

# Township of West Milford

Passaic County, New Jersey

## ~ Resolution 2018 - 141 ~

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 888 ENTITLED "AN ACT CONCERNING THE RATE OF TAXATION UNDER THE SALES AND USE TAX IN CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES, AND SUPPLEMENTING P.L. 1966, c.30"  
AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, Senator Pennacchio, by way of Senate Bill 888, has introduced legislation which would provide a 50% sales tax exemption to any municipality which is located 99% or more in the Highlands Preservation Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of West Milford is located 100% in the Highlands Preservation Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the bill is that the "Economic vitality of municipalities that are entirely or almost entirely slated for preservation is seriously undermined"; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation goes on to state that the sales tax exemption shall result in maintaining the local economic base, preserve retail establishments and retain jobs in these municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of West Milford serves as the steward of watershed lands and forgoes equitable ratables, new ratables, and development potential, resulting in significantly diminished revenues as well as opportunities for new revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 888 would assist in offsetting such financial consequences resulting from the Highlands Preservation Area restrictions and the burdens placed on its local merchants and residents; and

**WHEREAS**, additional measures to bring tax equity & fairness to the Highlands Preservation Areas are still warranted, needed and sought after.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of West Milford, in the County of Passaic and State of New Jersey that they do hereby support Senate Bill 888 entitled "An Act concerning the rate of taxation under the sales and use tax in certain municipalities, and supplementing P.L. 1966, c.30"; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution along with the Bill be submitted to the bill's sponsor Senator Joseph Pennacchio, Governor Murphy, Bloomsbury Borough, Califon Borough, Glen Gardner Borough, Ringwood Borough, the MCANJ for distribution to their membership and the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution and the Bill be sent to Assemblywoman Betty Lou DeCroce and Assemblyman Jay Webber requesting that they consider sponsoring a companion bill in the State Assembly.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: May 23, 2018

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

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Antoinette Battaglia, Township Clerk