

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN**  
**COUNTY OF SUSSEX**  
**RESOLUTION 2019-48**

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING TO LOCAL RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES THAT THE  
MUNICIPALITY WILL NOT COLLECT NEW STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OR  
RAIN TAXES**

**WHEREAS**, bill S1073/A2694 authorizing municipalities and counties to establish stormwater utilities was signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities or counties that choose to establish a stormwater utility will be allowed to apply an undetermined tax on property and business owners based on the amount of impervious surface they have, often referred to as a rain tax; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no limit to the amount property owners and local businesses can be taxed as long as it can be justified as going towards improving stormwater management, however, 5 percent or \$50,000 of the revenue is required to be paid to the state and another 5 percent can be used for a locality's general fund; and

**WHEREAS**, sewage authorities must adhere to a two-percent cap on annual increases to property owners and businesses, but stormwater utilities will not have to adhere to the cap; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities and counties already have stormwater systems in place that manage stormwater without the need of creating another level of bureaucracy; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey property taxpayers already pay the highest taxes in the nation, and the creation of any new tax is an impossible burden to put on their backs; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey's Business Tax Climate was named last in the nation by the nonpartisan Tax Foundation, and any new taxes to our business owners are not feasible; and

**WHEREAS**, State Senator Steve Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, and Assemblyman Hal Wirths are calling on municipalities and counties to come together and signal to their tax-paying residents and businesses that they're aware that New Jersey's tax burden is already too high by making their intentions known through this resolution; and now be it

**RESOLVED**, that the **Borough of Franklin Governing Body** already has a system in place to manage stormwater and will not create a stormwater utility that would impose new taxes on its residents; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the **Borough of Franklin Governing Body** understands and sympathizes with the heavy tax burden already placed on New Jersey residents and businesses and, therefore, will not charge them an extra tax for having driveways, parking lots and other impervious surface

**RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Phil Murphy, Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver, New Jersey Senate President Steve Sweeney, New Jersey Senate Republican Leader Thomas Kean, Jr., New Jersey Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, New Jersey Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick, State Senator Steve Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, and Assemblyman Hal Wirths.

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal 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 at a regular meeting held in the Franklin Municipal Building at 46 Main Street at 7:00 PM on May 14, 2019.

  
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 Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk

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