

 
By: Mrs. Arrington, Seconded by Liz Allen,

Journal 131-530-C

Fair Districts PA Resolution 2018
In Support of a Citizens' Commission for Legislative Redistricting and
Congressional Reapportionment

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Erie and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process for the decennial drawing of state legislative and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative redistricting and congressional reapportionment has often resulted in gerrymandering of districts to favor one political party or the other; and

- **WHEREAS**, the creation of a truly independent citizens' redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partisanship as favored by Fair Districts PA will help to ensure a fair and accurate legislative redistricting and congressional reapportionment process that respects political subdivisions and communities of interest, will prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or candidate, will promote transparency, the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries, and allow for public input, and will fully comply with the constitutional requirement that "no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary"; and

WHEREAS, recent legislation, House Bill 722 and Senate Bill 22 have been introduced in the current legislative session to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial redistricting process with the intent of using fairness and sound methodology in a non-partisan fashion.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Erie, Pennsylvania does hereby support legislative efforts to secure expeditious action of a constitutional amendment that would among other reforms, assign the decennial task of both legislative redistricting and congressional reapportionment to an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to all the members of the Erie City Council delegation in the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives.

Absent
Sonya Arrington, City Council President

Liz Allen
Liz Allen, City Councilwoman

Robert E. Merski
Robert E. Merski, City Councilman

Casimir J. Kwitowski
Casimir J. Kwitowski, City Councilman

James F. Winarski
James F. Winarski, City Councilman

Kathleen Schaaf
Kathleen Schaaf, City Councilwoman

Melvin Witherspoon
Melvin Witherspoon, City Councilman

FEB 2 1 2018

Rebecca Boyer
CITY CLERK

CITY COUNCIL
RECEIVE & FILE

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CITY COUNCIL - CITY OF ERIE, PA.

NO. 2

2018	Ayes	Nays
Allen	/	
Kwitowski	/	
Merski	/	
Schaaf	/	
Winarski	/	
Witherspoon	/	
Arrington	<i>Absent</i>	

FEB 21 2018