A RESOLUTION OF THE ABBOTTSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL, ADAMS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, IN SUPPORT OF SPECIFIC ACTION TO RESTORE ALLOCATIONS FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIRE RELIEF FUND WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA. NO. 2022-03

WHEREAS;

The diversion of funds destined for the safety of Pennsylvania's volunteer firefighters have been shifted to paying the shortage in the Municipal Pension Fund to meet the Commonwealth's pension obligations; and

These funds, as well as the Municipal Pension Funds, grew at a steady rate from 1985 until 2011, and the total income to the Volunteer Fire Relief Fund steadily increased for 26 years, but beginning in 2012 the percentage allocated to the Volunteer's has steadily decreased while the Pension Fund continues to increase. Assuming the same 30% distribution for the years 2012 through 2019 as opposed to the actual continuing lower percentages, our Relief Fund lost \$185 Million dollars; and

This loss does not include the \$100 million taken by legislation conceived by the Department of Community and Economic Development to fund the "Innovate in PA" tax credit program, Twenty million dollars was lost from the Foreign Fire Fund in the years 2017, 18 and 19. The fund will continue to lose \$20 million in 2020 and another \$20 million in 2021. None of the \$100 has been returned to the Foreign Fire Fund. Tax credits avoided the \$100 million from being received by the Department of Revenue; and

As our volunteer numbers decrease and our costs increase, it is vital for the future of Pennsylvania's Volunteer Fire Service to receive the funds established by law in 1984.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Abbottstown Borough Council hereby petition the Representatives and Senators duly elected from our district and state, along with our Governor and Lt. Governor, to:

- restore the \$185 million as well as the 30% of the \$100 million taken by the Innovate in PA program; and
- 2) that the 30% be restored beginning with the budget year 2022-23.

ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF JANUARY 2022.

ATTEST

ABBOTTSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

David W. Bolton, MBA, CBO

Secretary

Dennis R Posey President

CERTIFICATE

2022-03

I, the undersigned officer of the Borough of Abbottstown, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was approved by majority vote of the entire Council at a meeting duly convened according to law and held on January 20, 2022, at which meeting a quorum was present; said Resolution has been recorded in the minutes of said Council; and said Resolution remains in effect, unaltered and unamended, as of the date of this Certificate.

I further certify that the Borough of Abbottstown met the advance notice requirements of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, 65 Pa. Cons. Stat. §701 et seq., by advertising the time and place of said meeting and by posting prominently a notice of said meeting at the principal office of the Borough or at the public building in which said meeting was held.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I set my hand and affix the official seal of the Borough of Abbottstown this 20th day of January 2022.

David W. Bolton, MBA, CBO

Secretary

(SEAL)