

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, February 1 - 7, 2004, is "National Consumer Protection Week;" and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's National Consumer Protection Week is "Financial Literacy;" and

WHEREAS, every day, consumers conduct some type of financial transaction requiring an educated decision from shopping for a mortgage or auto loan, to understanding and reconciling credit card statements and telephone bills, to choosing a retirement plan, to comparing health insurance policies, to understanding their credit report and how it affects the ability to get credit at reasonable rates, to simply deciding how to pay for a purchase; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria is a city that is proud of its diversity, and the Consumer Affairs Commission has committed to undertake outreach initiatives for all Alexandrians, focusing on providing information, in a variety of languages, to the populations that are most vulnerable to being placed at a disadvantage in consumer transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Consumer Affairs Commission, in light of the theme of this year's National Consumer Protection Week and the troubling current economic trend in which personal debt is increasing while personal savings are decreasing, seeks to further the protection and education of consumers and to encourage every member of our community to achieve financial literacy, in whatever language they speak, in order to ensure that no Alexandrian is at a disadvantage in conducting everyday commercial and financial transactions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council do hereby proclaim the week of February 1 - 7, 2004, as:

"NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK"

in the City of Alexandria.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 27th day of January 2004.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE **MAYOR**
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk