RESOLUTION NO. 2019-07

AN RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF LANGHORNE, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Langhorne 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 other parties; 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 that the Langhorne Borough Council does 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 Langhorne Borough 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. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be delivered to each of the following individuals:

Governor Thomas W. Wolf
Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman
Attorney General Josh Shapiro
United States Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator Patrick J. Toomey
United States Representative Brian Fitzpatrick
Pennsylvania Senator Robert M. Tomlinson
Pennsylvania Representative Frank A. Farry
County Commissioner Robert G. Loughery
County Commissioner Charles H. Martin
County Commissioner Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kathy Boockvar

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this 10th day of April, 2019.

LANGHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Kari C. Thomas,

President

Christine Schoell.

Secretary

Examined and approved this 10th day of April, 2019.

Joseph P Taylor,

Mayor