Township of West Milford

Passaic County, New Jersey

~ Resolution 2021 – 324 ~

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY OPPOSING EXECUTIVE ORDER 251, ANNOUNCED AUGUST 6, 2021

WHEREAS, the Governor of New Jersey, Phillip Murphy, has enacted a new mask mandate (EO 251) for New Jersey school children announced on August 6, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has decreed that all New Jersey school children will wear a mask upon the return to school in September 2021, unless specific exemption criteria is met; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford acknowledges potential risks to children from Covid 19, the Governing Body also acknowledges that it is the right and responsibility of individual parents and caregivers to make appropriate healthcare decisions for their own children including the right to assess both the costs and benefits of mask wearing.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Governing Body endorses the fundamental rights of parents and guardians to make the decision of whether or not to send their children to school in a mask based on the parents and individual child's healthcare needs and potential risks to others.

NOW, THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED this in no way detracts from the potential seriousness of Covid-19 but rather affirms parental autonomy and authority in making appropriate decisions for their own children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council acknowledges that parents and guardians along with their healthcare providers are in the best position and authority to make this determination for their own children.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: August 11, 2021

Adopted this 11th day of August, 2021 and certified as a true copy of an original.

William Senande, Township Clerk