

A Resolution on South Africa by the City Council of East Lansing, Michigan
Passed 5-0 on August 3, 1977

Based upon the public inquiry conducted by the East Lansing City Council on March 30, 1977, and other information which has been made available to the Council, the Council resolves as follows:

1. The minority white government of South Africa should not be assisted to maintain its system of apartheid, of economic repression, and of force, terror and violence against the majority non-white people of Southern Africa. The Republic of South Africa should not be assisted to occupy the territory of Namibia or to continue as the primary supplier of war material to the illegal regime of Rhodesia.
2. The people of the United States know, because of their historical experience with systems of segregation, the disastrous and long-lasting effects of segregation upon the nation and its citizens, they therefore bear a special responsibility not to support such systems.
3. American investments, licenses or operations in South Africa have helped the minority white government to grow and to perpetuate apartheid. A number of American corporations investing in South Africa have voluntarily taken advantage of the racial system of job discrimination and low wages. Likewise, some American corporations have increased their business activities, while repression has increased and in spite of pleas from the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, and many world leaders.
4. To implement this policy, the City of East Lansing to the extent authorized by applicable law, shall seek competitive suppliers of goods and services who do not have investments, licenses, or operations in the Republic of South Africa. The City shall attach to all invoices and bids the following statement signed by the Mayor:

"The City Council of the City of East Lansing is gravely concerned about the system of segregation and official repression against the non-white majority in the Republic of South Africa. Our concern forces us to seek when and where possible and in accordance with applicable law, competitive suppliers of goods and services who do not have investments, licenses, or operations in the Republic of South Africa."

5. This resolution shall expire automatically upon action by the Council.