

WEST DEPTFORD TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION #2019-126

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD IN SUPPORT OF PATH TO
PROGRESS RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC AND FISCAL
POLICY WORKGROUP**

WHEREAS, New Jersey faces a daunting fiscal crisis; and

WHEREAS, for two decades, while county and municipal governments made the proper pension payments, New Jersey governors from both parties severely underfunded the pension system for teachers and State government workers; and

WHEREAS, while local government pension systems are funded at the national average, the State's unfunded liability for pensions and retiree health benefits now tops \$150 billion – four times the size of the State budget; and

WHEREAS, actuaries project the State will have to increase its pension contribution from \$3.2 billion in this year's budget to \$6.7 billion to reach the Actuarially Required Contribution (ARC) by FY 2023; and

WHEREAS, health care costs continue to rise, and New Jersey and its local governments cannot sustain the unparalleled platinum-level benefits that they provide to their employees; and

WHEREAS, municipalities cannot address other major cost drivers, such as career-end sick leave payouts in excess of \$100,000, without relief from State government; and

WHEREAS, the State must bring pension and health care costs under control before they crowd out all other important spending needs, such as reinvestment in NJ Transit, making higher education more affordable and properly funding state aid to school districts to hold down property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that West Deptford Township expresses its support for the recommendations of the Path to Progress report issued by the New Jersey Economic and Fiscal Policy Workgroup; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to Assemblyman John J. Burzichelli, Assemblyman Adam J. Taliaferro, Senate President Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Senator Paul Sarlo, Senator Steve Oroho, Assembly Majority Leader Greenwald, Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor-Marin, Senator Tony Bucco, Senator Troy Singleton, Senator Dawn Addiego, the Governor of State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of Counties, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD



DENICE DICARLO, Mayor

ATTEST:



LEE ANN DEHART, RMC

CERTIFICATION

I, Lee Ann DeHart, Registered Municipal Clerk, of the Township of West Deptford, in the County of Gloucester, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was presented and duly adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting of the Township of West Deptford held on March 27, 2019.



LEE ANN DEHART, RMC