



The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

Resolution R6-2010

Request for Reinstatement of State-Shared Revenues

A RESOLUTION of the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton for the purpose of petitioning the Administration and the Maryland General Assembly to reinstate State-shared revenues diverted from municipal governments to fund operations of the State and to provide more diverse revenue raising authority to municipalities.

WHEREAS, the State has reduced vital State-shared revenues historically provided to municipal governments, on average, by more than 75%, and by more than 90% for many municipalities for the current Fiscal Year; and

WHEREAS, future budgets approved by the Administration and the Maryland General Assembly continue these significant and untenable cuts to cities and towns; and

WHEREAS, Municipal governments, more than any other government form in Maryland, rely on property tax as their primary general fund revenue source; and

WHEREAS, increases in property tax rates, cutbacks in local service provision, elimination of local road projects, and reductions in workforce are the sole options left to municipalities to offset this devastating loss of general fund revenues, and the extremely narrow taxing authority of municipalities prevents them from raising alternative funds to lost highway user revenues and police aid, which have been diverted to balance the State's general fund; and

WHEREAS, this issue is of significant importance to the Town of Elkton and it is critical that the Administration and Maryland General Assembly take actions needed to rectify this serious problem; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Elkton supports the efforts of the Maryland Municipal League to reinstate lost state funding for municipal governments and to create alternative municipal funding mechanisms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton urge the Administration, for the coming and future fiscal years, to submit a budget document to the General Assembly reinstating full funding for highway user revenues and state aid for police protection to municipal governments, and that the Maryland General Assembly enact and the Governor sign into law enabling legislation to significantly broaden the authority of incorporated municipalities to raise own-source revenues to reduce the reliance of cities and towns on property tax revenue to fund municipal government services.

READ AND PASSED THIS 4TH DAY OF August, 2010

**The Mayor and Commissioners
of the Town of Elkton**

Joseph L. Fisona, Mayor

Charles H. Givens, Sr., Commissioner

Charles E. Hicks, V, Commissioner

Mary Jo Jablonski, Commissioner

Earl M. Piner, Sr., Commissioner