RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND S-716, S-477 AND S-1766

Whereas: While it is commendable that legislation is being considered to provide additional compensation to Firefighters with cancer, S-716 as currently written, without responsible amendments, will prove to be very expensive to municipalities and taxpayers, and

Whereas: While it is also commendable that the statute of limitations is being extended for claims involving sexual abuse, S-477 as currently written would eliminate the statute of limitations entirely leaving officials and volunteers with the near impossible task of defending a claim that is decades old; and

Whereas: Under current law family members can already collect substantial compensation for actual losses such as medical bills, lost income as well as loss of companionship; and

Whereas: Without appropriate amendments, the combined impact of these bills would devastate local government insurance budgets at a time when the local taxpayers are being squeezed because of changes in the Federal Tax code.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Borough of Mount Arlington that:

- S-716 be <u>amended</u> to provide that the cancer presumption be limited to types of cancer that scientific evident establishes that Firefighters develop at a higher rate than the general public; and
- S-716 be <u>amended</u> to end the presumption at age 65 when the firefighter becomes eligible for Medicare. Alternatively, S-716 should be amended to remove volunteers and establish a special program for them along the lines recently adopted by New York, Connecticut, Michigan, Colorado and Georgia; and
- S-716 also be <u>amended</u> so that the standard to rebut the presumption remains at the current "preponderance of the evidence"; and
- S-477 be <u>amended</u> to increase statute of limitation on claims involving sexual molestation against public entities to 7 years, subject to no limitation against the molester; and
- S-1766 be <u>amended</u> to remove public entities from "emotional distress" compensation for wrongful death claims subject to Title 59; and

A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor, the legislative delegation in the district, the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the Assembly.

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true and correct Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, and adopted on August 7, 2018.

Linda DeSantis, R.M.C.

Borough Clerk