

Resolution 2010-69
A Resolution Opposing the Introduction of
Assembly Bill No. A2555 Changing the Statutory
Requirement for Funding Municipal Libraries
In New Jersey

WHEREAS Assemblyman John DiMaio, District 23 has introduced to the 214th Legislature, Assembly Bill No. 2555, a bill which would permit fee municipal library funding be based on factual requirements instead of fixed statutory tax rate; and

WHEREAS the current funding formula for municipal libraries has endured for over 100 years providing a stable source of tax support for municipal library services;

WHEREAS municipal public libraries have been established at the direction of its citizens through a binding referendum which specified the minimum funding level at 1/3 of a mil; and

WHEREAS in many communities that funding represents less than 3% of local property taxes

WHEREAS Assembly Bill No. 2555 would eliminate a statutory requirement for municipalities to provide a minimum funding level of 1/3 mil of equalized assessed valuation; and

WHEREAS public libraries are vital community centers providing essential services to the residents of their municipalities, even more so during these difficult economic times; and


WHEREAS Assembly Bill A2555 would critically weaken the foundation of library services in New Jersey at a time when passage of proposed budget cuts at state and local levels would eviscerate many libraries; and

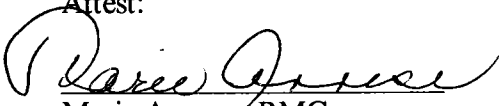
WHEREAS unemployed and under-employed residents and small businesses require access to key information resources available in New Jersey's free public libraries, such as access to computers for educational or business needs, or to find jobs and other opportunities; and increases the use of the other services of the public library, such as borrowing books and other media or attending programs for children and the entire family;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Willingboro assembled in public session this 11th day of May, 2010, that Willingboro Township Council protests to the State Senator and the Assemblypersons representing the 7th district, the introduction of Assembly Bill No. A2555.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Willingboro Township Council supports funding for municipal libraries as a dedicated tax; and.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to Senator Diane Allen and Assemblymen Conaway and Conners for their information and attention..


Eddie Campbell, Jr.
Mayor

Attest:

Marie Annese, RMC
Township Clerk

Recorded Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Councilman Ayer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Councilman Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Deputy Mayor Jennings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Mayor Campbell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			