

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-11

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMPROVED
LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING**

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Township of Lower Merion and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the decennial drawing of state legislative and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, at times state legislative and congressional redistricting has resulted in gerrymandered districts which favor a political party; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of state legislative and/or congressional districts may negatively impact our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, a process devoid of political motivation or partisanship will help achieve the following goals (the "Goals"):


- Ensure a fair, accurate and transparent state legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions and communities of interest;
- Prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or any candidate;
- Ensure the use of impartial and sound methodology and public input when setting district boundaries; and
- Fully comply with the constitutional requirement that "no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Board of Commissioners of the Township of Lower Merion does hereby support legislative efforts to secure expeditious action to either amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of state legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens redistricting commission or institute legislation designed to achieve the aforementioned Goals.

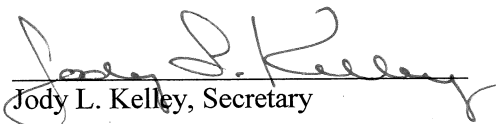
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be delivered to the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives.

RESOLVED, this 5th day of April, 2017.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

By: 
Daniel S. Bernheim, President

ATTEST:


Jody L. Kelley, Secretary