

FAIRFAX COUNTY
F E D E R A T I O N
of Citizens Associations Established 1940

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
4022 Hummer Road Annandale, VA 22003
www.fairfaxfederation.org

January 8, 2011

Re: 2012 Legislative Program

To: Fairfax County Legislative Delegation

Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today.

My name is Tania Hossain and I serve as the President of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, better known as the Federation. For more than 70 years, the Federation has served as the countywide volunteer umbrella organization for the now more than 1800 civic, community, condominium, and homeowner associations throughout Fairfax County. On behalf of the Federation, it is my pleasure to offer for your review and consideration our 2011 Legislative Program, adopted at our October 2010 membership meeting.

As we reviewed last year's program, we were pleased to see that many of the recommendations we made were enacted by the legislature and we could remove them from this year's program. We thank you for your positive actions during times of difficult decision making and hope that this year will be as successful.

Our program this year contains a wide range of legislative issues. The eight priorities of importance to our membership, in alphabetical order, are:

Conservation – Open space land conservation

Education – Funding of state and federal mandates for kindergarten through 12th grade education

Energy – Energy conservation, including renewable energy and purchase of energy saving products

Governance – Reversal of the strict interpretation of the Dillon Rule, and consistency and conformity in regional planning

Infrastructure – Funding of critical education and local transportation infrastructure needs

Land Use – Protection of local land use authority

Tax Structure – Modernization of the state and local tax structure

Taxation Authority – Equal taxing authority for counties, cities, and towns

In addition to these eight items, let me recommend a specific item that is worthy of your heightened attention. In consideration of this year's upcoming redistricting process, this is our recommendation that Virginia's legislature be redistricted by a non-partisan group subject to approval by the legislature, similar to the Iowa model.

As President of the Federation, I ask that you take the time to review our full Legislative Program, and hope our priorities and other legislative issues will receive your consideration during the upcoming General Assembly session. Please contact our Legislative Chair, Frank Anderson at Fedlegislativechr2010@fairfaxfederation.org if you have any questions about our program.

One last item, over the past several years, the members of this delegation were instrumental in recommending to the Federation persons for consideration as Citizen of the Year. We would appreciate your continuing to do so, and will provide you a link in the re-transmission of this packet available on our website at www.fairfaxfederation.org/coy1.htm.

This is the first time that I appear before you as President of the Federation. It is my honor and privilege to address you on these matters. I wish you all the best as you take into consideration these countless and difficult issues for the benefit of Fairfax County residents and Virginians throughout the Commonwealth during the upcoming session.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tania Hossain". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tania Hossain, President

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations