

# RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

*Morris County, New Jersey*

No. R-47-13

Date of Adoption: March 18, 2013

**Title or Subject: RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 2364 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A3553 TO CREATE A SYSTEM OF EARLY VOTING**

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill S-2364 and Assembly Bill A3553 propose to create a system of early voting in the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of accommodating voters in pursuit of greater participation in the democratic process is a worthy goal; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills would in reality increase workloads, add more costs to the election process, and ultimately serve to confuse voters more than it would accommodate their needs; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills would require for each primary and general election a public facility, except a public school, located in each municipality in an area of a high concentration of population to be open and available to registered voters starting 15 days before an election for early polling, possibly conflicting with if not pushing out other important uses for these buildings, causing inconvenience to residents; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills require retraining of poll workers and dramatically increased hours, as well as chain of custody requirements to protect the voting process, despite the fact that recruiting and training poll workers is already a difficult process; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills would increase costs to municipalities, including overtime pay for workers; and

**WHEREAS**, although these bills allow municipalities to request reimbursement for extra costs and provide an appropriation, the appropriation does not outline a specific amount nor dedicated funding, only that which the State Treasurer and the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting deem necessary, and they do not outline the procedure for a municipality whose reimbursement request is denied; and

**WHEREAS**, the opportunity for "Early Voting" already exists in the State of New Jersey through the Vote by Mail ballot process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Washington does hereby oppose S2364; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Committee of the Township of Washington does hereby call upon its representatives in the State Legislature to oppose the adoption of this bill; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Office of the Governor, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Senators Gill and Whelan, sponsors of S2364, Speaker Oliver, Assemblymen Wisniewski, Diegnan, Benson, Conaway, and Coughlin, sponsors of A3553, our State Senator and Assembly representatives, the County Board of Elections, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

**ATTEST:**

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah A. Burd, Acting Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth W. Short, Mayor

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah A. Burd, Acting Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date