## LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION AND SUPOPORT OF THE SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM PLAN: EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY & FAIR FUNDING FOR NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT/ GLOUCESTER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, HELD AT KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, ON AUGUST 25, 2016,

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM PLAN: EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY & FAIR FUNDING FOR NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS PROPOSED BY SENATE PRESIDENT STEVE SWEENEY AND SENATOR M. TERESA RUIZ.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Kingsway Regional School District of Gloucester County, New Jersey, does hereby find as follows:

**WHEREAS**, eight years ago, the School Funding Reform Act promised adequate funding to offer equal educational opportunities for <u>all</u> of New Jersey's schoolchildren - regardless of where they live;

WHEREAS, the School Funding Reform Act offered the promise of making real the constitutional duty of offering a "thorough and efficient" education for each and every school and that school aid would be given fairly and equitably statewide based on a formula that took into account each municipality's property tax base, its ability to pay, increases and decreases in enrollment and any special needs of the children;

WHEREAS, due to political compromises over time, New Jersey's school aid funding has grown less fair and less adequate, year after year;

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the most efficient and effective remedy to this inadequacy, Senate President Steve Sweeney and Senator M. Teresa Ruiz, the chair of the Senate Education Committee, developed a plan to restore fairness and equity to New Jersey's school aid formula;

WHEREAS, the School Funding Reform plan would propose a two prong approach first by instituting the expansion of school aid for all of New Jersey's schools via the method of fully funding the school formula, and second, through the drafting of legislation establishing the State School Aid Funding Fairness Commission;

WHEREAS, this legislation would create the commission that would study the adjustment aid process, the enrollment growth cap and other provisions set forth by the 2008 funding law to determine what revisions are needed to bring all school districts to full funding over a period of five years; and

WHEREAS, the guiding principle and the real-life goal of the School Funding Reform plan would be to bring fairness to the way we allocate school aid, and set New Jersey firmly on the path to full, fair and adequate funding in every school district in the state so that every child is afforded an equal opportunity for a quality education.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED** by the Board of Education of Kingsway Regional School District, of Gloucester County, New Jersey, that the State of New Jersey adopts the School Funding Reform plan set forth by Senate President Sweeney and Senator M. Teresa Ruiz as the established standard for funding all school districts throughout the State of New Jersey.

of Gloucester County, NJ.

Board of Education of Kingsway Regional School District,

Dr. James J. Lavender

Superintendent of Schools

James Mueller

/Board of Education President

CC:

Attes

Dr. James J. Lavender, Superintendent of Schools Jason Schimpf, Business Administrator/Board Secretary