

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF WARREN**

Wayne Dumont, Jr. Administration Building
165 County Route 519 South
Belvidere, NJ 07823

RESOLUTION

On motion by _____, seconded by _____, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Warren at a meeting held March _____, 2023.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF WARREN OPPOSING PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OR
DISCRIMINATION BASED UPON ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND
GOVERNANCE (“ESG”) STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) refers to a set of standards that is intended to alter how certain businesses and governments make judgments and decisions so that instead of evaluations being focused on quality of goods and services, performance, finances, costs, expenses, and other traditional considerations, evaluations are made on the basis of various environmental, social and governance concerns; and

WHEREAS, the widespread use of ESG standards by central banks, financial institutions, corporations, and governmental entities threatens free market competition, individual and economic rights and imposes significant risk to the ability to provide efficient and cost effective government; and

WHEREAS, ESG is, by its very nature, inherently subjective, nebulous and arbitrary and thereby susceptible to misuse, manipulation, favoritism and political exploitation; and

WHEREAS, the County is firm in the belief that ESG outlines societal goals without appropriately considering societal costs and undermines competition and the rights of individuals and businesses; and

WHEREAS, ESG unduly promotes social and political agendas over broader and individual economic impact, jobs, industry and energy costs; and

WHEREAS, the use and reliance on ESG as the basis of Government decision with respect to the expenditure and commitment of taxpayer funds is fundamentally inconsistent with the County Commissioner’s most basic and foremost obligation as the custodian of the public’s money; and

WHEREAS, any policy that affords preference, priority or bias in favor of ESG will be severely detrimental to the maintenance of sound fiscal and budget management policies due to substantial increases in cost resulting from expenditure decisions that do not prioritize expense;

and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners are adamantly opposed to any ESG policy that is implemented without regard to the economic, financial and other consequences it will have on Warren County residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners are deeply concerned about the negative effects ESG would have on County residents and businesses, including, but not limited to, increased energy costs, higher taxes, increased inflation, job losses, less job creation, reduced economic growth, lower property values, reduced capital investment, loss of industry, reduction in diversity of energy, agricultural and other economic resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Warren strongly oppose preferential treatment or discrimination based upon ESG and directs the County to take all necessary action, to the extent authorized by law, to oppose and prohibit the use or implementation of ESG in all matters of County government.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Ciesla, Mr. Sarnoski, Mr. Kern

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Warren on the date above mentioned.

Alex J. Lazorisak, Clerk

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