Defeated 9/19/84

RESOLUTION 84-22

To Urge the Reinstatement of David Schalk as City Chemist
(Sponsored by Councilmember Murphy)

WHEREAS the Bloomington Common Council is committed to the active preservation of the public health and environmental quality in our community; and

WHEREAS the public's confidence in the City's commitment to protect environmental quality and the public health has been adversely affected by the controversy over the proper mission and operations of the City's Central Laboratory; and

WHEREAS there has been no public process for resolution of the policy disputes between Central Laboratory staff and Utilities Dept. administration staff; and

WHEREAS the internal (and confidential) personnel investigation of the policy disputes which were the subject of City Chemist David Schalk's June 5th memo to the Common Council is not conducive to maintaining public confidence; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to avoid any appearance that municipal employees might be punished by removal of their livelihood for expressing their sincere concerns or opinions with regard to protecting the public health and environmental quality; and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Council that all municipal staff be encouraged to pursue their responsibilities agressively, especially insofar as they pertain to maintenance of public health; and

WHEREAS it is essential that no action of a punitive nature, especially involuntary termination of a petitioning employee, be taken until the underlying policy dispute has been publicly studied and resolved:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Indiana, that:

The Bloomington Common Council urges the Mayor of the City of Bloomington to reinstate David Schalk in the position of City Chemist with back pay and other benefits pending a public inquiry of the policy disputes that led to his June 5th memo to the Council and his consequent termination.

Dated this day of September, 1984.

Patricia Gross, President
Bloomington Common Council

Patricia Williams, City Clerk

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution, sponsored by Councilmember Murphy, urges the Mayor to reinstate David Schalk as City Chemist.

FAILED