



# *Township of Monroe*

County of Middlesex

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Monroe Supports State Efforts to Preserve Federal Tax Deductions for Residents**

**MONROE** – In response to sweeping federal tax reforms that limit certain itemized deductions, the Monroe Township Mayor and Council approved a measure at their Jan. 8 meeting supporting a plan by New Jersey officials that would allow residents to write-off a portion of their property taxes as a charitable contribution. New Jersey Governor-elect Phil Murphy and lawmakers are advancing efforts to ensure their constituents receive the full deduction for State and local taxes, which were undercut by recently adopted federal tax legislation.

Under their proposal, New Jersey taxpayers would be permitted to file portions of their property tax bills as charitable contributions to public service entities, such as municipalities, counties and school boards. Charitable contributions were one of the few deductions the federal government left intact under the new code. As previously approved by the Internal Revenue Service, public services deductibles are considered charitable contributions in 22 other states.

“New Jersey and Monroe residents are under siege by the new federal government tax plan that unfairly increases the tax burden on our residents,” said Monroe Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. “I applaud the State’s efforts to fight back and I will step forward to make sure our residents get a fair shake. While we have kept municipal taxes flat for four years, I worry that without the State legislature acting to reinstate these deductions, it may harm our home values and impact our municipal services. I support Governor-elect Murphy’s efforts and encourage the legislature to address this unreasonable federal action.”

At the Jan. 8 meeting, the Monroe Township Council unanimously approved the resolution supporting the State’s efforts to preserve the deductions.

“This previous deduction has been in place for more than a century,” said Monroe Council President Stephen Dalina following the meeting. “Our State taxpayers already subsidize other states by paying more into the federal treasury than the federal government reimburses back to New Jersey in spending. Federal lawmakers have essentially implemented a double taxation policy here with New Jersey residents paying federal income taxes on State and local taxes. Governor Murphy’s proposal should provide some relief.”

Monroe’s resolution is en route to Trenton with copies forwarded to Murphy, as well as Senate President Steven Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin and other State legislators representing the Township.

*All media inquiries may be directed to Monroe Township’s Public Information Officer Maria Prato at 732-521-4400 or [mprato@monroetwp.com](mailto:mprato@monroetwp.com).*