

# **Borough of Franklin, County of Sussex**

## **Resolution #2022-39**

### **Resolution of the Governing Body** **Urging the Swift Passage of S-330 which restores Energy Tax Receipts**

**WHEREAS**, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by the host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for the use of their rights of way; and

**WHEREAS**, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties, and other entities, the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, for years, though, State budget makers have diverted funding from Energy Taxes to fund State programs; and instead of being spent on local programs and services and used to offset property taxes, the money has been spent as successive Legislatures and Administrations have seen fit; and

**WHEREAS**, the diversion of dedicated energy tax receipts to the State's General Fund further jeopardizes this critical property tax relief funding in future years; and

**WHEREAS**, by reducing Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Act (CMPTRA), which is also comprised of revenues that should be returned to municipalities, State Budget makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes, while keeping additional revenue that should have been returned to provide property tax relief; and

**WHEREAS**, the cumulative impact of years of underfunding has left many municipalities with serious needs and burdensome property taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, local elected officials are in the best position to decide the best use of these resources, which were always intended to fund local programs and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Singleton and Senate President Scutari have introduced legislation (S-330) that will restore, over a five-year period, Energy Tax Receipts to municipalities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the governing body of the Borough of Franklin in the County of Sussex urges the Legislature to swiftly pass this legislation and Governor Murphy sign the legislation prior to passage of the FY2023 State budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to the 24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, N.J. State Assemblyman, Parker Space, Assemblyman Harold J. "Hal" Wirths and Senator Steven V. Oroho, Senate President Scutari, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Governor Murphy, and the League of Municipalities.

# Borough of Franklin, County of Sussex

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**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, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey at a regular meeting held on March 8, 2022.



Darlene J. Tremont, Municipal Clerk

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