

Resolution No. 7 of 2017

A RESOLUTION OF THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING AN
INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL
REAPPORTIONMENT AND REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of Perry County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process for the decennial task of drawing state legislative and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting has often resulted in the gerrymandering of districts to favor one political party, or one political candidate, over another; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our democracy by discouraging competition in elections and by impeding action on critical issues of importance to the people; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a truly independent citizens redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partisanship will help to ensure a fair and accurate redistricting process that respects communities of interest, will prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against any one political party or candidate, will promote transparency and the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries, will allow for public input and comply with the constitution requirement that "no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced, namely Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722, to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial redistricting process via the establishment of an independent citizens redistricting commission; and

WHEREAS, such reform of the redistricting process must be acted upon by the General Assembly in a timely fashion to facilitate implementation in conjunction with the next redistricting process in 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, the Perry County Board of Commissioners hereby affirms its support for timely action by the state General Assembly on legislative efforts, namely Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722, to secure affirmative action on a constitutional amendment that would assign the decennial task of legislative and congressional reapportionment and redistricting to an independent citizens redistricting commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a copy of this executed resolution shall be transmitted to our members of the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives and to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP).

DULY RESOLVED AND ENACTED by the Perry County Board of Commissioners in public meeting assembled on June 19, 2017.

ATTEST:
COMMISSIONERS:



Kathy Burkholder, Chief Clerk

PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF



Brenda Benner, Chairwoman

Paul Rudy, Vice Chairman



Stephen C. Naylor, Secretary

