

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK TO SEEK PUBLIC INPUT PRIOR
TO CHANGING ITS POLICY REGARDING THE SALE OF WATER.

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock is presently considering a revision of its longstanding policy regarding the sale of water from its municipally-owned water system; and

WHEREAS, the Little Rock water system currently serves as the principal source of water for the cities of North Little Rock, Sherwood, Jacksonville and customers of these municipal systems, all of which are located north of the Arkansas River; and

WHEREAS, the free and unrestricted use of a plentiful and reasonably priced supply of water is essential for the continued and orderly growth of all citizens of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, a stated purpose of the resolution before the Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock indicates that, "The intent of this Section is to prohibit further expansion ... of (the) resale of water by ... incorporated areas receiving Little Rock water ..."

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, MEETING IN ITS THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, THAT:

1. Before the City of Little Rock adopts a change in its policy regarding the sale of water both to its in-city, and out-of-city customers, it afford all of its customers ample opportunity to fully understand the implications of the proposed change; and

2. Also, before adopting any change, the City of Little Rock undertake to seek input from interested parties through any and all sources which would include, but not be limited to, public hearings, submitted written testimony, presentation by expert witnesses and otherwise; and

3. That any change in policy be carefully reviewed in order to assure that it is in full and complete accord with the laws of the State of Arkansas.

4. That the Joint Interim Committee on City, County and Local Affairs of the General Assembly conduct a study to determine the reasonableness of the water policy currently being advocated by the Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock.