

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

Morris County, New Jersey

No. R-31-13

Date of Adoption: February 18, 2013

Title or Subject: **RESOLUTION OPPOSING A-1196 AND URGING ITS SUPPORTERS TO DEVELOP LESS EXPENSIVE WAYS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION TO FIRST RESPONDERS**

WHEREAS, Public safety employees and volunteers should be adequately compensated for on-duty accidents and illnesses; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's current Workers' Compensation law is already one of the broadest in the country; and

WHEREAS, A-1196 as currently written will make it almost impossible to contest claims from injuries and illnesses caused off-the-job; and

WHEREAS, This bill places the burden of proof on governmental employers to establish that an injury or illness, such as cancer, heart attack or hypertension did not occur on the job; and

WHEREAS, The actuary for the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) has estimated that A-1196 could easily double municipal Workers' Compensation expenses of \$400 million per year; and

WHEREAS, The MEL has offered to sit down with the supporters of this legislation to develop less expensive ways of improving the compensation to first responders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that the legislature be urged to reject A-1196 and urges that supporters of this legislation be encouraged to work with the MEL and representatives of other units of government to develop less expensive ways to improve compensation to first responders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk shall send copies of this resolution to the Senate President, Assembly Speaker, members of the legislative delegation representing the municipality, and the Governor.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

Deborah A. Burd, Acting Township Clerk

Kenneth W. Short, Mayor

I, Deborah Burd, Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Township Committee, held on February 18, 2013.

Deborah A. Burd, Acting Township Clerk

Date