

Resolution 16-2017

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

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Manheim 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

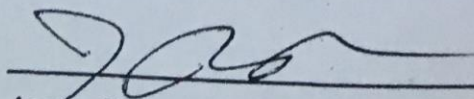
WHEREAS, recent legislation has been introduced in the current legislative session to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial legislative and congressional redistricting process with the intent of using fairness and sound methodology in a non-partisan fashion.

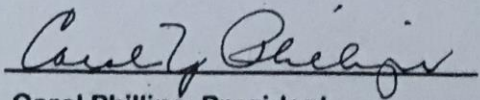
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Manheim Borough Council does hereby support legislative efforts to secure expeditious action to make a constitutional amendment that would among other reforms, assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens redistricting commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon those elected officials in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Borough of Manheim (see list) to publicly announce their support of and commitment to work towards a 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 Representative Lloyd Smucker
Pennsylvania State Senator Ryan Aument
Pennsylvania Representative to the General Assembly Mindy Fee
Lancaster County Commissioners: Craig E. Lehman, Dennis P. Stuckey, Joshua G. Parsons
Manheim Borough Mayor Scott Funk

Adopted by Manheim Borough Council in lawful session duly assembled this 25th day of July, 2017.


James Fisher, PE, CBO, Secretary


Carol Phillips, President