

Resolution No. 2020-64

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN
OPPOSING THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF MAIL-IN
BALLOTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER, 2020**

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has a Secretary of State and County Clerks in each of the 21 counties whose duties include the administration and overseeing of elections; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey will be holding a General Election in November, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mail-in ballots were used exclusively in the Primary Election in July, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the universal distribution of mail-in ballots to all registered voters caused concerns for voter fraud in mail-in elections and significant delays in counting ballots; and

WHEREAS, the universal distribution of mail-in ballots to all registered voters is also of significant cost and is an unfunded mandate; and

WHEREAS, well before the COVID-19-pandemic, New Jersey law permitted voting by mail for any reason, or no reason at all, allowing any voter the option to request a mail-in ballot thus enhancing voter choice; and

WHEREAS, some voters have expressed an opinion of wishing to "wait" until Election Day to cast their ballot electronically for the candidate of their choice to fully assess the latest information available; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin is gravely concerned that the exclusive mail-in-ballot "experiment" has been difficult at best and during the Primary Election cycle representing a small fraction of the ballots to be cast when compared to the upcoming General Election; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin feels strongly that voter "choice" should refer to "how" to vote, not just "who" to vote for in a given election cycle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Franklin opposes the exclusive use of mail-in balloting in the General Election in November, 2020 and in all future elections; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that Borough of Franklin urges the Secretary of State and County Clerks to utilize in-person voting in conjunction with mail-in balloting in the General Election of November, 2020 and in all future elections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Borough Franklin forward a certified true copy of this Resolution to the New Jersey Secretary of State; the Governor of the State of New Jersey; the President of the New Jersey State Senate; the Speaker of the General Assembly; the New Jersey association of Counties and all other Boards of Chosen Freeholders.

CERTIFICATION

I, Darlene J. Tremont, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey at a meeting of said Governing Body held at 7:00PM on August 18, 2020.



Darlene J. Tremont, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONCETTO FORMICA	X			
JOSEPH LIMON				X
JOHN POSTAS	X			
STEPHEN SKELLENGER	X			
GILBERT SNYDER	X			
STEPHAN ZYDON JR.	X			
MAYOR SOWDEN (Tie Only)				