

RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING A FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2007 Rep. Dennis Kucinich, Democrat of Ohio, for himself and on behalf of 51 other members of the United States House of Representatives, introduced House Bill 808 (HR 808) in the United States House of Representatives to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence, which has since garnered the co-sponsorship of more than sixty (68) members of the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will establish a cabinet-level Department of Peace and Nonviolence, which will be headed by a Secretary of Peace who will advise the President on issues that are both domestic and international in scope; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit the City of Charlottesville by supporting existing programs and developing new programs that relate to the societal challenges of domestic violence, school violence, gang violence, guns, racial or ethnic violence, violence against gays and lesbians, and police-community relations and disputes, which will assist members of our Police Department in experiencing fewer dangerous encounters, especially while making routine runs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit the City of Charlottesville by promoting the development and distribution to the states and their schools a peace curriculum and supporting materials for building communicative peace skills, nonviolent conflict resolution skills, and knowledge of peace processes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed federal legislation to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence will benefit the City of Charlottesville by encouraging and supporting the development of nonviolent conflict resolution and violence prevention initiatives from within the community, including its religious groups and nongovernmental organizations, thus creating greater community involvement and thereby a strong, stable, cohesive civil society in and around the city;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Charlottesville supports and endorses the proposed federal legislation (HR 808) to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Charlottesville urges Rep. Virgil Goode to sign on as a co-sponsor of the proposed federal legislation (HR 808) to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence and to use the powers of their office to otherwise actively support its passage among their colleagues in Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Charlottesville urges U. S. Senators Jim Webb and John Warner to introduce a companion bill into the United States Senate to create a United States Department of Peace and Nonviolence and actively supports its passage.