

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 – 73

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE EGG HARBOR, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO PERMANENTLY EXTEND THE 2% CAP ON INTEREST ARBITRATION AWARDS

WHEREAS, pursuant to the sunset provision contained in P.L. 2014, c.11 the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards expired on December 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, this law empowered county and local governments throughout the State to effectively control public safety employment salaries and personnel costs by capping interest arbitration awards at 2% for base salaries, which included step increments and longevity pay; and

WHEREAS, local and county governments dedicate a substantial portion of their overall annual operating expenses for employee salaries, wages, health benefits and other personnel costs; and

WHEREAS, local and county governments face a restrictive 2% property tax cap levy where counties must prepare two comprehensive cap calculations and use the more restrictive one; and

WHEREAS, without the 2% arbitration cap, the fate of local and county government will be left in the hands of unelected arbitrators with no effective recourse to appeal adverse decisions; and

WHEREAS, any arbitration award in excess of 2%, when coupled with the 2% property tax cap, will unavoidably and negatively impact the level of services municipalities and counties will be able to provide to residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey hereby urges Governor Phil Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature to immediately reinstate, and not delay action for political purposes, legislation that will permanently extend the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Phil Murphy, State Senate President Steve Sweeney, Speaker of the General Assembly Vincent Prieto, Members of the 9th Legislative District, the Mayors of the 33 Ocean County Municipalities and the New Jersey Association of Counties.

Motion to Approve: *Crea* Second: *Schleck* Roll Call:

Crea	<i>yes</i>
Gormley	<i>yes</i>
Kehm	<i>Absent</i>
Schlick	<i>yes</i>
Stevens	<i>Absent</i>

CERTIFICATION

I, **DIANA K. MCCRACKEN, RMC** Township Clerk of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee at a meeting held on the 8th day of **February, 2018**.

Diana K. McCracken, RMC
Diana K. McCracken, RMC, Township Clerk
Township of Little Egg Harbor