

BOROUGH OF HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

RESOLUTION NO. 127

June 22, 2010

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ENACTMENT OF
THE CURRENTLY PROPOSED LEGISLATION
DISSOLVING THE BOROUGH OF TETERBORO**

WHEREAS, like many of the other municipalities in southern Bergen County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the Borough of Teterboro was originally created in 1917 from a portion of the territory of the no longer existent Lodi Township, and

WHEREAS, soon after the creation of Teterboro, at the urging of those persons instrumental both in its creation and also in the promotion of the businesses therein, the Borough of Little Ferry authorized the annexation of a modest additional 22.957 acres of its territory to Teterboro, the predecessor of the current Township of South Hackensack authorized the annexation of a modest additional 21.009 acres of its territory to Teterboro, and the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights authorized the annexation of a far more vast additional 155.42 acres of its territory to Teterboro, and

WHEREAS, there has been introduced in the New Jersey State Assembly a bill known as A2939 which, among other things, completely dissolves the Borough of Teterboro and annexes portions of its territory to various adjacent municipalities, all for the purported purpose of stimulating the economy and providing greater efficiency, and

WHEREAS, this legislation reportedly would actually reward the Borough of Little Ferry

with 16.4 per cent of the tax ratables of Teterboro, the Township of South Hackensack with 76 per cent of those ratables but the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights with only 7.4 percent of those ratables, far disproportionate to the rate of original contribution to the creation of the Borough of Teterboro, and

WHEREAS, the records of the proceedings before the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights in consenting to the annexation of its 155.42 acres to Teterboro make clear that the annexation was based upon representations that Teterboro would never allow development determined to be offensive by the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights and the Borough of Teterboro has ever since complied with that condition, but the proposed legislation contains no such assurance for Hasbrouck Heights, and

WHEREAS, this Body is reliably informed that the developer of a huge re-development project in the current Borough of Teterboro that is anticipated to provide more than one thousand jobs in construction in the near future and which, upon completion, would provide permanent, full-time employment for more than 2,500 workers is considering abandonment of the project if this legislation is adopted, and

WHEREAS, it does not appear that the proponents of this legislation have undertaken any form of a reliable study to determine the impact of this law on the economy of the area in general rather than just the economy of several particular municipalities which this proposal favors, and

WHEREAS, it further appears that the sponsors of this legislation, all of whom are Democrats, have for many months and perhaps even years been in negotiations with the officials

of the Democrat controlled municipalities to which these ratable rewards are proposed to be granted and the officials of those Democrat towns have been negotiating and continue to negotiate among themselves as to the proportion of their respective rewards while no official of the Republican controlled Borough of Hasbrouck Heights was even apprised of the existence of this proposed legislation until early this month and no official of the Borough of Teterboro was even so apprised until shortly thereafter and neither of them were given any say in the matter whatsoever, and

WHEREAS, it is understood that a companion bill is about to be introduced in the New Jersey State Senate in substantially the same form, and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, this Body concludes, and believes that any reasonable person would conclude, as follows:

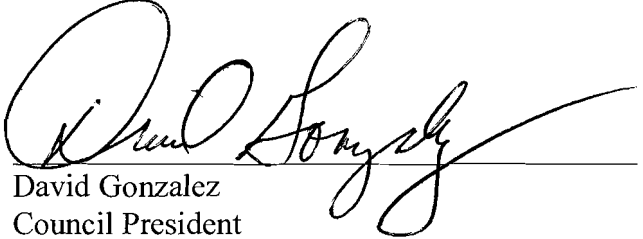
1. The proposed division of the territory of the Borough of Teterboro and the proposed distribution of tax ratables is without any basis in either historic or current fact and is therefore arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable.
2. Although the proposed legislation masquerades as a bill to stimulate the regional economy, the proponents of the bill have failed to demonstrate the likelihood of such benefit and, to the contrary, reliable evidence exists to demonstrate a likely detriment to the economy of the region at large.
3. The proposed legislation is obviously merely a partisan political attempt to favor Democrat controlled municipalities with vast tax ratables.
4. The enactment of such baseless legislation would set a dangerous precedent of

partisan political manipulation and could lead to the wholesale abolition of municipalities controlled by officials of the minority party.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that this Body stands resolutely opposed to the adoption of A2939 and any similar companion Senate bill unless:

1. There is first undertaken a fair, objective, non-partisan economic study proving that a substantial economic benefit would accrue to the public in the general region;
2. The consent of the Borough of Teterboro be first obtained;
3. The bills are amended to provide for the re-annexation of territory originally annexed from the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights and the other municipalities from which territory was annexed; and
4. The bills are amended to provide for the fair, non-partisan and equitable distribution of the remaining ratables in accordance with the said economic impact study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights be and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified true copy of this Resolution to those parties as may be now or hereafter determined by the Mayor of this Borough to be in interest.


David Gonzalez
Council President

Motion by: Councilman Gonzalez
Second by: Councilwoman Buckman

Roll Call: Ayes: DiPisa, Buckman, Gonzalez, Link, Dingertopadre, Lipari
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

I, ROSE MARIE SEES, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Hasbrouck Heights, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a certified copy of Resolution No. 127 adopted by the Governing Body on June 22, 2010.



Rose Marie Sees