

**MONROE TOWNSHIP  
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, CUMBERLAND COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA, URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO FREE OUR  
TAXPAYERS FROM THE UNDUE FISCAL BURDEN PLACED ON THEM BY THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PREVAILING WAGE ACT OF 1961.**

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act of 1961 requires that public construction, reconstruction, demolition, alteration and/or repair projects with an estimated cost greater than \$25,000 to pay workers a wage set by the Secretary of Labor and Industry rather than local market rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the prevailing wages set by the Secretary of Labor and Industry are generally 15 to 30 percent higher than local market labor rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost and burden of these artificially inflated wages are borne by taxpayers in the form of higher taxes than would otherwise be necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act institutionalizes overpayment by taxpayers for work that could be completed more economically with fully open competitive bidding; and

**WHEREAS**, local contractors often choose not to bid on prevailing wage projects due to the administrative and financial overhead required; and

**WHEREAS**, quality of work and timeliness of completion are determined by adequate oversight and good job-specifications, not by paying inflated wages;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Monroe Township-, Cumberland County, urges Pennsylvania's General Assembly to enact commonsense reforms to the Prevailing Wage Act to reduce this burden on our taxpayers by increasing the threshold for compliance to reflect the increase in the Consumer Price Index since the act's inception and indexing this rate to inflation; excluding "maintenance work" on roads and bridges from compliance with the act, including the replacement of guiderails and curbs, pavement overlays up to 3.5 inches, road widening that does not result in additional lanes, and bridge cleaning and resurfacing; and revising the manner in which prevailing wage rates are calculated to include both union and non-union rates.

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Monroe Township, Cumberland County also supports authorization for local governments to opt out of the act.

**ADOPTED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2013.

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, MONROE TOWNSHIP**

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**A. W. Castle, III, Chairman**

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**Philip F. Kehoe, Vice-chairman**

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**Samuel M. Simmons, III, Supervisor**