REVISED

Pass 8-0
Fail 1-8-0

RESOLUTION 91-2

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Indiana, to protect the well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, the United States now has nearly a half million soldiers poised for combat in the Middle East, men and women whose commitment, patriotism and sacrifices should be respected and supported; and

WHEREAS, our local economy, already suffering from the effects of a nationwide recession, would be adversely affected by military engagement in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, a war in the Middle East would jeopardize our community through loss of lives from our city, county, and university, and from elsewhere in the nation and the world; through disruption of oil supplies; through depression of our economy; through polarization of our body politic as has not been seen for a generation; and

WHEREAS, the hope for a new world order symbolized by the collapse of the Berlin Wall, and the hope for the reordering of our national priorities made possible by the termination of the cold war, must not be destroyed by unnecessary resort to armed conflict;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

The Common Council urges the President of the United States to seriously pursue alternatives to armed conflict in the Middle East including engaging in open-minded negotiations and waiting to gauge the effects of sanctions, and to refrain from military engagement unless, as required by the Constitution, such action is authorized by the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

Further, the Common Council wishes to express its support and respect for the men and women serving with the American forces in the Middle East.

Further, the Common Council urges Iraq to discontinue its policy of suppression of human rights and to adhere to the Helsinki Accords on Human Rights in order to relieve the suffering of the people of Kuwait, and the citizens of Iraq.

Further, the Common Council urges Iraq to refrain from the use of chemical weapons as were used against Iran and the Kurds of Iraq, and to discontinue the research and development of nuclear weapons.

Further, the Common Council commends all elected federal officials for their acceptance of the responsibility of elected office and urges them to continue in the formation of a national policy of peace throughout the world.

In addition, the Common Council calls for the renewed development of a national alternative energy policy and urges our citizenry and governments at every level to initiate steps to reduce our over-consumption of and dependence on oil.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 16th day of January, 1991.

John Fernandez, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

Patricia Williams
PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 17th day of January, 1991.

Tomilea Allison

TOMILEA ALLISON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution, sponsored by Councilmember Kiesling, urges peace in the Middle East, asks Iraq to refrain from pursuing methods of repression and mass destruction, commends elected federal officials for responsibly shouldering the burden of these issues and urges them to form of policy of peace throughout the world, promotes energy conservation, and expresses support for American troops stationed in the Persian Gulf.