

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4

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

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Doylestown and 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, 57% of Pennsylvania state legislators faced no opposition in the 2016 general election compared to a national average of 38% primarily due to safe districts resulting from gerrymandering; 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 subdivision; 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; required 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 the governing body of the Borough of Doylestown, Bucks County, 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 commissions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all those elected officials in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Borough of Doylestown 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.

RESOLVED this 15th day of May 2017.

ATTEST:



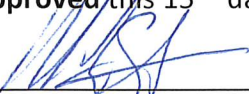
John H. Davis, Secretary

BOROUGH OF DOYLESTOWN



Det Ansinn, President

Approved this 15th day of May 2017.



Ron Strouse, Mayor