

RESOLUTION NO. 284

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF MOUNT CARMEL, TENNESSEE, URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE MEMBERS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO LEAVE INTACT OUR SYSTEM OF REVENUE SHARING.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is experiencing lower than expected tax collections and higher than expected increases in costs; and

WHEREAS, Governor Phil Bredesen has proposed a fiscal year 2003-2004 budget that includes estimated growth in revenues of \$242 million, new spending of \$629 million, state government budget cuts of \$237 million, cuts in dedicated transportation revenues of \$65.8 million, cuts in state-shared taxes of \$60.7 million; and other cuts, reductions, and revenue redirections; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's local governments are experiencing lower than expected tax collections and higher than expected increases in costs in the same manner as Tennessee state government; and

WHEREAS, state-shared tax revenues are a critical funding source for local governments; and

WHEREAS, state-shared tax revenues are critical and necessary to maintain stable bond ratings; and

WHEREAS, state-shared tax revenues do not represent state spending, but, instead, represent an efficient, centralized system of taxation to produce revenues for multiple levels of governments; and

WHEREAS, state-shared tax revenues, by law, are deemed to meet constitutional requirements for state mandate funding; and

WHEREAS, state-shared tax revenue losses could result in local property tax increases, reductions in local government services, or a combination of tax increases and service reductions; and

WHEREAS, residents, businesses, and community organizations of the Town of Mount Carmel deserve, demand, and depend upon essential municipal services; and


WHEREAS, the services provided by the Town of Mount Carmel have fostered and maintained a high quality of life for residents, a favorable business environment, and a strong community spirit; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's local governments, which are already experiencing local budget problems, recognize the seriousness and importance of the state's budget problem;


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Mount Carmel urges the Governor and each member of the Tennessee General Assembly to propose, support, and remain open to options and alternatives to leave intact our system of revenue sharing, or, at a minimum, to reduce the magnitude of proposed state-shared tax reductions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Mount Carmel urges the Governor and each member of the Tennessee General Assembly to propose, support, and remain open to options and alternatives to reduce the detrimental effect of any reductions in state-shared taxes.

Duly passed and approved this the 22nd day of April, 2003.


GARY W. LAWSON, Mayor

ATTEST:


NANCY CARTER, City Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


LAW OFFICE OF MAN & COUP

FIRST READING	AYES	NAYS	OTHER
Alderman Henry Bailey	absent		
Vice-Mayor Eugene Christian	✓		
Alderman Paul Hale	✓		
Mayor Gary Lawson	✓		
Alderman Tresa Mawk	✓		
Alderman Thomas Wheeler	✓		
Alderman Wanda Worley	✓		
TOTALS	6	0	0

PASSED: 4-22-03

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