

RESOLUTION 2020 – 253

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
STRONGLY ENCOURAGING THE RIGHT OF IN-PERSON MACHINE VOTING FOR THE
NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey will be holding a General Election in November, 2020; and

WHEREAS, mail-in ballots were used predominantly in the Primary Election in July, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the practice of predominantly using mail-in ballots for all registered voters caused concerns for voter fraud, voter disenfranchisement, postal delivery delays, significant increase in election costs, and reliance on a flawed Statewide voter/DMV computer registration data base and resulted in significant delays in the counting of ballots; and

WHEREAS, well before the COVID-19 pandemic, New Jersey law permitted voting by mail for any reason, or no reason at all, allowing any voter, even remotely concerned about in-person voting the option to request a mail-in ballot thus enhancing voter choice; and

WHEREAS, numerous voters have expressed a desire to wait until Election Day to cast their ballot electronically, in-person, for the candidate of their choice to fully assess the latest information available; and

WHEREAS, the Barnegat Township Committee is gravely concerned that the predominant use of mail-in ballots during the 2020 Primary Election was difficult at best and represents but a small fraction of the ballots to be cast when compared to the upcoming General Election; and

WHEREAS, the Barnegat Township Committee feels strongly that voter “choice” should refer to “how” to vote, not just “who” to vote for in a given election cycle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Barnegat Township Committee in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey opposes the predominant use of mail-in balloting in the General Election in November, 2020 and in all future elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Barnegat Township Committee of the County of Ocean State of New Jersey urges the Secretary of State and County Clerks to utilize in-person machine voting, in conjunction with mail-in balloting, in the General Election of November, 2020 and in all future elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk forward a certified true copy of this resolution to the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders; the New Jersey Secretary of State; the Speaker of the General Assembly; the Ocean County Legislative Delegation; the New Jersey Association of Counties and all other Boards of Chosen Freeholders.

CERTIFICATION

I, Michele Rivers, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the governing body at a meeting held on the 1st day of September, a quorum being present and voting in the majority.

Michele Rivers, RMC
Municipal Clerk