

RESOLUTION # 1-2010

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
PRESERVING DEDICATED LIBRARY FUNDING
FOR MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

WHEREAS Assembly Bill A 2555 has been introduced by Assemblyman John DiMaio to eliminate the minimum local funding requirement for municipal public libraries; and

WHEREAS municipal public libraries have been established at the direction of its citizens through a binding referendum which specified the minimum funding level at 1/3 of a mil; and

WHEREAS public libraries are vital community centers providing essential services to the residents of their municipalities, **even more so during these difficult economic times**; and

WHEREAS the current funding formula for municipal libraries has endured for over 100 years providing a stable source of tax support for municipal library services; and;

WHEREAS the A 2555 would critically weaken the foundation of library services in New Jersey by drastically reducing the minimum funding level which would directly impact library services; and

WHEREAS the fiscal hardships facing many residents and businesses require access to key information resources available in New Jersey's free public libraries, such as access to computers for educational or business needs, or to find jobs and other opportunities; and increases the use of the other services of the public library, such as borrowing books and other media or attending programs for children and the entire family; and

WHEREAS nearly 170,000 people visit NJ public libraries on any given day; and 48,000,000 visits were made to libraries in 2009 demonstrating that libraries are supported and valued by the residents of New Jersey;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Washington Public Library assembled in open public meeting on April 26, 2010, that said Board protests against A2555 and forwards this resolution to Assemblyman John DiMaio; to the state Senator and the Assemblypersons representing the district in which it is located and to Governor Chris Christie; and

IN ADDITION, this Board asks the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington to also adopt a formal resolution to oppose A2555 and that both the Board and the Mayor and Council forward their resolutions to the state Senator and the Assemblypersons representing the district in which the Library is located;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recommends and urges that the elected and appointed officials of the Borough of Washington take every possible step to persuade the Legislature and the Governor to support the will of the people to continue dedicated funding for municipal libraries;

The above Resolution was moved by Serraine McQueen
seconded by Josephine Noone, voted and carried this 26th day of April,
2010.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Abstentions:

Charlene Jones
Charlene Jones,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees

RESOLUTION # 2-2010

A RESOLUTION TO PROTEST
CUTS TO FUNDING TO THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY
AND ITS STATEWIDE PROGRAMS TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

WHEREAS Governor Christie's budget as introduced for FY 2011 would slash funding for statewide library programs by 100%; and funding for these programs has been flat for most of the past twenty years; and whereas the loss of these funds will trigger a loss of \$4.5 million in federal funds; and statewide library programs funding sustains the public libraries' infrastructure for Internet access; public computing; the Statewide Summer Reading program; cooperative purchase of databases to ensure affordable costs and to create a baseline of standard services for public, school, and academic libraries; delivery of materials for Interlibrary loan and the Interlibrary Loan system; and

WHEREAS Per Capita State Aid that is spent by public libraries on books and other materials for residents will be cut by 50%; and

WHEREAS nearly 170,000 people visit NJ public libraries on any given day; and 48,000,000 visits were made to libraries in 2009;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Washington Public Library assembled in open public meeting on April 26, 2010, that the Board protests these devastating cuts to libraries and forwards this resolution to the state Senator and the Assemblypersons representing the district in which Washington Public Library is located (District 23) and to Governor Chris Christie;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recommends and urges that the elected and appointed officials of the Borough of Washington take every possible step to persuade the Legislature and the Governor not to adopt the Governor's budget cuts for the New Jersey libraries, including through visits, letters and emails to these elected officials.

The above Resolution was moved by Ron Duryea,
seconded by Charlene Jones, voted and carried this 26th day of April,
2010.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Abstentions:

Charlene Jones
Charlene Jones,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees