## **BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

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## **RESOLUTION 802-2018**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA IN SUPPORT OF THE CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of St. Lawrence 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: 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**, by the Council of the Borough of St. Lawrence that the Borough hereby supports 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

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call upon all those elected officials and party leaders in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Borough of St. Lawrence (see list below) to publically 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.

Governor Thomas Wolf
Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack
Attorney General Josh Shapiro
Acting Secretary of Commonwealth Robert Torres
United States Senator Bob Casey
United States Senator Pat Toomey
United States Representative Ryan Costello
Pennsylvania Senator Judith L. Schwank
Pennsylvania Representative Mark Rozzi
County Commissioner Christian Y. Leinbach
County Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt
County Commissioner Mark C. Scott, Esq.
Mayor Gregory Zawilla
Chairman, Democratic Party of Pennsylvania, Jack Hanna
Chairman, Republican Party of Pennsylvania, Val DiGiorgio

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all Resolutions or parts of Resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby superseded

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Borough Council of the Borough of St. Lawrence has adopted this Resolution in lawful session this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018.

BOROUGH COUNCIL, BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ROBERT J. MAY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SUSAN D. EGGERT, BOROUGH SECRETARY

GREGORY ZAWILLA, MAYOR