

RESOLUTION NO. - 8-2017

BOROUGH OF WEST CHESTER

CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**A RESOLUTION OF BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
WEST CHESTER SUPPORTING THE CREATION AN INDEPENDENT
CITIZEN REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of West Chester 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 Borough Council as follows:
that the West Chester 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 citizen redistricting commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Borough Council calls upon all those elected officials in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Borough of West Chester (see list) 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 AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF June, 2017.

ATTEST:



Michael A. Cotter, Secretary

**BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE
BOROUGH OF WEST CHESTER**



Diane LeBold, President