

**TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION #20-204

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF
THE COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN FOR
VOTER CHOICE IN THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, on August 14, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 177, requiring that every active registered voter be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot for the November General Election; and

WHEREAS, the Raritan Township Committee does not have jurisdiction overseeing elections, the Committee has received numerous emails and phone calls from concerned residents about an all vote-by-mail November General Election; and

WHEREAS, voting is a sacred democratic right that has been secured through social movements, protected in the courts, preserved on the battlefield by American veterans, and voters have a right to expect confidence in their choice of voting; and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Clerk and Hunterdon County Board of Elections have and continue to do an outstanding job of educating voters about the vote-by-mail process including offering extensive resources on social media; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County Clerk Mary H. Melfi wisely called upon Governor Murphy to give voters the choice of in-person or vote-by-mail voting for the November General Election several weeks ago; and

WHEREAS, it has been deemed safe for a large number of indoor retail establishments to remain open and allow in-person activities that involve contact with large numbers of people; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has exempted political activities from his order restricting the indoor occupancy to twenty-five percent (25%) or 25 people and therefore allowing twenty-five percent (25%) of the occupancy of a room, up to 100 people for political purposes, which voting would certainly be considered; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Anthony Fauci, America's leading expert on infectious diseases, has stated that in-person voting is permissible with the proper protocols in place.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Raritan, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Township of Raritan Committee calls on Governor Murphy to reconsider his Executive Order No. 177 and allow individuals to vote in person if they so choose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to Senate President Steve Sweeney, Senate Minority Leader Thomas Kean, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick and members of the Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Twenty-third Legislative Districts.

ATTEST:

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN**



Lisa Fania, RMC
Township Clerk



Jeff Kuhl
Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, Lisa Fania, Clerk of the Township of Raritan, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true, complete and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Raritan at a meeting held on September 1, 2020.



Lisa Fania, RMC
Township Clerk