Reply to Common Council File No. 021338

From DOA-Budget and Management Division

January 13, 2003

Ref: 03013 (2)

Common Council File No. 020952 contains an ordinance relating to the city procurement and servicing of items of apparel from responsible manufacturers.

This ordinance enacts an "Ethical Purchasing Ordinance". This ordinance requires that the City shall restrict the procurement of apparel to those manufacturers that are able to demonstrate compliance with all applicable laws relative to wages and benefits, workplace health and safety, forced and child labor, and freedom of association.

As currently written, it is anticipated that there will be significant employee time needed for implementing the provisions of this ordinance. Determining an actual fiscal impact for these added administrative costs is impossible, however, it is certain that there will be additional costs due to this additional administrative responsibility. These additional costs will eventually be passed to the City's residents thereby placing an additional burden not just on the City's employees but also on the City's citizens.

RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT APPROVE COMMON COUNCIL FILE 021328.

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FINANCE: 021338sr.doc