

RESOLUTION 2013-137

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY OPPOSING S2364/A3553 EARLY VOTING SYSTEM IN NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-2364 and Assembly Bill A3553 propose to create a system of early voting in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the goal of accommodating voters in the pursuit of greater participation in the democratic process is a worthy goal; and

WHEREAS, these bills would in reality increase workloads, add more costs to the election process, and ultimately serve to confuse voters more than it would accommodate their needs; and

WHEREAS, these bills would require for each primary and general election a public facility, except a public school, located in each municipality in an area of high concentration of population to be open and available to registered voters starting 15 days before an election for early polling, possibly conflicting with if not pushing out other important uses for these buildings, causing inconvenience to residents; and

WHEREAS, these bills require retraining of poll workers and dramatically increased hours, as well as chain of custody requirements to protect the voting process, despite the fact that recruiting and training poll workers is already a difficult process; and

WHEREAS, these bills would increase costs to municipalities, including overtime and holiday pay for workers; and

WHEREAS, although these bills allow municipalities to request reimbursement for extra costs and provide an appropriation, the appropriation does not outline a specific amount nor dedicated funding, only that which the State Treasurer and the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting deem necessary, and they do not outline the procedure for a municipality whose reimbursement request is denied; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity for "Early Voting" already exists in the State of New Jersey 45 days in advance of election through the Vote by Mail ballot process.

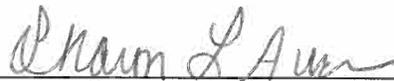
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Barnegat, in the County of Ocean does hereby oppose S2364 and A3553; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Township of Barnegat does hereby call upon the representatives in the State Legislature representing Ocean County to oppose the adoption of this bill; and

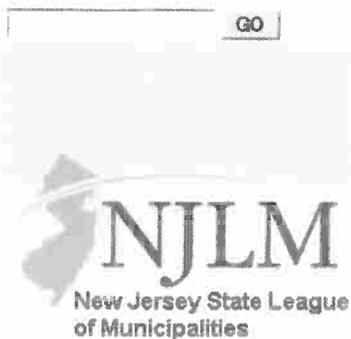
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Office of the Governor, Senate President Sweeney, Senators Gill and Whelan, sponsors of S2364, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, Assemblymen Wisniewski, Diegnan, Benson, Conaway, and Coughlin, sponsors of A3553, our State Senator and Assembly representatives, the County Board of Elections, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities and all Ocean County Municipalities with an urgent request that they join in the opposition of S2364 and A3553.

CERTIFICATION

I, Sharon L. Auer, Acting Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee at their regular meeting held on the 18th day of March 2013, in the Municipal Courtroom, 900 W. Bay Avenue, Barnegat NJ 08005



Sharon L. Auer
Acting Municipal Clerk



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**Women in Municipal
Government Day
March 15th**

The Annual Women in Government Celebration Day honors the contributions of women in public service. This year we are honoring women who demonstrate a commitment to advancing women's active participation in government.

Register Now - March 15th

Friday, March 15, 2013

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March 6, 2013

Re: S2364, early voting bill

Mayor:

Yesterday, March 4, 2013, the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee approved S-2364, which would require early voting in certain elections. (For more information, please see our [March 1 Dear Mayor letter](#)) The vote was 8-5 along party lines, with the Democrats voting yes and Republicans voting no.

The sponsor, Senator Nia Gill, made significant changes to the bill shortly before the committee hearing. Unfortunately, the amendments have not been posted on-line yet, but the following reflects what was discussed at the hearing.

Instead of requiring each municipality to provide a space for early voting, now the early voting locations will be spread throughout the county at either 3, 5, or 7 locations, depending on the size of the county. However, these locations could still be in a municipal building.

The hours for early voting increased by two hours on Sundays, from noon-6 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. -6 p.m.

The bill also received a fiscal analysis from the Office of Legislative Services. The bill requires that the state make an appropriation to a fund so that municipalities and counties may request reimbursement from any additional costs early voting imposes on them. In its fiscal note, OLS estimates that the fund requires approximately \$20 million the first year, \$11 million the second year, and \$7 million each subsequent year.

The League opposed and continues to oppose this bill. S2364 introduces a new, complex, and potentially expensive process. Furthermore, it is unnecessary as we currently have a process, Vote by Mail, which permits voters every opportunity to vote and participate in the democratic process.

Please consider passing a resolution in opposition to this and other early voting bills. You can find a copy of a sample resolution here: <http://www.njslom.org/resolutions/2013-0301-Resolution-Early-Vote-A-3553-S-2364.pdf>

We will continue to keep you updated on the status of this bill as the situations warrants. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Matthew Weng at 609-695-3481 ext 137 or by e-mail at mweng@njslom.org.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Resolution Opposing S2364/A3553

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-2364 and Assembly Bill A3553 propose to create a system of early voting in the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the goal of accommodating voters in pursuit of greater participation in the democratic process is a worthy goal; and

WHEREAS, these bills would in reality increase workloads, add more costs to the election process, and ultimately serve to confuse voters more than it would accommodate their needs; and

WHEREAS, these bills would require for each primary and general election a public facility, except a public school, located in each municipality in an area of a high concentration of population to be open and available to registered voters starting 15 days before an election for early polling, possibly conflicting with if not pushing out other important uses for these buildings, causing inconvenience to residents; and

WHEREAS, these bills require retraining of poll workers and dramatically increased hours, as well as chain of custody requirements to protect the voting process, despite the fact that recruiting and training polls workers is already a difficult process; and

WHEREAS, these bills would increase costs to municipalities, including overtime pay for workers; and

WHEREAS, although these bills allow municipalities to request reimbursement for extra costs and provide an appropriation, the appropriation does not outline a specific amount nor dedicated funding, only that which the State Treasurer and the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting deem necessary, and they do not outline the procedure for a municipality whose reimbursement request is denied; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity for "Early Voting" already exists in the State of New Jersey through the Vote by Mail ballot process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that governing body of the (insert name of municipality) in the County of (insert name of county) does hereby oppose S2364 and A3553; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the governing body of the (insert the name of municipality) does hereby call upon its representatives in the State Legislature to oppose the adoption of this bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Office of the Governor, Senate President Sweeney, Senators Gill and Whelan, sponsors of S2364, Speaker Oliver, Assemblymen Wisniewski, Diegnan, Benson, Conaway, and Coughlin, sponsors of A3553, our State Senator and Assembly representatives, the County Board of Elections, and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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From: Sharon Auer <sharon@barnegat.net> (Barnegat Township)
To: Michele Rivers <micheiler@barnegat.net>
Date: 03/06/2013 - 12:41:34 pm

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WHEREAS, the opportunity for "Early Voting" already exists in the State of New Jersey 45 days in advance of election through the Vote by Mail ballot process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that governing body of the (Borough of Beachwood) in the County of (Ocean) does hereby oppose S2364 and A3553; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the governing body of the (Borough of Beachwood) does hereby call upon the representatives in the State Legislature representing Ocean County to oppose the adoption of this bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Office of the Governor, Senate President Sweeney, Senators Gill and Whelan, sponsors of S2364, Speaker Oliver, Assemblymen Wisniewski, Diegnan, Benson, Conaway, and Coughlin, sponsors of A3553, our State Senator and Assembly

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