

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP, MONROE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

Resolution 05-2018-4

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

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Township of Middle Smithfield, the County of Monroe 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 at times resulted in gerrymandered districts that favor one political party over others; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a truly independent citizens redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partisanship will: ensure a fair, transparent, and accurate legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions; prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or candidate; require the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries; require public input; and fully comply with the constitutional requirement that "no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary," and

WHEREAS, legislation 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 nonpartisan fashion is required to ensure these reforms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Middle Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors do hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission

Adopted this 24th day of May 2018 by the Middle Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors.

(SEAL)

Michele L. Clewell

Michele L. Clewell, Secretary

Annette Atkinson

Annette Atkinson, Chairman

Mike Dwyer

Mike Dwyer, Vice-Chairman

Mark Oney

Mark Oney, Supervisor