforts nationally, compiling and disseminating data gleaned through the Metro Area Green Zones program and providing technical assistance to local and municipal green job creation/workforce development programs throughout the country;
 - Mini-Metro Green Grants - to expand and enhance the reach and relevance of activities undertaken by Metro Area Green Zones and the Metro Area Green Institute to ensure the robust participation of smaller, developing municipalities in low-carbon workforce and economic development; and,
 - Alternative Green Academies - to enable local municipalities to partner with not-for-profit organizations, local education agencies, community and technical colleges, and trade associations, and local businesses to provide low-carbon job training, employment opportunities, and other life skills to high school dropouts, formerly incarcerated youth, and students for whom a 4-year higher education is either undesirable or impossible.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 117

Submitted by:

The Honorable James Brainard
Mayor of Carmel

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Sheila Dixon
Mayor of Baltimore

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

The Honorable John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

INSURANCE RATES ON MUNICIPAL BONDS

1. **WHEREAS**, the availability and cost of credit for municipalities has a corresponding impact on their ability to provide needed infrastructure and other projects to their residents; and
2. **WHEREAS**, bond rating agencies hold municipal bonds to an unnecessarily higher standard than corporate issuers; and
3. **WHEREAS**, this disparate treatment means that cities and other governmental entities are judged differently than private sector corporations with similar credit histories; and
4. **WHEREAS**, bond ratings should be based on the risk that the issuer will default and the investor will lose money, but ratings for local governments have little to do with risk; and
5. **WHEREAS**, for example, municipal bonds rated BAA by Moodys Investor Services Inc. have had a default rate of only 0.13 percent, while corporate bonds rated AAA by Moodys Investor Services Inc. have defaulted 0.52 percent, or four times that rate; and

6. **WHEREAS**, this differential treatment undermines the functioning of an efficient and transparent capital market and misleads investors by greatly inflating the risk of owning municipal bonds and costs taxpayers billions in increased interest costs and bond insurance premiums; and
7. **WHEREAS** the system used by bond rating agencies to grade municipal bonds has recently come under scrutiny by the House Committee on Financial Services, whose Chairman recently noted, "Municipal bonds are among the safest—second only to US Treasuries—in terms of losses to investors",
8. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S, Conference of Mayors applauds the efforts of the Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, to hold hearings on this issue and explore legislative remedies which would assist municipal bond issuers in this area; and
9. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors looks forward to working with legislative leaders in the House and Senate, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the bond rating agencies to develop workable solutions to this problem.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 118

Submitted by:

The Honorable James Brainard
Mayor of Carmel

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of San Diego

MUNICIPAL AUCTION RATES SECURITIES

1. **WHEREAS**, local governments are very concerned about the current market turmoil in the municipal bond industry; and
2. **WHEREAS**, these difficulties impose additional and unnecessary costs on cities of all sizes which are borne by taxpayers; and
3. **WHEREAS**, these problems have nothing to do with the credit worthiness or soundness of local governments but rather have been caused by actions of the private sector; and
4. **WHEREAS**, auction rate securities, traditional long-term securities with short-term demand features, are among the biggest problems cities now face in the credit market; and
5. **WHEREAS**, in the current market environment auction rate securities - with interest rates reset on a daily, 7-day, 28-day, 35-day or longer term basis - do not have enough investors to purchase the securities that holders of these securities want to sell, the end result being a failed auction; and
6. **WHEREAS**, there is neither a problem with these securities underlying credit nor with the credit worthiness of the issuers themselves; and
7. **WHEREAS**, Bloomberg News reports that government issuers are paying over \$1 billion in fees to convert these auction rate securities into other instruments, as a result of the collapse of the auction rate securities market, and these increased costs will delay or possibly eliminate needed infrastructure projects in cities; and
8. **WHEREAS**, a variety of legislative and regulatory changes could restore the viability of auction rates securities;

9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors seeks to work with House and Senate legislative leaders, the Securities and Exchange Commission , other regulatory agencies as appropriate and the private sector to develop workable solutions to the auction-rate securities problem; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors establish a Municipal Bond Task Force to monitor ongoing developments in the bond field, including auction rates instruments, develop solutions, help organize Mayoral action in Washington to bring about needed reforms and work with the Congress, regulatory agencies and other national organizations towards stability in the auction rate market and well as in other related areas.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 99

Submitted by:

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann
Mayor of Honolulu

**OPPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON LOCAL USE OF TAX-EXEMPT
BONDS FOR PUBLICLY-OWNED PROFESSIONAL
SPORTS FACILITIES**

1. **WHEREAS**, language was inserted into the Senate version of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, in order to provide a revenue offset for an unrelated tax incentive, that would have prohibited the use of tax-exempt bond financing for professional sports facilities; and
2. **WHEREAS**, such proposed legislation represents a dangerous precedent for federal intrusion into state and local governments' financing decisions by dictating the types of projects that state and local governments may finance through tax-exempt bonds; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the proposed legislation even prohibits use of tax-exempt bond financing for mixed-purpose facilities that occasionally are used by professional sports teams, including minor league teams and events; and
4. **WHEREAS**, sports facilities and mixed-purpose facilities used for professional sports events often serve as an important stimulus for local economic development; and
5. **WHEREAS**, by eliminating tax-exempt financing for sports facilities, the cost to state and local taxpayers for building new sports facilities or rehabilitating existing ones would be dramatically increased or possibly become unaffordable,
6. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges members of Congress to oppose legislation that would impose limitations on state and local governments' use of tax-exempt bond financing.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 119

Submitted by:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Chuck Reed
Mayor of San Jose

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT INITIATIVES

1. **WHEREAS**, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the international community's respected assembly of scientists, has found that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of greenhouse gas pollutants in the atmosphere and resulting climate change; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has taken action to combat climate change, including the establishment of the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, signed by over 830 mayors representing over 79 million Americans; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. building sector is responsible for 48 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the American Institute of Architects have called for immediate energy reduction of all new and renovated buildings to one-half the national average for that building type, with increased reductions of 10 percent every five years so that by the year 2030 all new buildings will be carbon neutral; and
5. **WHEREAS**, federal, state and local governments have adopted green building standards for construction of public buildings and many jurisdictions are now expanding green building standards to commercial and residential buildings in their communities; and
6. **WHEREAS**, public-private partnerships that utilize market mechanisms to advance green building activity in the US are

essential to ensure that environmental building standards can be raised while at the same time growing our national economy; and

7. **WHEREAS**, major investment banks, institutional investors and governments, led by the City and County of San Francisco and JPMorgan Chase, have worked together to advance the Capital Markets Partnership's Sustainable Investment Initiative that will generate unprecedented market investment in green buildings constructed in the US; and
8. **WHEREAS**, this partnership has completed a peer reviewed report called 'Creating Economic Stimulus While Stopping Climate Credit Risk/Irreversibility' that demonstrates that climate induced property damages have caused increases of 100 to 600 percent in insurance rates and also reduced availability of coverage, and have caused rating agencies to conclude that these developments have "serious credit implications"; and
9. **WHEREAS**, this report identifies investment products, including mortgage-backed securities exclusively for green buildings, that can be developed to increase investment in green buildings, decrease credit risk in the current investment environment, and help to decrease greenhouse gas emissions from the U.S. building industry; and
10. **WHEREAS**, the Partnership will be launching the Green Building Investment Underwriting Standards and Sustainable Mortgage Backed Securities initiatives at the New York Stock Exchange, which will generate investments projected to assist in the building of over two million green buildings and one million certified sustainable products by 2015, add one trillion dollars per year to the economy, and stop/prevent imminent, irreversible and dangerous climate change,
11. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the efforts of the Capital Markets Partnership's Sustainable Investment Initiative to generate market investment in high performance green buildings through Sustainable Mortgage Backed Securities that will stimulate the economy and combat climate change, and

12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors encourages additional public-private partnerships to increase market investment in environmental innovation and climate protection.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 27

Submitted by:

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence
Mayor of Southfield

The Honorable Robert Duffy
Mayor of Rochester

The Honorable Gary Becker
Mayor of Racine

The Honorable Otis Johnson
Mayor of Savannah

**PROTECTING MAIN STREET SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS FROM
PREDATORY LENDERS**

1. **WHEREAS**, America's 26.8 million small businesses are the engine of the U.S. economy, employing half of all private-sector employees, representing 99.7% of all employers, and responsible for 45% of net new jobs generated annually in the last decade; and
2. **WHEREAS**, eight million of these small businesses pursue financing each year throughout the United States; and
3. **WHEREAS**, 65% of these eight million (5.2 million) are unable to secure traditional bank loans or lines of credit; and
4. **WHEREAS**, as a result, many small businesses use family money, personal credit cards or personal loans and approximately 35% have relied on home-equity loans to finance their businesses; and
5. **WHEREAS**, the recent turmoil in both the housing and credit markets has caused banks to tighten their lending criteria and consequently, credit opportunities to small business owners have been significantly reduced; and
6. **WHEREAS**, a perfect storm has emerged across the United States, leaving many small businesses, including millions

throughout the main streets of our cities and towns, struggling to access the capital they need to sustain and grow their businesses; and

7. **WHEREAS**, predatory lenders have emerged to exploit the current credit environment and increasing cash flow needs of small businesses and are selling usurious products known as merchant cash advances (MCA), which are advances on a business's future credit card receivables (aka "factoring of future credit card sales"); and
8. **WHEREAS**, merchant cash advances are not loans and do *not* have to follow state or federal lending regulations, and feature over 85% approval rates and imputed annual percentage rates as high as 200%, and in addition to these egregious rates, require daily deductions of 18-25% of the small business's credit card sales - significantly more than a business can afford; and
9. **WHEREAS**, merchant cash advance companies have already lent approximately \$2 billion at egregious rates and have been quoted in leading main stream media publications such as *Forbes*, *Business Week*, *Dallas Morning News*, and *American Banker* claiming that their new originations have increased 75% in the first half of 2008; and
10. **WHEREAS**, America's cities need strong Main Street businesses to continue to have a stable tax base, safe streets and a vibrant commercial center, and
11. **WHEREAS**, as with payday lenders and predatory lenders in the home mortgage community, Mayors need to take a leadership role to scrutinize predatory merchant cash advance companies, educate small business owners of the dangers posed by these firms, and increase awareness and promotion of alternative, more affordable funding sources to support this vital segment of our economy; and
12. **WHEREAS**, the mayor in each of our cities can protect our small businesses by promoting and advising small business owners to ask and have answered five simple questions before agreeing to accept any type of financing from a non-traditional provider:
 - a. Is the financing product a regulated loan?
 - b. What is the total interest paid and how does that cost translate into an Annual Percentage Rate (APR)?
 - c. What is the payment amount?
 - d. What is the payment frequency?

- e. Exactly how long will it take to repay the loan?
13. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly supports small businesses and the independent business owners located in our cities and will protect them from predatory lenders offering exploitive merchant cash advances; and
 14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the mayor in each of our cities shall educate Main Street business owners and the small business community of the dangers of merchant cash advances and promote to them alternative lending sources that are more affordable; and
 15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that to protect the general health and viability of their small business communities, cities should investigate whether they can effectively regulate or ban merchant cash advances.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 120

Submitted by:

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Mayor of Stamford

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer
Mayor of Trenton

NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK

1. **WHEREAS**, there are significant mega-trends facing our municipal employees as they plan for retirement, including the rising costs of retirement, the increased lifespan of retirees, and the capacity of Social Security to cover costs; and
2. **WHEREAS**, municipal employees have an opportunity to save for retirement in deferred compensation plans that help reduce tax burdens during retirement and increase a retiree's financial resources; and
3. **WHEREAS**, only 34% of eligible public-sector workers participate in their deferred compensation plan compared to 70% among private-sector employees; and
4. **WHEREAS**, all municipal workers can benefit from increased awareness of the need to save for retirement and the availability of tax-advantaged retirement savings vehicles to help them in saving for retirement,
5. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors--
 - 1) supports National Save for Retirement Week, designated by Congress from October 19 to October 25, 2008;
 - 2) supports the goals and ideals of National Save for Retirement Week, including raising municipal employee awareness about the importance of adequate retirement savings and the availability of 457 deferred compensation programs; and
 - 3) calls upon all mayors to actively promote retirement savings among municipal employees, open their cities to workshops by qualified deferred compensation companies to help employees understand the importance

of saving for retirement and the tools and options available to them, and actively promote National Save for Retirement Week in conjunction with the U.S. Conference of Mayors in the months leading up to and during the week.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 121

Submitted by:

The Honorable Elaine Walker
Mayor of Bowling Green

The Honorable Richard Kaplan
Mayor of Lauderhill

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence
Mayor of Southfield

The Honorable Manuel A. Diaz
Mayor of Miami

MAYORS' NATIONAL DOLLAR WISE CAMPAIGN

1. **WHEREAS**, The United States Conference of Mayors and its member mayors, led by our Council for the New American City, have been engaged in increasing Americans' financial literacy since 2004 through the Mayors' National Dollar Wise Campaign; and
2. **WHEREAS**, Dollar Wise invites all cities and mayors in the United States and its territories to register in the Campaign; to adopt increasing their residents' financial literacy as local government policy; and to organize local coalitions with government agencies, nonprofit organizations, financial institutions, faith-based groups, the private sector, and others that are involved in building financial capability; and
3. **WHEREAS**, the Mayors' National Dollar Wise Campaign and cities across America will celebrate the fifth annual Dollar Wise Week September 20-27, 2008, with community events, activities, and workshops focusing on encouraging Americans to reverse the trend of living beyond their means and setting aside minimal money in savings; and
4. **WHEREAS**, financial literacy and savings enable individuals and families to prosper in times of economic growth and to weather the storm during an economic downturn; and
5. **WHEREAS**, financial education is essential to helping the American consumer not to fall prey to deceptive lending practices or complicated financial instruments, mortgage products offered by the industry that led to the current mortgage crisis and subsequent economic difficulty; and

6. **WHEREAS**, local governments have the ability to lead the way on financial education because it is at the local level where the real groundwork of educating the public takes place; and
7. **WHEREAS**, improved policy, funding, and participation by government at all levels—local, state, and federal—is the greatest deliberate institutional change the United States and its leaders can make in our efforts to increase Americans' financial capability; and
8. **WHEREAS**, so doing will help them become full partakers of the American Dream; bolster our citizens' financial independence; build up prosperous, contributing members of our communities and society; and ensure financial security for themselves and their children, thereby increasing opportunities for homeownership, education, and overall economic inclusion,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The United States Conference of Mayors calls on federal, state, and local governments to work together and with their nongovernmental partners in a coordinated effort to raise America's standard of financial literacy; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we urge the federal government to provide greater support for financial education by using at least a portion of the federally-imposed fees, fines, penalties, and other revenue from financial institutions to provide funding for locally-based, financial education programs; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we advocate that all state governments require personal economic and financial education as a prerequisite for high-school graduation; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we invite all our fellow cities, mayors, and other municipal governments and local officials to give priority to increasing the financial literacy of their citizens and bolstering and promoting local initiatives to that end.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 83

Submitted By:

The Honorable James M. Baker
Mayor of Wilmington

The Honorable Ed Pawlowski
Mayor of Allentown

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS

1. **WHEREAS**, Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLBanks) are 12 regional government sponsored enterprises (GSEs) chartered by Congress in 1932 to provide liquidity to their 8,100 financial institution members across the country ensuring the available funding for affordable housing and community development; and
2. **WHEREAS**, FHLBanks are authorized to serve the needs of America's cities by providing their members low-cost financing for community development lending; and
3. **WHEREAS**, FHLBanks, through their Affordable Housing Program, have helped rehabilitate neighborhoods by providing over \$3 billion in grants for affordable housing projects since 1990; and
4. **WHEREAS**, the housing mission of the FHLBanks has been expanded by Congressional and regulatory action to include providing resources for community and economic development; and
5. **WHEREAS**, Section 149(b) of the Internal Revenue Code permits GSEs such as the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Government National Mortgage Association to issue letters of credit on tax exempt bonds while excluding FHLBanks; and
6. **WHEREAS**, amending Section 149(b) by adding the FHLBanks to the list of GSEs would allow the FHLBanks to better carry out their ongoing mission of supporting housing and community and economic development lending; and
7. **WHEREAS**, obtaining credit enhancement from highly-rated FHLBanks, through their members for tax exempt bonds would significantly lower the costs to cities and therefore increase their capacity to create jobs and generate new tax revenue; and

8. **WHEREAS**, proposed legislation amending Section 149, passed by the U.S. House has been scored by the Joint Tax Committee at only \$120 million over ten years, a loss of revenue that will be recouped many times over by local economic development,
9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges the Congress to pass an amendment to Section 149(b) of the Internal Revenue Code adding "any letter of credit issued by a FHLBank" to the list of permissible letters of credit enhancing tax exempt bonds; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the U.S. Conference of Mayors support legislation, regulatory changes and other initiatives designed to expand the ability of FHLBanks to serve the housing, community and economic development and public finance needs of cities through their investment authority, introduction of new business activities, and development of new initiatives.

Projected Cost: Unknown

Resolution No. 74

Submitted By:

The Honorable J. Christian Bollwage
Mayor of Elizabeth

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE BROWNFIELDS LAW

1. **WHEREAS**, brownfields are abandoned or underutilized properties sites whose redevelopment is hindered by either real or perceived environmental contamination; and
2. **WHEREAS**, the redevelopment of brownfield sites have been a priority for The U.S. Conference of Mayors for the past 15 years; and
3. **WHEREAS**, much progress has been made in redeveloping these sites, particularly after the enactment of the Small Business Liability and Brownfields Redevelopment Act of 2002, there is still an estimated 400-600 thousand brownfield sites throughout the nation; and
4. **WHEREAS**, brownfield sites are opportunities for economic development, job creation, and environmental improvements within the nation's communities; and
5. **WHEREAS**, EPA has invested about \$800 million in the assessment and cleanup of brownfields since 1995, leveraging more than \$9 billion in cleanup and redevelopment monies - a return of more than ten to one, and resulting in the assessment of more than 8,000 properties;
6. **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors' research indicates that over 186,000 jobs have been created and over \$400 million in tax revenues have been generated;
7. **WHEREAS**, the nation's mayors recognize that additional tools are necessary to help accelerate the number of cleanups and redevelopments; and
8. **WHEREAS**, the Small Business Liability and Brownfields Redevelopment Act of 2002 was technically authorized for only 5 years, and the need for reauthorization presents an opportunity to re-evaluate and propose improvements that will hasten cleanup and redevelopment of these contaminated and abandoned properties,

9. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Congress should reauthorize the Brownfields Law and make improvements to the law by increasing EPA's overall funding for brownfields grants, beginning with \$350 million in FY08 and increasing by \$50 million annually to a total of \$600 million and beyond; and
10. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should increase EPA's funding limit for cleanup of a single site to up to \$1 million and under special circumstances, EPA could waive the limit and go up to \$2 million per site; and
11. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should allow EPA to grant eligible entities the option to apply for multi-purpose grants (of up to \$1.5 million) that can be used for the full range of brownfield-funded activities (assessment, cleanup, reuse planning, etc.) on an area-wide or community-wide basis; and
12. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should authorize \$20 million for brownfield pilots that demonstrate sustainable reuse, green buildings, and alternative energy and allow use of funds for site assessments, cleanup, site planning, feasibility analysis, and engineering studies related to environmentally beneficial site improvements, such as, high performance/green buildings, green infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, and/or renewable energy production; and
13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should allow EPA grantees that seek to use assessment, cleanup or multi-purpose grants on sites with petroleum contamination should not be required to make the difficult demonstrations that the site is "low risk" and that there is "no viable responsible party" connected with the site but rather replace the "No Viable Responsible Party" language with a prohibition on using funds to pay for cleanup costs for which the recipient of the grant is potentially liable under the petroleum statutes; and
14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Congress should create greater flexibility in use of grant funds by eliminating the currently defined set-aside of total grant funding for petroleum brownfields and instead substituting a new "Ranking Criteria" that gives some weight to petroleum-contaminated sites; and

15. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should allow local government applicants to obtain funding at sites acquired prior to the January 11, 2002 enactment of the Brownfields Revitalization Act - when there was no required standard for "all appropriate inquiries" - provided that the applicant did not cause or contribute to the contamination and performed "appropriate care" -- for these sites, applicants would not have to demonstrate that they performed all appropriate inquiry; and
16. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should clarify that non-profits and related community development entities are eligible to receive brownfields assessment, cleanup, revolving loan fund, and job training grants. Currently non-profits are only eligible for cleanup and job training grants; and
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Congress should exempt local and state government from CERCLA liability if the government unit
 - (a) owns a brownfield as defined by section 101(39);
 - (b) did not cause or contribute to contamination on the property; and
 - (c) exercises due care with regard to any known contamination at the site; alternative language would amend section 101(20)
 - (D) to clarify that properties acquired through eminent domain qualify for the CERCLA exemption for local governments involved in "Involuntary Acquisitions."

Projected Cost: Unknown