

Township of West Milford

Passaic County, New Jersey

~ Resolution 2018 - 140 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING AND ADVOCATING FOR THE ADOPTION OF S-2167 AND A-3804, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE “NEW JERSEY GREENWOOD LAKE FUND”

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2018 Senators Joseph Pennacchio and Nellie Pou introduced Senate Bill 2167 in the New Jersey State Senate; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2018 Assemblyman Jay Webber introduced Assembly Bill 3804 in the New Jersey State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, these companion bills will dedicate \$500,000 annually in revenues from vessel registration and renewal fees to a NJ Greenwood Lake Fund thereby ensuring that funding is derived from user-fees and not from taxes; and

WHEREAS, these bills will provide critical funding for the protection, preservation, maintenance, management or enhancement of the New Jersey side of Greenwood Lake; and

WHEREAS, Greenwood Lake, located in West Milford, Passaic County, is a crucial source of drinking water for the entire State of New Jersey, supplying water to over 3.5 million residents and thousands of businesses on a daily basis through the Monksville and Wanaque Reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, Greenwood Lake is also a vital component of the sensitive Highlands Preservation Area which protects and provides water to over half of New Jersey's population, over 5.4 million residents, amounting to over 379 million gallons of water per day; and

WHEREAS, Greenwood Lake is a popular destination, open to the general public, for outdoor activities, such as fishing, water skiing, jet skiing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, boating and other water activities as well hiking in the surrounding parks; and

WHEREAS, S2167 and A3804 will provide funding from a dedicated revenue source which will not result in increased taxes to the residents of the State of New Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey that they do hereby support the establishment of the “New Jersey Greenwood Lake Fund” which fund will be established as a non-lapsing fund in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), will be administered by the DEP and shall be credited with \$500,000 annually from moneys received and dedicated to the fund pursuant to P.L.1962, c.73 (C.12:7-34.47); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the New Jersey State Senate and the New Jersey State Assembly be and are hereby urged to adopt S2167 and A3804 expeditiously to provide for the protection, preservation, maintenance, management and enhancement of Greenwood Lake thereby ensuring the health of all New Jersey residents whose water is directly safeguarded by the ongoing stewardship of their water sources in the Highlands Preservation Area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be circulated to all members of the New Jersey State Senate, all members of the New Jersey State Assembly, Governor Phil Murphy, and the MCANJ for distribution to member-municipalities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that West Milford respectfully urges all municipalities to adopt resolutions of support for S2167 and A3804; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that residents throughout the State of New Jersey who appreciate the value of the pristine water we so often take for granted are urged to contact their State Senate and Assembly representatives urging the adoption of S2167 and A3804 as a proactive step to protect their water supply.

Adopted: May 23, 2018

Adopted this 23rd day of May 2018
and certified as a true copy of an original

Antoinette Battaglia, Township Clerk