

**Resolution In Support of A4666/S3080 and A4667/S3081, and Urging the Legislature to Reduce Local Affordable Housing Burdens and Provide Defined Rules and Relief in Providing Thereof**

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey’s municipalities support the provision of affordable housing in a reasonable, rational and achievable way, consistent with economic realities and sound planning; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Affordable Housing (COAH) has not adopted regulations to establish the methodology for determining municipal affordable housing obligations since 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, COAH’s inability to adopt regulations resulted in hundreds of municipalities being forced to seek declaratory judgements in the courts in order to comply with the State imposed municipal affordable housing obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1999 both COAH and the State Legislature have restricted or abolished municipal compliance tools while failing to create new tools and means of compliance to facilitate the construction of affordable housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature and Administration need to partner with municipalities to facilitate municipal compliance by enabling new tools which generate funding, provide flexibility, promote transparency, provide incentives for municipalities and further the provision of affordable housing; *and*

**WHEREAS**, many municipalities have collected affordable housing trust funds while at the same time tax credits and other financial incentives for construction or rehabilitation have been significantly reduced, impeding the ability of local governments and their partners to advance affordable housing projects; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of municipalities statewide must address significant state and court imposed housing obligations as a result of the State’s inability to enact a reasonable statewide policy; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the state and the legislature to assist municipalities and enact a rational housing policy with achievable obligations, sufficient compliance tools and appropriate financial resources.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the (*insert name of municipality*) that the State Legislature is urged to pass A4666/S3080, enacting a short-term moratorium on all affordable housing litigation; and A4667/S3081 establishing the “Affordable Housing Obligation Study Commission” to assist in finding solutions to the affordable housing crisis foisted upon municipalities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we must reach a solution to affordable housing in New Jersey; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that certified Copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the President of the New Jersey Senate, the Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly, (*insert names of respective State Senate and Assembly representatives*), the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee, the new and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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- 8) The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee
- 9) The Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee

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