

MAR 21 2013

(C)

**BOROUGH OF BUTLER
RESOLUTION NO. R 2013-28**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER OPPOSING THE ADOPTION OF ASSEMBLY NO. 1196 AND SENATE NO. 1178 WHICH WOULD PLACE THE BURDEN OF PROOF ON GOVERNMENT EMPLOYERS TO ESTABLISH THAT AN INJURY OR ILLNESS WAS NOT WORK RELATED

WHEREAS, Public safety employees and volunteers should be adequately compensated for on-duty accidents and illnesses; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's current Workers' Compensation law is already one of the broadest in the country; and

WHEREAS, Assembly, No. 1196 and Senate No. 1178, as currently drafted, will make it almost impossible to contest claims from injuries and illnesses caused off-the-job; and

WHEREAS, this bill places the burden of proof on governmental employers to establish that an injury or an illness, such as cancer, heart attack or hyper tension did not occur on the job; and

WHEREAS, the actuary for the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) has estimated that Assembly, No. 1196 and Senate No. 1178 could easily double municipal Workers' Compensation expense of \$400 million per year; and

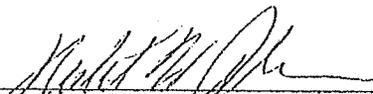
WHEREAS, the MEL and the League of Municipalities have offered to meet with the supporters of this legislation to develop less expensive ways of improving the compensation of first responders; and

WHEREAS, while the governing body recognizes and applauds the bravery and service of our public safety employees and volunteer first responders, it is vital that the State of New Jersey balances the need to compensate those with work related injuries and illnesses and the significant financial burdens placed on municipalities and taxpayers.

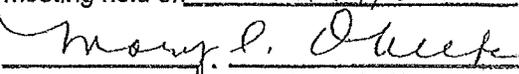
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Butler in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey as follows:

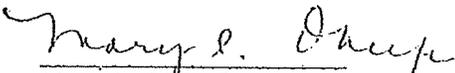
1. The governing body urges the Legislature to reject Assembly No. 1196 and Senate No. 1178 and respectfully requests that the supporters of this Legislation work with the MEL and League of Municipalities to develop less expensive ways to improve compensation to first responders.
2. That certified copies of this resolution be provided to Governor Chris Christie, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, and the legislators of the 26th legislative district, the Executive Director of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the Morris County League of Municipalities and all Morris County Municipalities

Adopted: March 19, 2013


Robert W. Alviene, Mayor

Certification of a true & lawful copy of a Resolution/Ordinance/Minutes adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Butler, County of Morris, State of New Jersey at its meeting held on March 19, 2013


Borough Clerk


Mary A. O'Keefe, RMC

Dated: March 19, 2013