

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-8

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST READING, BERKS COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of West Reading 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.

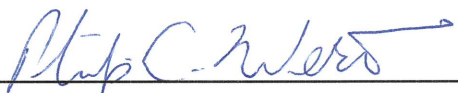
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of West Reading, Berks County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens’ 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 the Borough of West Reading 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.

Governor Tom Wolf  
Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman  
Attorney General Josh Shapiro  
United States Senator Bob Casey  
United States Senator Pat Toomey  
United States Representative Chrissy Houlahan  
Pennsylvania Senator Judy Schwank  
Kevin Barnhardt County Commissioner  
Christian Leinbach County Commissioner  
Mark Scott County Commissioner  
Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kathy Bockvar

DULY ADOPTED this 20th day of August, 2019 by the Borough Council of  
the Borough of West Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania in lawful session duly assembled.

BOROUGH OF WEST READING

By:   
Philip Wert, Borough Council President

Attest:   
Cynthia Madeira, Borough Secretary