

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Linda W. Cropp introduced the following proposed resolution, which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To declare the sense of the Council regarding having Mr. Bunton's students at Bowen Elementary School, and the public at large, assist the Council in selecting a fruit to be designated by an act of the Council as the official fruit of the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Sense of the Council in Support of the District of Columbia having an Official Fruit Resolution of 2005".

Sec. 2. The Council finds:

(1) It having been brought to the Council's attention by Mr. Bunton's students at Bowen Elementary School, in Ward 6, that the District of Columbia does not have an official fruit;

(2) That 26 states have an official fruit, including the state of New York, which named the apple as its official fruit in 1976 and Florida, which named the orange as its official fruit just this past May;

(3) That a fruit may be selected as an official fruit because of its abundance in the jurisdiction, its popularity in the jurisdiction, or for its symbolic meaning; and

(4) That having school children propose an official fruit to the Council through proposed legislation will teach the children about the political process and the importance of public participation in civic life and show all our residents that all people, young and old, can get involved in politics and in their own government.

Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that:

(1) Mr. Bunton's students should research to find the fruit that they think would be the best choice to become the official fruit of the District of Columbia;

(2) The students should study the legislative process to learn how to put their choice before the Council and the public;

(3) The students should draft and submit a proposed bill to have the fruit of their choice named the official fruit of the District of Columbia;

(4) The student's should submit, along with the proposed bill, a report to the Council in support of the proposed legislation;

(4) The Council introduce the proposed bill sponsored by the students and hold a hearing and invite the public to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposed bill, and the proposed official fruit; and

(5) That the Council vote on the proposed bill as submitted by Mr. Bunton's students or as revised or amended to reflect the choice of the general public,

as expressed through the hearing and the poll.

Sec. 4. Transmittal.

The Secretary to the Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to Bowen Public Elementary School and to the Mayor.

Sec. 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.