

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 12

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP, BERKS COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Township of Lower Heidelberg and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the decennial drawing of state legislature and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting has at times resulted in gerrymandered districts that favor one political party over others; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a truly independent citizens redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partisanship will ensure a fair, transparent, and accurate legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions; prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or candidate; require the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries; require public input; and fully comply with the constitutional requirement that "no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary"; and

WHEREAS, legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial legislative and congressional redistricting process with the intent of using fairness and sound methodology in a non-partisan fashion is required to ensure these reforms.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Lower Heidelberg, Berks County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all those elected officials and party leaders in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Township of Lower Heidelberg to publicly announce their support of and commitment to work towards passage of such legislative efforts, and that a copy of this resolution be delivered to each of them.

Governor Tom Wolf
Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman
Attorney General Josh Shapiro
United States Senator Bob Casey
United States Senator Pat Toomey
United States Representative Chrissy Houlahan
Pennsylvania Senator Judy Schwank
Kevin Barnhardt County Commissioner
Christian Leinbach County Commissioner
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kathy Bockvar

DULY ADOPTED this 6th Day of January 2020 by the Board of Supervisors of
the Township of Lower Heidelberg, Berks County, Pennsylvania in lawful session duly assembled.

**LOWER HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**



Michael Keltz
Michael Keltz, Chairman

Deborah P. Scull
Deborah P. Scull, Vice Chairwoman

Cheryl Johnson
Cheryl Johnson, Member

ATTEST:

Pamela J. Stevens
Secretary