



Township of Northampton

Northampton Township Municipal Complex • 55 Township Road, Richboro, PA 18954-1592

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January 4, 2022

Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission

Dear Commission Members,

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors of Northampton Township, Bucks County, PA, please accept the attached Resolution unanimously adopted by the Board on January 4, 2022 opposing the proposed redistricting that would divide our Township into two legislative Districts. Northampton Township has been represented by the 178th Legislative District for the past 40 years, and we believe the proposed redistricting would be detrimental to our community for the reasons outlined in the Resolution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Pellegrino
Township Manager

C: Northampton Township Board of Supervisors
State Representative Wendi Thomas, 178th Legislative District
State Senator Robert "Tommy" Tomlinson, 6th Senatorial District

RESOLUTION R-2022-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTHAMPTON, COUNTY OF BUCKS, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OBJECTING TO AND OPPOSING THE PRELIMINARY REAPPORTIONMENT PLAN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PREPARED AND SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH BY THE 2021 PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Township of Northampton is a duly organized Township of the Second Class of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania located within the County of Bucks; and

WHEREAS, the 178th Legislative District is currently comprised of the entirety of the Township of Northampton, together with the entirety of Borough of New Hope, the entirety of the Township of Solebury, the entirety of the Township of Upper Makefield, and the entirety of the Township of Wrightstown; and

WHEREAS, since the relocation of the 178th Legislative District from Philadelphia to Bucks County, in 1982, the Township of Northampton has always and continuously, for a period of almost 40 years, been located, in its entirety, within the boundaries of the 178th Legislative District; and

WHEREAS, during the almost 40 years that the entirety of Northampton Township has been located within the boundaries of the 178th Legislative District, our 26 square mile Township has undergone a growth in its population, to now over 40,000 residents, and as a result, a greater demand for municipal services within the Township; and

WHEREAS, in response to this demand for greater municipal services for its growing community, the Township has constructed a new Senior Citizen Center and a new Public Free Library, acquired and preserved an existing municipal golf course, constructed a new Township Police Station to accommodate its growing Police Force, increased the size of its Township Police Force to 44 Sworn Officers, constructed a new Rescue Squad Building, transitioned the scope of service of our existing regional ambulance and EMS service so as to increase and improve response times within our municipal borders and expand the scope of medical services provided to the residents of our Township, added full-time paid firefighters to compliment and assist our Volunteer Fire Company, and in response to the growing need for full-time fire service within our borders, is about to undertake the construction of two new fire stations within our Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Northampton is located entirely within the Council Rock School District, and is the largest municipality within the Council Rock School District, both in geographic size and in population, and no fewer than 8 schools of the Council Rock School District, including Council Rock South High School, are located within the municipal border of Northampton Township; and

WHEREAS, as a result of all of the aforementioned, there exists a great commonality of interests among and between the various neighborhoods and the more than 40,000 residents who live, work, worship and study within the 26 square miles that comprise the Township of Northampton; and

WHEREAS, as set forth above, during the entirety of the time that the Township of Northampton has been located entirely within the boundaries of the 178th Legislative District, the Township has enjoyed, and benefited from, representation within the Pennsylvania House of Representatives by a single State Representative in regard to all matters of state and local government; and

WHEREAS, this singular and unified representation of our Township and its residents by a single State Representative, and within a single Legislative District, has greatly enhanced and improved the ability of the Township Supervisors to respond to the aforementioned demand for greater municipal services within our community as described hereinabove; and

WHEREAS, this singular and unified representation of our Township and its residents by a single State Representative, and within a single Legislative District, has also directly and positively affected the constituent services provided to the residents and businesses of our Township; and

WHEREAS, on or about December 16, 2021, the 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission approved a Preliminary Reapportionment Plan for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Pennsylvania Senate, in accordance with Pennsylvania Constitution, Article II, Section 17(c), and at that time also filed that the Preliminary Reapportionment Plan with the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission proposes in its Preliminary Reapportionment Plan to locate the Township of Northampton, for the first time in recent history, within two different Legislative Districts, thereby destroying the commonality of representation that the residents of the Township have enjoyed in the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for more than half a century; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission proposes in its Preliminary Reapportionment Plan to locate Districts 9, 10, and 14 of the Township of Northampton within the boundaries of the 142nd Legislative District, while leaving the remainder of the Township of Northampton within the 178th Legislative District; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission proposes in its Preliminary Reapportionment Plan to change the boundaries of the 142nd Legislative District to not only include, for the first time ever, Districts 9, 10, and 14 of the Township of Northampton, but also to include the entirety of the Township of Lower

Southampton, parts of the Township of Middletown, and the entireties of the Boroughs of Langhorne, Langhorne Manor, and Penndel, all of which, at various times during the past 40 years, have been parts of the 142nd Legislative District, and all of which are parts of the regions that make up the Neshaminy School District; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Preliminary Reapportionment Plan proposed by 2021 Legislative Reapportionment Commission, the shared interests, issues and concerns of the residents of Northampton Township, and the students, families and taxpayers of the Council Rock School District, who reside in Districts 9, 10, and 14 of the Township of Northampton, will not enjoy, and in fact, will, for the first time in more than half a century, be deprived of commonality and uniformity in their representation within the Pennsylvania House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Northampton that the interests, issues and concerns of the residents of Northampton Township will be best and most efficiently served by an amendment to the Preliminary Reapportionment Plan proposed by 2021 Legislative Reapportionment Commission that eliminates the displacement of any residents of the Township of Northampton from the common boundaries of the 178th Legislative District, and instead keeps all of the Eighteen (18) voting districts that make up the Township of Northampton together, and in common, within the boundaries of the 178th Legislative District, thereby keeping the Township of Northampton entirely within a single Legislative District, as has been its history for more than half a century,

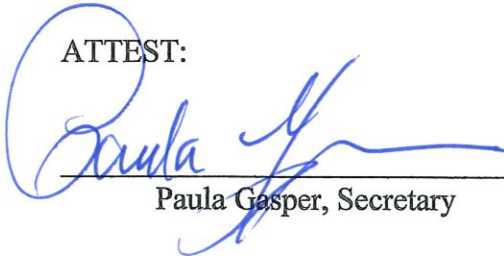
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Northampton does hereby express its respectful but emphatic opposition to the Preliminary Reapportionment Plan proposed by 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission, particularly as it pertains to the Township of Northampton and to the 142nd and 178th Legislative Districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Northampton respectfully requests that 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, all consider an amendment to the Preliminary Reapportionment Plan proposed by 2021 Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission that is far more consistent with the interests, issues and concerns of the residents of the Township of Northampton, namely an amendment that eliminates the displacement of any residents of the Township of Northampton from the common boundaries of the 178th Legislative District, and instead keeps all of the Eighteen (18) voting districts that make up the Township of Northampton together, and in common, within the boundaries of the 178th Legislative District, thereby keeping the Township of Northampton entirely within a single Legislative District, as has been its history for more than half a century; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Manager and Administration of the Township of Northampton is hereby authorized and directed to take any and all further action as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

RESOLVED this 3rd day of January, 2022.

ATTEST:



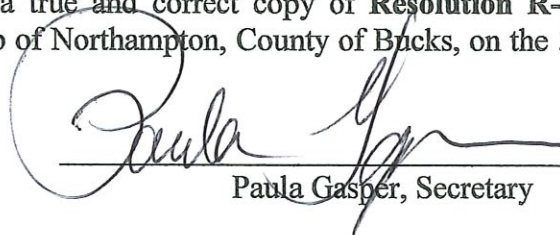
Paula Gasper, Secretary

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TOWNSHIP OF NORTHAMPTON**



Adam M. Selisker, Chairperson

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of **Resolution R-2022-4** enacted by the Board of Supervisors, Township of Northampton, County of Bucks, on the 3rd day of January, 2022 .



Paula Gasper, Secretary