

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-14**

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZEN’S COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of Whitemarsh Township 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 often resulted in the gerrymandering of districts to favor one political party or the other; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our representative democracy 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 legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions, will prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or candidate, will promote transparency, the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries, and allow for public input, and will fully comply with the constitutional requirement that “no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward” be divided “unless absolutely necessary,” and

WHEREAS, recent legislation has been introduced in the current legislative session 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors does hereby support legislative efforts to secure expeditious action to make a constitutional amendment that would, among other reforms, 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 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of Whitemarsh Township 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 Mike Stack

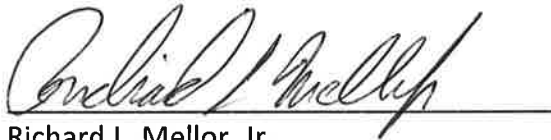
Attorney General Josh Shapiro

United States Senator Robert Casey
United States Senator Patrick Toomey
United States Representative Patrick Meehan
United States Representative Brendan Boyle
Pennsylvania Senator Vincent Hughes
Pennsylvania Representative Mary Jo Daley
County Commissioner Valerie Arkoosh
County Commissioner Joseph Gale
County Commissioner Kenneth Lawrence

RESOLVED, this 27th day of April, 2017.

ATTEST:

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Richard L. Mellor, Jr.
Secretary



Amy Grossman
Chair