



County of Atlantic, New Jersey



Resolution No.: 622

Approved as to Form and Legality

*R. C. Steedle*  
 Roger C. Steedle  
 Legislative Counsel

Submitted By:

Joseph McDewitt  
 Freeholder Sponsor

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FAIR SCHOOL FUNDING AND CALLING UPON THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO TAKE ACTION ACCORDINGLY**

WHEREAS, the County of Atlantic Board of Chosen Freeholders believes that every child should have equal resources of state aid distributed by the Legislature for an education in the State of New Jersey by utilizing a fair school funding mechanism; and

WHEREAS, the current distribution of state aid for education to the schools has not been distributed in a fair and equitable manner to provide property tax relief to all the citizens of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Article III, Paragraph 1, of the New Jersey State Constitution states, "The powers of government shall be divided among three distinct branches, the legislative, executive and judicial. No person or persons belonging to or constituting one branch shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others, except as expressly provided in this Constitution"; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section IV, Paragraph 1, of the New Jersey State Constitution states, "the Legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools for the instruction of all children in the State between the ages of five and eighteen years"; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section IV, Paragraph 2, of the New Jersey State Constitution states, "the fund for the support of free public schools...shall be annually appropriated to the support of free public schools, and for the equal benefit of all the people of this State"; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section I, Paragraph 7.a. of the New Jersey State Constitution states the income tax is to be "annually appropriated...exclusively for the purpose of reducing or offsetting property taxes"; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Atlantic should no longer bear the burden of the continued diversion of their fair share of state school aid for the students between the ages of five and eighteen year of age who reside within Atlantic County.

I, Sonya G. Harris, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a meeting duly held

on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2011.

Signed *Sonya G. Harris*  
 Clerk of the Board

RECORD OF VOTE															
FREEHOLDER	MOVED	SECOND	YES	NO	NV	ABS	AB	FREEHOLDER	MOVED	SECOND	YES	NO	NV	ABS	AB
BERTINO			✓					McDEVITT			✓				
COOPER				✓				SCHROEDER				✓			
DASE		✓	✓					SUTTON	✓		✓				
GARRETT				✓				FORMICA, Chairman			✓				
GIORDANO			✓												
				NV - Not Voting				ABS - Abstain				AB - Absent			

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Atlantic Board of Chosen Freeholders does hereby call upon the Legislature of the State of New Jersey to fulfill its constitutionally assigned duty to distribute the state aid for education to the school districts in this state in a fair manner that is for the equal benefit of all the people of the state and not by means that are prejudiced by the actions of special interests that may have been presented before the court or other venue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Chris Christie, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Senate Minority Leader Thomas Kean, Jr., Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, Assembly Minority Leader Alex DeCroce and the Legislative teams of District 1, 2 and 9.