



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION 19-072

Resolution in Support of Path to Progress Recommendations made by New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup

WHEREAS, New Jersey faces a daunting fiscal crisis; and

WHEREAS, for two decades, while county and municipal governments made the proper pension payments, New Jersey governors from both parties severely underfunded the pension system for teachers and State government workers; and

WHEREAS, while local government pension systems are funded at the national average, the State's unfunded liability for pensions and retiree health benefits now tops \$150 billion – four times the size of the State budget; and

WHEREAS, actuaries project the State will have to increase its pension contribution from \$3.2 billion in this year's budget to \$6.7 billion to reach the Actuarially Required Contribution (ARC) by FY 2023; and

WHEREAS, health care costs continue to rise, and New Jersey and its local governments cannot sustain the unparalleled platinum-level benefits that they provide to their employees; and

WHEREAS, municipalities cannot address other major cost drivers, such as career-end sick leave payouts in excess of \$100,000, without relief from State government; and

WHEREAS, the State must bring pension and health care costs under control before they crowd out all other important spending needs, such as reinvestment in NJ Transit, making higher education more affordable and properly funding state aid to school districts to hold down property taxes.

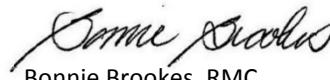
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council, that the Borough of Highlands expresses its support for the recommendations of the Path to Progress report issued by the New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution is to be forwarded to Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin, Senator Declan J. O'Scanlon, Assemblywoman Amy H. Handlin, Assemblywoman Serena DiMaso, the Governor of State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of Counties, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Motion to Approve Resolution 19-072:

	INTROUCED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
BRASWELL			X			
BROULLON		X	X			
MAZZOLA			X			
RYAN	X		X			
O'NEIL			X			

I, Bonnie Brookes, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Highlands, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, hereby certify this to be a true copy of the action of the Governing Body, at its Council Meeting, held February 6 , 2019. WITNESS my hand this 7th day of February 2019.



Bonnie Brookes, RMC
Municipal Clerk