

**TOWNSHIP OF MULLICA
RESOLUTION # 39-2013**

RESOLUTION OPPOSING A-1196

Workers' Compensation for Public Safety Workers

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, A-1196, 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 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 A-1196 could easily double municipal Workers' Compensation expense of \$400 million per year; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Township of Mullica urge the legislature to reject A-1196 and urges the supporters of this legislation to work with the MEL and the League of Municipalities to develop less expensive ways to improve compensation to first responders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to send certified copies of this resolution to Senate President Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Oliver, Assemblymen Amodeo & Brown, Senator Whelan, Governor Christie and the League of Municipalities.

Adopted: February 12, 2013

JAMES BROWN
MAYOR

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY JOHNSON
TOWNSHIP CLERK