

LEGISLATURES

EDUCATION

Public Schools—Virginia (Norfolk)

The City Council of Norfolk, Virginia, on October 21, 1958, adopted a resolution calling for a referendum on whether city voters wished the governor petitioned to return closed schools to the control of the city, for reopening on an integrated basis. The resolution appears below. [The referendum was held on November 18, 1958, and press reports indicate a vote in a 3-2 ratio against reopening the schools on the basis stated. For a summary of previous events affecting Norfolk schools, see 3 Race Rel. L. Rep. 942-964 (1958)].

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NORFOLK ELECTORAL BOARD TO HOLD AN ADVISORY REFERENDUM OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS AS OF OCTOBER 4, 1958, TO ASCERTAIN THEIR WILL ON A CERTAIN QUESTION CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health and safety that the provisions of this resolution be immediately adopted, an emergency is set forth and declared to exist, pursuant to Section 15 of the Norfolk Charter of 1918; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Norfolk:

Section 1. That the Norfolk Electoral Board be, and the same hereby is, requested to hold, on November 18, 1958, an advisory referendum of the qualified voters as of October 4, 1958, of the City of Norfolk, to ascertain their will on the following question:

SHALL THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK, PURSUANT TO STATE LAW, PETITION THE GOVERNOR TO RETURN TO THE CITY CONTROL OF SCHOOLS, NOW CLOSED, TO BE OPENED BY THE CITY ON AN INTEGRATED BASIS AS REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL COURT?

- FOR PETITIONING THE GOVERNOR.
- AGAINST PETITIONING THE GOVERNOR.

Section 2. The Norfolk Electoral Board be, and the same hereby is, requested to include on the ballot the following information in the following form:

FOR INFORMATION ONLY.
NOT TO BE VOTED ON.

IN THE EVENT THE CLOSED SCHOOLS ARE RETURNED TO THE CITY OF NORFOLK, AND ARE RE-OPENED INTEGRATED BY THE CITY, IT WILL BE NECESSARY, BECAUSE OF THE LOSS OF STATE FUNDS, FOR EVERY FAMILY HAVING A CHILD OR CHILDREN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM WHICH STATE FUNDS ARE WITHHELD, TO PAY TO THE CITY A SUBSTANTIAL TUITION FOR EACH CHILD IN OR ENTERING SUCH PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Section 3. That the City Clerk is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Norfolk Electoral Board.

Section 4. That this resolution, being an emergency resolution, shall be in effect from and after its adoption.

Adopted by the Council October 21, 1958.