POTTSTOWN BOROUGH MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION 2018- /O

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

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Borough of Pottstown 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 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 Borough of Pottstown 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 Pottstown to publicly announce their support of and commitment to work toward the 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 Ryan Costello

Pennsylvania Senator Bob Mensch

Pennsylvania Representative Thomas Quigley

Pennsylvania Representative Tim Hennessey

Montgomery County Commissioner Val Arkoosh, Chair

Montgomery County Commissioner Kenneth Lawrence Jr., Vice Chair

Montgomery County Commissioner Joseph Gale, Commissioner

Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth, Robert Torres

ENACTED AND RESOLVED this 12th day of March, A.D., 2018.

THE BURGESS AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN

DV.

Dan Weand, President

ATTEST:

Virginia L. Takach, Secretary

Approved this 12th day of March

Stephanie A. Henrick, Mayor