

**RESOLUTION #2023-54
TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN, HUNTERDON COUNTY**

**OPPOSING H.R. 3372, WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH A 10-YEAR “PILOT PROGRAM
FOR STATES TO TEST 91,000 POUND TRUCKS”**

WHEREAS, H.R. 3372, was introduced in the House of Representatives on May 16, 2023, and would create a program for states to ‘test’ 91,000-pound trucks on their roads; and

WHEREAS, this increase to 91,000 pounds, represents a nearly 14% increase over the current large rigs which are approximately 80,000 pounds in weight; and

WHEREAS, a 2023, joint study prepared by the National Association of Counties and National Association of County Engineers, found that 72,000 local bridges across the country can’t safely handle 91,000-pound trucks and that it would cost \$61 billion to replace them; and

WHEREAS, according to the USDOT, even with a 6th axle distributing the load, 91,000-pound trucks would only pay for about 55% of their damage to roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, since Congress last raised truck weights, the number of trucks registered in the U.S. and the miles they drive have increased by 91%; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County is home to numerous small and historic bridges that currently cannot handle existing heavy trucks that are on roadways; and


WHEREAS, existing truck traffic presents numerous challenges to Hunterdon County’s 26 municipalities including its numerous, small, historic downtowns; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, hereby opposes H.R. 3372, and calls upon its federally elected representatives to oppose this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to U.S. Representative Tom Kean, U.S. Senators Robert Menendez and Cory Booker; and

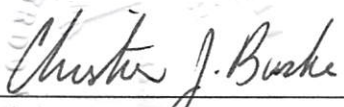
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Clerk shall send a copy of this resolution to all 26 Hunterdon County municipalities, with a request that they adopt similar resolutions in opposition to H.R. 3372.

ADOPTED: 10/12/2023



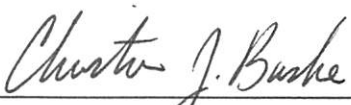
Philip Koury, Mayor
Township Committee

Attest and Affix Seal:

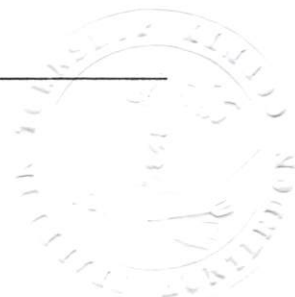


Christine J. Burke, RMC
Municipal Clerk

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 October 12, 2023.



Christine Burke, RMC
Municipal Clerk





The Board of County Commissioners
County of Hunterdon
State of New Jersey

71 Main Street, Administration Building
PO Box 2900
Flemington, New Jersey 08822-2900

Zachary T. Rich, Director
Jeff Kuhl, Deputy Director

John E. Lanza, Commissioner
Susan J. Soloway, Commissioner
Shaun C. Van Doren, Commissioner

Dear Mayor:

At the September 5, 2023, Hunterdon County Board of Commissioners meeting, I led the effort to pass a resolution in opposition to H.R. 3372, a bill in the House of Representatives, that would establish a 10-year "pilot program" for states to test 91,000-pound trucks.

This increase in allowable truck weight represents a nearly 14% increase over the current limit of 80,000 pounds on our nation's roadways.

Outside experts estimate that New Jersey has 355 bridges that would be at risk of being compromised by the higher weight limits, with local governments likely being forced to deal with the financial consequences, which are estimated at nearly \$1.4 billion.

Hunterdon County is home to numerous historic bridges, stone arch culverts, and restricted weight structures that would be at even greater risk if these heavier weight trucks were to be permitted on our nation's roadways. In addition, large tractor trailers that deviate off prescribed routes, are already causing many problems for Hunterdon's municipalities, especially those with small, historic downtowns.

Now is not the time to exacerbate the problem with heavier weight trucks on our already congested roadways.

I am asking that your governing body adopt a similar resolution to the one that was recently passed by the Commissioner Board and to send that resolution to Congressman Tom Kean, and US Senators Robert Menendez and Cory Booker.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Shaun C. Van Doren
Commissioner

Enclosure

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON**

**RESOLUTION
2023-713**

Opposing H.R. 3372, Which Would Establish a 10-Year "Pilot Program for States to Test 91,000 Pound Trucks

WHEREAS, H.R. 3372, was introduced in the House of Representatives on May 16, 2023, and would create a program for states to 'test' 91,000-pound trucks on their roads; and

WHEREAS, this increase to 91,000 pounds, represents a nearly 14% increase over the current large rigs which are approximately 80,000 pounds in weight; and

WHEREAS, a 2023, joint study prepared by the *National Association of Counties* and *National Association of County Engineers*, found that 72,000 local bridges across the country can't safely handle 91,000-pound trucks and that it would cost \$61 billion to replace them; and

WHEREAS, according to the USDOT, even with a 6th axle distributing the load, 91,000-pound trucks would only pay for about 55% of their damage to roads and bridges; and

WHEREAS, since Congress last raised truck weights, the number of trucks registered in the U.S. and the miles they drive have increased by 91%; and

WHEREAS, Hunterdon County is home to numerous small and historic bridges that currently cannot handle existing heavy trucks that are on roadways; and

WHEREAS, existing truck traffic presents numerous challenges to Hunterdon County's 26 municipalities including its numerous, small, historic downtowns; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunterdon County Board of County Commissioners hereby opposed H.R. 3372, and calls upon its federally elected representatives to oppose this legislation; and

~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to U.S. Representative Tom Kean, U.S. Senators Robert Menendez and Cory Booker; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners shall send a copy of this resolution to all 26 Hunterdon County municipalities, with a request that they adopt similar resolutions in opposition to H.R. 3372.

ROLL CALL	MOVED	SECONDED	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Zachary T. Rich, Director			X			
Jeff Kuhl, Deputy Director			X			
John E. Lanza, Commissioner			X			
Susan J. Soloway, Commissioner		X	X			
Shaun C. Van Doren, Commissioner	X		X			

ADOPTED September 05, 2023


Andrew C. Russano, CLERK