

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR
LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESIONAL REDISTRICTING**

RESOLUTION 2017-18

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Township of Williams in the County Northampton and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process for 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 subdivision; 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, that the Board of Supervisors of Williams Township, Northampton 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 those elected officials and party leaders of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the County of Northampton to publically announce their support and commitment to work towards passage of

such legislative efforts, and that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to each of those elected officials of the Commonwealth as deemed appropriate by the Board of Supervisors.

RESOLVED, ADOPTED, and APPROVED, this 13th day of September, 2017 at a regular business meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Williams Township.

**WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

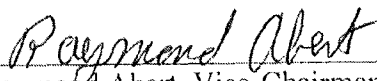
ATTEST:




Melody Ernst, Township Secretary



Mark Ernst, Chairman



Raymond Abert, Vice-Chairman



George Washburn, Member