Denied: 3 - 5

RESOLUTION 93-29
URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE
TO AUTHORIZE A REFERENDUM ON WHETHER OR NOT TO ENACT A STATEWIDE "ANTI-CONSUMPTION AND ANTI-OPEN CONTAINER" LAW

WHEREAS, over the last ten years in Indiana, alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents have caused thousands of deaths and tens of thousands of injuries; and

WHEREAS, in the last few sessions, the State Legislature has considered but failed to adopt a law which prohibits the consumption of an alcoholic beverage or the possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage while in a motor vehicle that is operating on a public highway; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council acknowledges that the best means of addressing the issue is through the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, there is an acknowledged lack of empirical data to support or refute the proposition that legislation prohibiting possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages in motor vehicles operating on public highways has a deterrent or other effect on alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents; and

WHEREAS, in absence of such empirical data, the citizenry of the State of Indiana may prove to be the best source for arbitration of this matter; and

WHEREAS, a statewide referendum would conclusively determine whether the citizens of the state support this measure;

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

The Common Council urges the State Legislature to authorize a public question on whether or not there should be a state law prohibiting both the consumption of alcohol and the possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage while in a motor vehicle operating on a public highway.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this ____ day of _____, 1993.

_____
JACK W. HOPKINS, President
Bloomington Common Council

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this _____ day of _____, 1993.

_____
TOMILEA ALLISON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

ATTEST:

_____
PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution urges the state legislature to authorize a statewide public question on whether or not there should be a state law prohibiting the consumption of alcohol or the possession of an open container of an alcoholic beverage while in an operating motor vehicle.

FAILED