

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN
COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION 2021-101

**ENDORING THE “ELECTION INTEGRITY” BILL PACKAGE PENDING IN THE
LEGISLATURE IN SUPPORT OF FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS UNTAINTED BY FRAUD**

WHEREAS, governmental legitimacy is derived from the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, to maintain its legitimacy, the American experiment in self-government requires confidence in free and fair elections untainted by fraud; and

WHEREAS, certain current New Jersey election procedures; failing to require photo identification to vote, mass mailing of unsolicited mail in ballots, and resistance to regular review of voter rolls undermine confidence in the legitimacy of elections, and thus, the legitimacy of our elected governments; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin is dedicated to the proposition that every election must be conducted free of fraud, and to the principle that every legal vote must be counted; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin is equally dedicated to the proposition that inducements to electoral fraud must be eliminated, and to the principle that illegitimate votes must not be counted; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin supports the right of all citizens to cast a legal vote in all elections that is then counted, without regard to race, sex, political orientation, or any other non-disqualifying factor; and

WHEREAS, Senator Steve Oroho and Assemblymen Parker Space and Hal Wirths have sponsored an “Election Integrity” bill package in the New Jersey Legislature that consists of constitutional, common sense measures to ensure honest elections and protect voter rights, and includes:

S-185/A-119 (removing 48-hour provision for acceptance of ballots postmarked by Election Day; increases penalties for violation of ballot messenger and bearer limits and candidate prohibition)

S-3393/A-134 (requires certain documentation as proof of voter identity to vote; updates procedures for challenging voters regarding proof of identity)

S-2653/A-161 (repeals the “Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote”)

S-3395/A-553 (provides for agreement between Secretary of State and Administrative Office of the Courts to match information in Statewide voter registration system with certain jury records in order to identify and remove ineligible non-citizen voter registrants from system)

S-2858/A-1670 (requires electronic voting system vendors disclose financial ties prior to electronic voting system approval by Secretary of State. A-1670 has passed the Assembly without opposition)

S-3391/A-2028 (requires voter who wishes to vote by mail to complete application for mail-in ballot each calendar year; repeals automatic vote by mail designation)

S-3392/A-3994 (prohibits mail-in ballot outer envelope from containing political affiliation or designation visible to public)

S-3109/A-5092 (requires Secretary of State to create website for voters to report irregularities regarding mail-in ballots; establishes "Vote by Mail Study Commission")

S-3297/A-5097 (requires Secretary of State to establish voter list maintenance and crosscheck program and to include certain voter registration data in annual report to Governor and Legislature)

S-2936/A-5099 (requires commissioner of registration to move voters with undeliverable mail-in ballots to inactive file; removes such inactive voters from Statewide voter registration system following failure to vote in two consecutive federal general elections)

S-3053/A-5205 (requires Attorney General to create a voting fraud task force)

S-3300/A-5206 (prohibits approval of voting machine or voting system if vendor is a foreign company, if domestic vendor exports technology overseas, or due to major non-citizen ownership)

S-3353/A-5259 (transfers Division of Elections from Department of State to Department of Law and Public Safety; designates Attorney General as chief election official and requires two bipartisan co-directors)

SCR-136/ACR-197 (proposes constitutional amendment to provide registered voters with the right to cast ballot in person at polling place on election day; requires mail-in ballot request before voter receives mail-in ballot); and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin fully endorses and supports the Election Integrity bill package in its entirety, and the principles underlying the same; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin notes the ready availability of governmental issued identification, which is required for multiple mundane daily transactions, such as to enter federal buildings, rent a car, board an airplane, etc., and that requiring voter identification is neither onerous nor burdensome and cannot discern any viable reason why any person would oppose such measure, other than to foment electoral fraud; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin holds that the regular review and refreshing of voter lists is prudent and appropriate, and likewise cannot discern any viable reason why any person would oppose such measure, other than to foment electoral fraud; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin further holds that requiring a voter to personally request an absentee or vote-by-mail ballot each year is not onerous or burdensome, and likewise cannot discern

any viable reason why any person would oppose such measure, other than to foment electoral fraud;
and


WHEREAS, the Borough of Franklin further holds that the reforms contemplated by the Election Integrity bill package will ensure that all legal votes are counted, and assure citizens that their elected officials have in fact been elected via a fair, non-fraudulent election, and thus maintaining the legitimacy of our democratically elected governments:

RESOLVED that the Borough of Franklin fully endorses and supports the Election Integrity bill package currently pending in the New Jersey Legislature, so our elections are secured, and the governments' legitimacy maintained; and be it


FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough of Franklin calls on Governor Phil Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature to pass and sign into law the Election Integrity bill package as soon as possible, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Philip D. Murphy, N.J. Secretary of State, Tahesha Way, the Sussex County Clerk, the Sussex County Board of County Commissioners, Legislative District 24 Representatives, and the Mayors of all Sussex County Municipalities.


Darlene J. Tremont, RMC


John M. Sowden, IV, Mayor

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 on October 26, 2021.


Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal 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)				