

Resolution Opposing Federal and State Unfunded Mandates

Whereas, unfunded mandates on state and local governments have increased significantly in recent years;

Whereas, federal and state mandates require cities and villages to perform duties without consideration of local circumstances, costs, or capacity, and subject municipalities to civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance;

Whereas, federal and state mandates require compliance regardless of other pressing local needs and priorities affecting the health, welfare, and safety of municipal citizens;

Whereas, excessive federal and state burdens on local governments force some combination of higher local taxes and fees and/or reduced local services on citizens and local taxpayers;

Whereas, federal and state mandates are too often inflexible, one-size-fits-all requirements that impose unrealistic time frames and specify procedures or facilities where less costly alternatives might be just as effective;

Whereas, existing mandates impose harsh pressures on local budgets and the federal and state governments have reduced funding to help compensate for any new mandates;

Whereas, the cumulative impact of these legislative and regulatory actions directly affect the citizens of our cities and villages; and

Whereas, the National League of Cities and the League of Nebraska Municipalities, in conjunction with other state and local government representatives, are continuing a national public education campaign to help citizens understand and then reduce the burden and inflexibility of unfunded mandates, with a National Unfunded Mandates Week from October 24-30, 1994;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the City/Village of Lexington endorses the efforts of the League of Nebraska Municipalities and supports working with LNM to fully inform our citizens about the impact of federal and state mandates on our government and the pocketbooks of our citizens;

Be it further resolved that the City/Village of Lexington endorses organizing and participating in events to begin on October 24, 1994; and finally

Be it resolved that the City/Village of Lexington resolves to redouble efforts to inform and work with the Governor, state senators, and members of our Congressional delegation and others to further inform them about the impact of federal and state mandates and actions necessary to reduce their burden on our citizens.

Adopted this 25th day of October, 1994

John Skjottman
Chairperson

Attest: *Gene E. Wegph*
Clerk

