

**BOROUGH OF AMBLER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION 2017-03

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

WHEREAS, the citizens of Borough of Ambler and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and de-politicized process of the decennial drawing of state legislature and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting often has 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 tow, 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 Ambler Borough Council 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 the Borough of Ambler 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 Bob Casey

United States Senator Pat Toomey

United States Rep. Brendon Boyle (13th Cong. District)

Pennsylvania Senator Stuart Greenleaf (12th District)

Pennsylvania Rep. Mary Jo Daley (148th District)

Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, Chair, Montgomery County Commissioner

Joseph C. Gale, Montgomery County Commissioner

Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr., Vice Chair, Montgomery County Commissioner

Mayor Jeanne Sorg, Borough of Ambler

SO RESOLVED this 21st day of March, 2017.



Salvatore Pasceri, Council President



Mary Aversa, Secretary