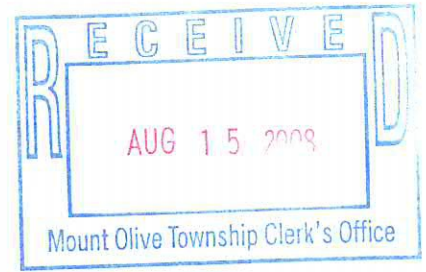


cc: Admin

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TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD  
Office of the Township Clerk  
1480 Union Valley Road  
West Milford, New Jersey 07480  
973-728-7000  
FAX 973-728-2704



August 12, 2008

TO: Honorable Senator Joseph Pennacchio  
Honorable Assemblyman Alex DeCroce  
Honorable Assemblyman Jay Webber  
Honorable Jon S. Corzine, Governor  
Highlands Council  
All Communities located within the Highlands Planning and Preservation Area

RE: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REQUEST THAT SENATE RESOLUTION #88 THAT PROVIDES FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO DEDICATE REVENUE FOR OPEN SPACE AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION BE AMENDED TO DEDICATE SUCH REVENUE TO MUNICIPALITIES LOCATED WITHIN THE HIGHLANDS PRESERATION AREA

The Mayor and Municipal Council of the Township of West Milford has directed that the enclosed resolution, which is certified to be a true and complete copy of the original resolution as adopted, be forwarded to you to respectively request your favorable consideration and support of same.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Diane Curcio  
Office of the Township Clerk

Enclosure

# Township of West Milford

Passaic County, New Jersey

## ~ Resolution 2008 - 290 ~

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO REQUEST THAT SENATE RESOLUTION #88 THAT PROVIDES FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO DEDICATE REVENUE FOR OPEN SPACE AND FARMLAND PRESEVATION BE AMENDED TO DEDICATE SUCH REVENUE TO MUNICIPALITIES LOCATED WITH THE HIGHLANDS PRESERVATION AREA**

**WHEREAS**, the Senate Concurrent Resolution 88 was introduced to the New Jersey Legislature proposing to amend the State Constitution and provide that revenue from a water consumption and user fee be dedicated for the purpose of acquisition and development of lands throughout the State of New Jersey for recreation and conservation purposes for the preservation of agricultural and horticultural uses and production; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities such as the Township of West Milford that are solely located within the Highlands Preservation Area, are the stewards of such watershed lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Constitutional Amendment as set forth in Senate Concurrent Resolution 99 provides for the benefit of such revenue from a water consumption tax to be dedicated for lands throughout the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of equity and fairness, a portion of a Water Consumption and User Fee should be dedicated to those communities that provide for and protect the natural resource of public drinking water; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of West Milford, dedicates municipal resources and by virtue of the thousands of acres of watershed lands that have been acquired by the State of New Jersey, has permanently foregone significant tax revenue on an annual basis so that other residents throughout the State of New Jersey are provided with safe and clean public drinking water.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that the Township of West Milford requests that the proposed Constitutional Amendment to dedicate revenue solely for Open Space and Farmland Preservation be amended to allow for those communities such as West Milford and other similarly situated municipalities who have made a significant commitment to preserve the scarce natural resource of drinking water, to be included in any direct benefit from a Water Consumption and User Fee.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Township requests that the Constitutional Amendment is modified or amended to provide that a certain portion of the Water User Fee be solely dedicated for those communities in the Highlands Preservation Area where such revenue can provide tax relief and financial support for the commitment that the communities have made for residents and water consumers throughout the State of New Jersey.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the representatives for the Township of West Milford of the State Assembly and State Senate as well as to Governor Corzine, the Highlands Council and those communities identified in the Highlands Planning and Preservation Act as being entirely located within the Highlands Preservation Area.

Adopted: August 6, 2008

Adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008  
and certified as a true copy of an original



Antoinette Battaglia, Township Clerk