

RESOLUTION

2020- 11

In Support of a Citizens Commission for Legislative and Congressional Redistricting

WHEREAS, the citizens of Plymouth Township 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 that Plymouth Township 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 official and party leaders in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of Plymouth Township 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.

ADOPTED, this 9th day of March, 2020.

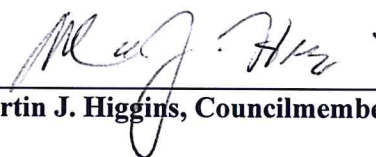
PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

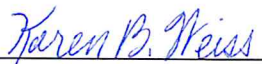
By: 
Christopher G. Manero, Chair


Karen R. Bramblett, Vice Chair


Katherine Bandish, Councilmember


David J. Gannon, Councilmember


Martin J. Higgins, Councilmember

Attest: 
Karen B. Weiss, Manager/Secretary