

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

R E S O L U T I O N #26-20

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF THE NEW JERSEY IMMIGRANT
TRUST ACT (BILLS S-5036/S-5038/A6309) AND REAFFIRMING HOPEWELL
TOWNSHIP AS A FAIR AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2017, the Hopewell Township Committee adopted Resolution #17-350, declaring Hopewell Township a "Welcoming Community" and establishing guidelines to ensure that all residents are respected and protected regardless of immigration status; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee recognizes that community safety and prosperity rely upon a foundation of trust between residents and law enforcement, ensuring that victims and witnesses feel safe reporting crimes without fear of immigration consequences; and

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Police Department currently operates in accordance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Immigrant Trust Directive (Directive 2018-6), which strengthens community trust by:

1. Prohibiting state and local law enforcement officers from assisting federal immigration authorities (ICE) in civil immigration enforcement;
2. Restricting officers from inquiring about a person's immigration status unless relevant to a local criminal investigation; and
3. Limiting the sharing of non-public personal information or providing access to individuals in custody for the purpose of civil immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Immigrant Trust Act (S-5036/S-5038/A6309) seeks to codify these vital protections into state statute, providing long-term legal certainty and ensuring that sensitive locations—including schools, hospitals, and places of worship—remain safe spaces for all members of the community; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the New Jersey Immigrant Trust Act would align state law with the values of Hopewell Township by restricting the use of local resources for federal civil immigration enforcement and protecting the personal data of our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township of Hopewell hereby expresses its strong support for the passage of the New Jersey Immigrant Trust Act (S-5036/S-5038/A6309) to ensure the principles of the Immigrant Trust Directive are permanently codified in New Jersey law.
2. The Township reaffirms its commitment to being a Fair and Welcoming Community, where municipal services and law enforcement protections are accessible to all individuals regardless of their immigration status.
3. A copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Township's representatives in the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, as well as the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

Date Adopted: January 12, 2026

CERTIFICATION

I, Katherine Fenton-Newman, Municipal Clerk, of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee at the regular meeting held on the 12th day of January 2026, in the Municipal Building Auditorium, Hopewell Township, New Jersey and via Zoom Video Communications.


Katherine Fenton-Newman, RMC
Municipal Clerk