## BELLEFONTE BOROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 09162024-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BELLEFONTE, COUNTY OF CENTRE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, SUPPORTING PA STATE HOUSE BILL 451

WHEREAS, municipalities across Pennsylvania are facing difficulties with a high number of taxexempt properties, and;

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 451, sponsored by Representative Bob Freeman, aims to provide annual financial assistance to municipalities where 15% or more of the overall assessed property value is tax-exempt, and;

WHEREAS, House Bill 451 would create The Tax-Exempt Property Municipal Assistance Fund which would be financed with revenue from the 18% liquor tax in Pennsylvania, which was originally established to help rebuild Johnstown after the 1936 flood, and:

**WHEREAS,** The Tax-Exempt Property Municipal Assistance Fund would annually distribute to municipalities across Pennsylvania approximately \$500 million in funds to compensate for tax-exempt properties, and;

WHEREAS, preliminary payment estimates by the Pennsylvania Economy League state Bellefonte Borough could receive roughly \$500,000 per year if House Bill 451 is signed into law.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bellefonte Borough Council fully supports House Bill 451 and strongly encourages our legislators in the Pennsylvania General Assembly to support this important legislation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be transmitted to State Representative Benninghoff, State Senator Dush, and the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs.

**THIS RESOLUTION** adopted by the Council of Bellefonte at a duly assembled public meeting held this 16<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2024.

ATTEST:

Secretary

Ву:

Kent Bernier, Borough Council President

Gene "Buddy" Johnson, Mayor

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH