

RESOLUTION 2014-316

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN STATE OF NEW JERSEY OPPOSING SENATE BILL S-1801 AND ASSEMBLY BILLS A-2621 AND A-2495, SEEKING TO AUTHORIZE COUNTY GOVERNMENT TO CREATE COUNTY TAX ASSESSMENT WHILE ABOLISHING TAX ASSESSMENT AT A LOCAL MUNICIPAL LEVEL

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-1801 and Assembly Bills A-2621 and A-2495, if signed into law, would abolish the office of the tax assessor thereby shifting all tax assessment responsibilities to the county; and

WHEREAS, legislation was passed and signed into law authorizing a countywide pilot assessor program in Gloucester County and an enhanced local assessor pilot program in Monmouth County to study, over several years, the cost/benefits of these new tax assessment systems; and

WHEREAS, these pilots have yet to be completed so as to study the cost benefits, if any, of each new assessment system; and

WHEREAS, the cost of these new systems have not been presented to the Mayor and Committee of Barnegat Township proving it to be cost effective and a way to provide overall property tax relief to the taxpayers of Barnegat Township; and

WHEREAS, the municipal assessor is currently charged with establishing the assessed values of all real property within the corporate boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the municipal assessor and municipal attorney are charged with the defense and settlements of assessed values through the tax appeal process; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S-1801 and Assembly Bills A-2621 and A-2495, if signed into law, removes local control of the establishment and defense of the assessed values in the tax appeal process; gives total control of assessments and settlements to County Government, while leaving the full responsibility for any refunds with the municipalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of Barnegat Township, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey objects to and opposes the enactment of Senate Bill S-1801 and Assembly Bills A-2621 and A-2495; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk forward copies of this resolution to the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, State Senator Christopher J. Connors, Assemblywoman Dianne C. Gove, Assemblyman Brian E. Rumpf, each municipality in Ocean County and the Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey.

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 resolutions was duly adopted by the Barnegat Township Committee at their regular meeting held on the 2nd day of June 2014, in the Municipal Complex, 900 W. Bay Avenue, Barnegat NJ 08005

Sharon L. Auer
Acting Municipal Clerk