## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 343**

Expressing the sense of the General Assembly in support of the use of state and local vacant land for gardening by families and senior citizens.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 1995 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 1995

WHEREAS, various state agencies, departments and political subdivisions hold title to land that is currently vacant and unused; and

WHEREAS, such land may be put to temporary and productive use to assist Virginia's families and senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, many families and senior citizens would like to supplement their diets with healthful, nutritious and fresh garden produce; and

WHEREAS, gardening can provide enjoyment, relaxation and stress-reduction benefits at a low cost while aerating and enriching the soil; and

WHEREAS, the act of tending a garden on vacant land may discourage littering, vandalism and other destructive misuses of public property; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That state agencies, departments and political subdivisions be encouraged to make vacant lands available to families and senior citizens for the purpose of gardening until such time as the property is put to a more permanent use; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to Virginia agencies, the Virginia Association of Counties, and the Virginia Municipal League to apprise them of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.