

RESOLUTION 2017 - 398

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO APPROVE LEGISLATION TO PERMANENTLY EXTEND THE 2% CAP ON INTEREST ARBITRATION AWARDS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the sunset provision contained in P. L. 2014, c. 11 the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards is set to expire on December 31, 2017; and

WHEREAS, this law empowers local and county governments throughout the State to effectively control public safety employment salaries and personnel costs by capping interest arbitration awards at 2% for base salaries, which include step increments and longevity pay; and

WHEREAS, local and county governments dedicate a substantial portion of their overall annual operating expenses for employee salaries, wages, health benefits and other personnel costs; and

WHEREAS, local and county governments face a restrictive 2% property tax cap levy where local and county governments must prepare two comprehensive cap calculations and use the more restrictive one; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of local and county governments and property taxpayers throughout the State struggling to make ends meet to permanently extend the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has stated that no action will be taken on the “interest arbitration cap” prior to the gubernatorial election on November 7; and

WHEREAS, the failure of the Legislature to act on the “interest arbitration cap” may create undue burdens upon local and county governments such as the elimination of; essential services, personnel and drastic reductions to improvements to facilities, roads and bridges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey hereby urges Governor Chris Christie and the New Jersey State Legislature to immediately enact and not delay action for political purposes legislation that will permanently extend the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards before December 31, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, State Senate President Steve Sweeney, Speaker of the General Assembly Vincent Prieto, Members of the 9th Legislative District, the Mayors of the 33 Ocean County Municipalities and the New Jersey Association of Counties.

CERTIFICATION

I, Michele Rivers 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 of the Township of Barnegat at their regular meeting held in the Municipal Complex, 900 West Bay Avenue, Barnegat, on the 14th day of November 2017.

Michele Rivers, RMC
Municipal Clerk