

**TOWNSHIP OF VERONA
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION No. 2021-047

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Roman; seconded by Mayor McEvoy that the following resolution be adopted:

URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO OPPOSE ASSEMBLY BILL A1571

WHEREAS, Payments in Lieu of Taxes are the single most effective tool that municipalities have at their disposal to spur revitalization and economic growth in our communities, thereby creating jobs, new housing and providing new services and facilities to our residents; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 1571 seeks to impose prevailing wage for public work on properties receiving tax abatements or exemptions; and

WHEREAS, while well-intentioned, proposals to add additional costs to the construction of projects receiving a Payments in Lieu of Taxes have the very real possibility of closing the door on urban redevelopment in the communities that need it the most; and

WHEREAS, municipalities often have higher costs of construction due to tighter site footprints and the need for structured parking; and

WHEREAS, like many other municipalities in Essex County, the Township of Verona must also contend with the increasingly stringent flood plain regulations which further restrict redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, these added costs are the very factors that makes Payments in Lieu of Taxes necessary and essential to so many municipalities and the passage of Assembly Bill No. 1571 will have a chilling effect on these struggling municipalities to foster economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature appears to have concluded that redevelopment will continue without impact from the additional costs being proposed by the prevailing wage for public work on properties receiving tax abatement or exemption; and

WHEREAS, the increased burden caused by Assembly Bill No. 1571 on proposed projects can only lead to three possible outcomes, 1) projects not moving forward at all, 2) municipalities having to decrease the amount they can expect from Payments in Lieu of Taxes revenue or 3) the municipalities must offer more density, which in turn will increase the demand on municipal services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey as follows:


1. We ask our State Legislators to recognize and protect the stark realities currently faced by our State's municipalities especially in this time of COVID and oppose this bill as being financially overly burdensome on local municipalities seeking to revitalize their communities.
2. The Township Clerk shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey and the members of the New Jersey State Legislature.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 8, 2021.


JENNIFER KIERNAN
MUNICIPAL CLERK

