

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL  
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**R E S O L U T I O N #22-243**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING AND ENCOURAGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE  
TO PROVIDE \$10 MILLION IN ANNUAL STATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT  
PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES**

**WHEREAS**, Public Health Priority Funding was an important funding source to support the funding and operations of local health department across the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Health Priority Funding supported programs and staff of local health departments until 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, local tax dollars that fund local health departments are insufficient to support the operations of most health department, with New Jersey ranking near the bottom for support for local health departments in this Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, communicable disease outbreaks in long-term care facilities and the deadly COVID-19 Pandemic have stressed and overwhelmed all local health departments in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, New Jersey ranked 31<sup>st</sup> in the nation in state funding for public health, and ranked 51<sup>st</sup>, among 50 states and the District of Columbia, in grant funding received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, available grants and CARES funding does not fully address the infrastructure and staffing needs of local health departments, nor did this funding address long-term sustainable funding; and

**WHEREAS** the State Health Department would distribute this funding to local health agencies with the express purpose of supporting public health initiatives, services, staff and programs to help re-build and maintain public health infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, \$10 million would be used to support such necessary initiatives, services, staff and programs to: track, prevent the spread of communicable disease, address environmental and public health issues, develop strategies to address emerging environmental and public issues and threats;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hopewell Township Committee requests and encourages the legislature to provide \$10 million to the State Health Department for the purpose of being distributed to local health departments to support their operations in

efforts to prevent disease, promote healthy communities and protect New Jersey from environmental and public health issues and emerging threats for the public good and safety of the State.

Date Adopted: June 27, 2022

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Laurie E. Gompf, Municipal Clerk, of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee at the regular meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022, in the Municipal Building Auditorium, Hopewell Township, New Jersey and via Zoom Video Communications.



Laurie E. Gompf, RMC, CMC  
Municipal Clerk

<sup>1</sup> *Trust for America's Health. The Impact of Chronic Underfunding on America's Public Health System: Trends, Risks, and Recommendations. 2021. Last accessed on June 25, 2021. Available at: [https://www.tfah.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021\\_PHFunding\\_Fnl.pdf](https://www.tfah.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021_PHFunding_Fnl.pdf)*