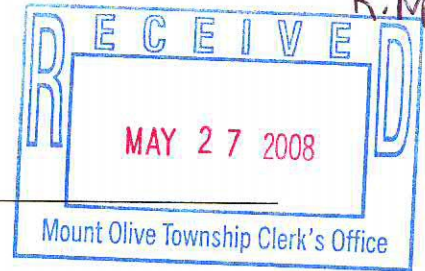




Township of Chester

1 Parker Road
Chester, NJ 07930
908-879-5100 x812
www.chestertownship.org
fax 908-879-8281



M. Gusto
Adm.
K. Murphy

May 22, 2008

Honorable Jon S. Corzine
Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

**RE: Support for Constitutional Amendment to Dedicate Revenue for Open
Space and Farmland Preservation**

Dear Governor Corzine:

Enclosed please find a certified copy of Resolution #2008-56 that was adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Chester at a duly convened meeting held on May 20, 2008.

Sincerely,

Mary Edwards
Deputy Clerk

Enclosure

cc: ✓ Morris County Mayors
State Legislators
Senate Environment Committee

CHESTER TOWNSHIP
SUPPORT FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO DEDICATE REVENUE
FOR OPEN SPACE AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION

WHEREAS, the Legislature has adopted the Highlands Act in recognition that the 860,000 acre Highlands Region serves as an "essential source of drinking water, providing clean and plentiful drinking water for one-half of the State's population" and that the area includes exceptional natural resources such as clean air, contiguous forest lands, wetlands, pristine watersheds, habitat for fauna and flora, many sites of historic significance and provides abundant recreational opportunities, all of which are an invaluable and irreplaceable asset of the current citizens of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature included in the Highlands Act a specific commitment for additional funding through "a strong and significant commitment by the State to fund the acquisition of exceptional natural resource value lands"; and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund that funds the Green Acres Program, the Farmland Preservation Program, and other programs presently provides a significant source of funding for acquisition projects in the Highlands Region; and

WHEREAS, the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund will no longer be able to issue any new bond, note or other obligation after June 30, 2009 unless the Trust Fund is reauthorized; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2008, Senate Concurrent Resolution 88 was introduced to the New Jersey Legislature proposing to amend Article VIII, Section II of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey to provide that revenue from water consumption and water user fees be dedicated only for the purpose of providing funding for the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes and for the preservation of farmland for agricultural and horticultural use and production.

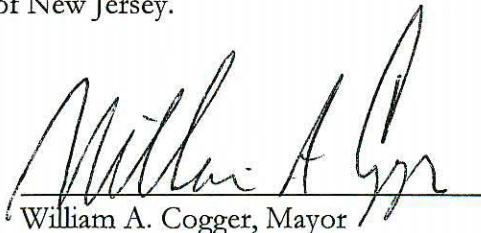
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

The Chester Township hereby supports the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 88 which proposes to amend Article VIII, Section II of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and encourages support for this constitutional amendment from all parties interested in the protection and preservation of the Highlands Region and the resulting sustainability of clean and plentiful drinking water for over half the population of the State of New Jersey.

May 20, 2008



Carol Isemann, Municipal Clerk



William A. Cogger, Mayor

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy
of a resolution/ordinance adopted by the Township
Council of the Township of Chester at a meeting
held on May 20, 2008
