Should There Be a Law?

During the Federation's upcoming November 12 meeting, delegates will consider our "wish list" of legislation that we'd like to see either enacted or repealed in the coming year. Though our list primarily addresses State legislation, we often also include a few local and Federal issues in our annual Package.

Amy Appelbaum, Chairman of the Federation's Legislation Committee, will present her committee's 1997 proposals for discussion, possible amendments, and approval by delegates.

Copies of the proposed 1997 Legislative Package will be available for examination by delegates in the lobby of the Conference Center beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Important Note: The Legislative Package is one of the Federation's key activities each year. Please make every effort to attend this meeting to ensure that your organization's viewpoint is represented in this important document that will be submitted to State, Federal and County legislators.

At ACCF's October Meeting, Delegates...

...after extended debate, supported all four County bond referenda that will be on the November 5 ballot:

- The $29.1 million schools bond was endorsed by a voice vote. Proponents argued that recent reforms and the need for new classrooms in South Arlington and other improvements outweighed concerns about management of the schools' capital improvement program.

- The $12.9 million parks bond was narrowly endorsed by a vote of 29-21. Supporters of the measure overcame complaints about poor maintenance of existing parks and unused funds from prior bond authorizations.

- The Metrorail bond, totaling $9.5 million, was supported by a 28-14 vote; and

- The $21.3 million streets and neighborhood conservation bond received endorsement by a vote of 33-15.

Also at the October meeting, delegates opposed a use permit for a 22-resident home in the Barcroft neighborhood for mothers recovering from substance abuse and their children. Concern was expressed that the proposed "Demeter House" would dramatically affect density and traffic in the single-family residential neighborhood. (Note: The County Board subsequently approved the use permit.)

Amy Appelbaum, Legislation Committee Chairman, provided a brief description of the proposed amendments to the State Constitution that will appear on the Nov. 5 election ballot.
Committee Chairmen Named for '96-'97 Year

President William Nolden, with the approval of the Executive Committee, has appointed the following Federation Committee Chairmen for the coming year. All Committees welcome volunteers. For additional information about a committee or to volunteer, please contact either the Committee Chairman (home phone numbers provided below) or Executive Committee Chairman Frances Finta at 528-2882.

Bylaws -- William Munson (524-8565)
Community Relations -- David M. Foster (276-0206)
Cultural Affairs -- Scott Allard (521-0825)
Environmental Affairs -- Larry Zaragoza (524-0171)
Housing -- (chairmanship currently vacant)
Legislation -- Amy Appelbaum (241-8446)
Membership -- Frances Finta (528-2882)
Parks and Recreation -- Robert Nester (524-5418)
Planning and Zoning -- William Gearhart (522-2276)
Public Services -- Evelyn Staples (524-0789);
Co-Chair Stanley Schachne (522-1358) and others (TBA)
Revenues and Expenditures -- Edward McWethy (920-2240)
Schools -- Roye Lowry (671-7796)
Special Events -- John Nicholas (527-0770)
Transportation -- David Jones (549-3277)

Officers of the Federation

1996-1997
President - William F. Nolden, Jr. (841-1482)
Vice President - Larry Zaragoza (524-0171)
Treasurer - Edward D. McWethy (920-2240)
Secretary - Tommye Morton (522-1506)

Executive Committee -- 1996-1997
Chairman - Frances Finta (528-2882)
Vice Chairman - Timothy Wise (243-8345)
Rebecca Gray (549-3277)
Robert Nester (524-5418)
Rohan Samaraweera (528-6007)

In case of inclement weather on the day of a scheduled Federation meeting, please contact Frances Finta (528-2882) or Tommye Morton (522-1506) after 1:00 p.m. for information concerning cancellation.

Next meeting: December 3, 1996
Program: County School Board & Deputy Chief of Police Dan Boring

* Please Note Our Meetings Begin at 7:30 p.m. *
In the hope of earlier adjournments to accommodate early-rising delegates, the Executive Committee has decided to begin all Federation meetings at 7:30 p.m.