BOROUGH OF PROSPECT PARK DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION No. 1879

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Prospect Park 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, Pennsylvania's judicially drawn congressional district map is evidence that the judiciary may also be susceptible to political gerrymandering; 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, such as introduced by Pennsylvania Senator Thomas Killion, is required to ensure these reforms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prospect Park Borough Council 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 Prospect Park 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 10th day of March, 2020.

BY:

Patrick O'Connell

Borough Council President

SEAL

Deborah Hurst

Borough Secretary