

**FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION #2025-38**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION THAT PERMITS ACCESSORY
DWELLING UNITS**

WHEREAS, New Jersey has long prided itself on maintaining the principles of home rule, which has provided our residents with the most meaningful direct access to democratically elected officials through strong local governments; and

WHEREAS, municipalities represent the form of government which is closest to the people, and the immediacy of governance at the local level brings a distinctive responsiveness and ability to shape policy to respond to the particular needs of communities; and

WHEREAS, local control and decision making empowers the residents and taxpayers of each municipality to carefully tailor local policies that reflect its unique geography, economy, beliefs and priorities; and

WHEREAS, legislation that would permit Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and permit property owners to develop ADUs on their property is inconsistent with the principles of the New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly Committee Substitute (ACS) for A-2792, A-4370, and A-2489 undermines the careful planning municipalities engage in and routinely update; and

WHEREAS, municipalities already have the authority to permit ADUs and this legislative proposal undermines municipal land use planning where ADUs are inconsistent with the land use planning due to a variety of factors including availability of water, sewer capacity, parking, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, this legislation and the erosion of local autonomy threatens to undermine home rule that is critical for local officials to adopt policies that are the most beneficial to the community and that our residents have long come to expect from their municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Senate favorably acted on this legislation in February;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, hereby urges the legislature to reject ACS 2792, A-4370, and A-2489 and preserve local autonomy in municipal planning to develop Accessory Dwelling Units if and where it sees fit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Douglas J. Steinhardt, Assemblymembers Erik Peterson and John DiMaio, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, the Lieutenant Governor Tahesha Way, the Governor of the State of New Jersey Phillip Murphy, and New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

I, Christine J. Burke, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, do hereby certify this to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting held on May 8, 2025.



Christine Burke, RMC
Municipal Clerk

