

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-17**

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

**WHEREAS**, Bristol Township is a municipality located in the County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organized and existing pursuant to the First-Class Township Code and the applicable provisions of the Pennsylvania Options Plans Law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bristol Township Council is the governing body of the Township of Bristol and is authorized to adopt resolutions regulating the affairs of the Township pursuant to Section 56502 of the First-Class Township Code, Act of May 27, 1949, P.L. 1955, as amended, 53 P.S. § 56502; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Bristol Township, Bucks County 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 help to 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.

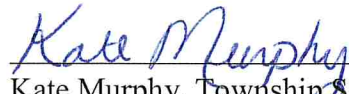
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bristol Township Council does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizen redistricting commission; and

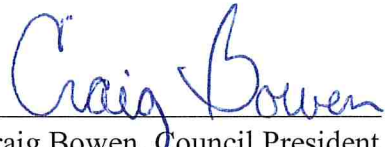
**DULY RESOLVED** this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2018.

COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRISTOL  
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ATTEST:

BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kate Murphy, Township Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Bowen, Council President

**Certification**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Bristol Township Council at its meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kate Murphy, Secretary