

RESOLUTION 2012-136

**RESOLUTION OF THE OCEAN COUNTY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION
COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SUPPORTING
LEGISLATION TO PERMIT PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ADJUSTMENTS
AND EXPAND THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, the global national and state economy has impacted the State of New Jersey and has severely affected, among a host of financial difficulties, the prices of homes and property values in most municipalities in the State; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Legislature have taken important measures to help taxpayers by enacting laws that have forced local governments to reduce spending and workforces; and

WHEREAS, there remains much to do to cope with the plunging property values and real estate assessments that drive local school and county budgets; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have been deluged with real property tax appeals which forces local governments to expend time and costs to defend the appeals; and

WHEREAS, the explosion of tax appeals has caused the already acute assessment problems to intensify and have an adverse effect on municipal tax assessors; and

WHEREAS, tax appeals can cause property equalization to become inequitable and unfairly shift the tax burden to some homeowners; and

WHEREAS, legislation needs to be adopted that would permit ongoing property assessment maintenance on a continuing basis and lessen the need for expensive reassessments; and

WHEREAS, the role of the local assessor needs to be expanded to include continuing maintenance in the assessors responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, expanding the duties of the local assessor's office would help local officials to balance property values and provide more equality in sharing the tax burden.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Ocean County Mayors' Association, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, hereby urges the Governor and Legislature to enact legislation that would permit ongoing property tax assessment adjustments and expand the role and responsibility of the local assessor's office in order to equalize property tax assessments on a more regular basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution shall be provided by the Secretary of the Ocean County Mayors' Association to each of the following:

- a. The Honorable Chris Christie, Governor of the State of New Jersey
- b. The Honorable United States Congressmen Jon Runyan and Christopher H. Smith
- c. The Honorable United States Senators Robert Menendez and Frank R. Lautenberg
- d. The Honorable State Senators Christopher J. Connors, Andrew R. Ciesla and Robert W. Singer
- e. The Honorable State Assembly members DiAnne C. Gove, Brian E. Rumpf, David W. Wolfe, James W. Holzapfel, Joseph R. Malone and Ronald S. Dancer.
- f. The Honorable Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders.
- g. All Ocean County Mayors
- h. The New Jersey State League of Municipalities
- i. The New Jersey Conference of Mayors

CERTIFICATION

I, Diane B. Ambrosio, Clerk of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee on the 8th day of March 2012.

Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC
Township Clerk