

Wabash County Commissioners

Courthouse — Wabash, IN 46992

UNFUNDED MANDATES RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the number of unfunded federal mandates on counties have significantly increased during the last decade, while many federal programs, which were made available to local governments to ease the burden of carrying out federal mandates, have been terminated or drastically reduced; and

WHEREAS, such mandates stem from federal laws and regulations that require counties to provide services and programs, and perform certain responsibilities without providing federal funding for such services; and

WHEREAS, by shifting costs to counties, unfunded federal mandates breach the underlying principles of federalism which assumes a working partnership and shared responsibilities between the federal, state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, American citizens are unaware of the impact of unfunded mandates on local services and their own local taxes; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Wabash County urges Congress and the Administration to enact legislation that would relieve counties of all obligations to carry out any new mandate arising from federal law, regulation or policy unless federal funds are provided; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress and the Administration are urged to enact legislation to reimburse local governments for the costs of complying with existing federal mandates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress and the Administration are urged to include in any future mandate, a provision that requires federal departments and agencies to provide scientifically sound assessments of purported health, safety or environmental risk prior to the imposition of any new mandate on local governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Wabash County supports a "National Unfunded Mandates Day" to be held October 27, 1993, during which county officials in all counties will be urged to draw public attention to the problems imposed on counties by unfunded federal mandates.

/s/ Dean Eppley
/s/ Darle Dawes
/s/ Brian Haupert

The Board of Wabash County Commissioners

jg

1993-85-A