

RESOLUTION RE: RESOLUTION DEMANDING THE GOVERNOR AND THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE TO PROPERLY ALLOCATE "911 SYSTEM AND EMERGENCY TRUST FUND ACCOUNT (FUND)" MONIES TO COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL 911 CENTERS AS REQUIRED UNDER FEDERAL LAW

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey collects annually from consumers approximately \$120 million in telecommunication surcharges at "911 System & Emergency Response Fees" and deposits those monies into the Fund for the use of county and municipal "Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)" maintenance and upgrades; and

WHEREAS, the various counties in New Jersey have been urging for several years; and the County of Sussex now **demand**s that the State of New Jersey and the Governor adhere to Federal requirements to allocate our money back to the people for "Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)" support and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has collected over \$1.25 billion in fees since 2006 with only 11% of Fund monies being spent on eligible expenses under "NET 911 Act of 2008 (H.R. 3403)" as reported by the State to the Federal Communication Commission (FCC); and

WHEREAS, since 2009 the State of New Jersey has refused to provide funding for eligible expenses to local 911 centers operated by counties and municipalities across the State and has instead intentionally diverted Fund dollars for other ineligible expenses such as funding for the State's Department of Law and Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, counties and municipalities handle the vast majority of 911 service requests through local "Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)" and have come to rely on the collection of local property taxpayer dollars to improve, operate, and maintain 911 systems which equates to duplicate taxation; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey must comply with federal law and restore critical Fund monies to county and municipal 911 centers to operate, maintain and construct effective, efficient and contemporary 911 systems; and

WHEREAS, that these Funds are not grants to be doled out as political favors but urgent and necessary Funds for local "Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)" and must be equitably distributed to the various counties and municipalities for their use in development and upgrading of the PSAP systems.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders does, in fact hereby **demand** Governor Chris Christie and New Jersey State Legislature to properly allocate 911 System and Emergency Trust Fund Account monies to county and municipal 911 centers required under federal law and cease immediately the distribution of these monies and political favors; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that this Board will send certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of New Jersey Chris Christie, the President of the New Jersey State Senate Steve Sweeney, the Speaker of the General Assembly Vincent Prieto, New Jersey State Representatives of District 24 and the Clerks of the Board of Chosen Freeholders in all 21 counties in the State of New Jersey.

Certified as a true copy of the
Resolution adopted by the
Board of Chosen Freeholders
On 14th day of September, 2016


Catherine M. Williams, Clerk
Board of Chosen Freeholders
County of Sussex

RECORD OF VOTE						
FREEHOLDER	AYE	NAY	ABST	ABS	MOVE	SEC
Crabb	✓				✓	
Graham	✓					
Lazzaro	✓					
Rose	✓					✓
Vohden	✓					

ABST - Abstain
MOVE - Resolution Moved

ABS - Absent
SEC - Resolution Seconded



CLERK OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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Catherine M. Williams
Clerk of the Board

County of Sussex

September 16, 2016

Honorable Chris Christie, Governor
State of New Jersey
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

RESOLUTION RE

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Dear Governor Christie:

The above-captioned Resolutions were adopted by the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders at its meeting held on September 14, 2016.

Enclosed please find a certified copy of the Resolutions for your files. Should further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Catherine M. Williams, Clerk
Board of Chosen Freeholders
County of Sussex

/sg

Enclosure

Cc: Honorable Stephen M. Sweeney, President of the Senate
Honorable Vincent Prieto, Speaker of the General Assembly
Honorable Steven V. Oroho, State Senator
Honorable Parker Space, State Assemblyman
Honorable Gail Phoebus, State Assemblywoman
The Clerks of the Boards of Chosen Freeholders in all 21 counties in the State of New Jersey