



# Burlington County Board of Commissioners

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(609) 265-5020 • [www.co.burlington.nj.us](http://www.co.burlington.nj.us)

Eve A. Cullinan, County Administrator  
Erin M. Kelly, Clerk of the Board

**Burlington Co  
Commission**

Felicia Hopson, D  
Daniel J. O'Connell  
Linda Hyne  
Tom Pullior  
Balvir Singl

## AGENDA, REGULAR MEETING, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF BURLINGT

**If you would like to listen to and/or participate during the public comment portions of the M meeting, please see available options below:**

**By Phone - call 408-418-9388 Access code 173 933 5163**

**By Video - please visit our website at [www.co.burlington.nj.us](http://www.co.burlington.nj.us)**

Date: May 12, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Location: [www.co.burlington.nj.us](http://www.co.burlington.nj.us)  
VIRTUAL CALL ONLY

Agenda: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW JERSEY'S GREEN AMENDMENT

<b>Official Resolution#</b>		<b>2021-00225</b>						
Meeting Date		05/12/2021						
Introduced Date		05/12/2021						
Adopted Date		05/12/2021						
Agenda Item		k-2						
CAF #								
Purchase Req. #								
Result		Adopted						
COUNTY COMMISSIONER	PRES.	ABS.	MOVE	SEC	AYE	NAY	ABST.	RECU.
Hopson, Director	✓		✓		✓			
O'Connell, Deputy	✓				✓			
Hynes	✓			✓	✓			
Pullion	✓				✓			
Singh	✓				✓			

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS A TRUE, COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COPY OF RESOLUTION, ADOPTED BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NJ AT MEETING REFERENCED THEREON

*Erin M. Kelly*

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

WHEREAS, the right of New Jerseyans to clean water, air and a healthy environment is not recognized in the State of New Jersey's Constitution; and

WHEREAS, clean water, air and healthy environment are fundamental to sustaining healthy lives and a healthy economy; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has a long history of environmental protection and leadership to protect the New Jerseyans' health and environment; and

WHEREAS, while environmental laws are designed to manage pollution, clean up and remediate contamination, and conserve natural resources, these laws do not support the notion that clean air, clean water, and a healthy environment are fundamental rights; and

WHEREAS, there are still a multitude of issues threatening New Jersey's water, air, natural resources, such as climate change, emerging contaminants such as PFAS and PFOA in our drinking water supplies, poor to failing air quality, and disproportionate adverse impacts in environmental justice and frontline communities; and

WHEREAS, Burlington County is home to numerous environmental resources, including a large area of the Pinelands, the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer, the Rancocas Creek, Delaware River, and various plant and animal species, including several that are threatened or endangered; and

WHEREAS, many minorities already live predominantly in communities overburdened with pollution; and

WHEREAS, Burlington County fully supports protecting environmental rights and ensuring that these minority-communities have the same clean water, air and natural resources enjoyed by other residents; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is deadlier in areas with historically worse air quality; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of these facts, the Green Amendment ([ACR80/SCR30](#)) has been introduced in the New Jersey Senate and Assembly that would amend the State Constitution to insert into Article I, New Jersey's Bill of Rights, the right to pure water, clean air and a healthy environment to coexist with our other constitutional rights we hold so dear, including but not limited to the rights to hold property, speak, assemble, and

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WHEREAS, in recognition that to enact a Green Amendment in the New Jersey State Constitution the above-mentioned bill must be passed by the New Jersey State Legislature and then be voted on as part of a statewide referendum; and

WHEREAS, if the Resolutions (ACR80/SCR30) are passed by the Senate and then the Assembly, and if it is agreed to by the voters in the public question ballot referendum, this "Green Amendment" will be added to the Bill of Rights of the New Jersey State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Burlington hereby supports the Green Amendment (ACR80/SCR30); so that the voters may choose whether to add environmental rights to the Bill of Rights of the New Jersey State Constitution, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Burlington supports the passage of the Green Amendment by the New Jersey State Legislature in 2021 in time to be on the ballot this November; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Burlington encourages its County based legislative delegation to support ACR80 and SCR30 for full passage by the Assembly and Senate so that the voters of our State and County may choose whether to add the right to a clean and healthy environment to the Bill of Rights of the New Jersey State Constitution this year; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our State Legislative Delegation, Senate President Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Coughlin, Governor Murphy, Green Amendments for the Generations.

Official Resolution#: 2021-00225

**Agenda Item#**