

COUNTY OF BUCKS

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

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution requires that the County of Bucks provides a full and accurate count of its people in the decennial census; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the County of Bucks and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the subsequent drawing of state legislature and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, redistricting has at times resulted in gerrymandered districts that promote unwanted outcomes such as: increased polarization; encouraging partisanship over responsible governance; unfair advantages to political parties, incumbents, and special interests, and; reduced trust in and legitimacy of government; 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 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 congressional and state legislative 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 County of Bucks does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both congressional and state legislative redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all elected officials in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the people of Bucks County 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 as a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners this 1st day of April 2020.

COUNTY OF BUCKS, PENNSYLVANIA

ATTEST:  4/1/2020
Gail Humphrey
Chief Clerk

BY: 
Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, LCSW
Commissioner, Chair

BY: 
Robert J. Harvie, Jr.
Commissioner, Vice Chair

BY: 
Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner