EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-04
A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 1620 (PN 2146), ENTITLED THE "WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT BILL"

WHEREAS, broadband service is a critical catalyst for economic development, student achievement, quality healthcare, and the efficiency of local governments. As such East Coventry Township supports the deployment of broadband services – both wired and wireless – in our community and throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a relatively new wireless technology, known as distributed antenna systems or DAS, includes the placement of wireless towers and antennae in the public rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania municipalities are charged by state law with the management of the public rights-of-way, including not only vehicular and pedestrian traffic, but also the numerous facilities installed by public utilities and related companies. Municipalities must manage these facilities to maintain public safety and preserve the character of our communities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to federal law, municipalities have the right to regulate the "placement, construction, and modification" of wireless facilities through their local zoning authority so that the deployment of these facilities is achieved in an orderly fashion. The FCC has also issued multiple orders stating in detail how municipalities may regulate these facilities; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1620 (PN 2146), entitled the "Wireless Infrastructure Deployment" bill, would strip municipalities of their legal authority to regulate wireless facilities both within and outside the public rights-of-way undermining public safety and the protection of the rights-of-way, limit a municipality's ability to negotiate and collect reasonable fees for co-location on municipal infrastructure, and mandate municipal cooperation in excess of that required by the Federal government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1.) That the Board of Supervisors of East Coventry Township, Chester County does hereby express its opposition to HB 1620 (PN 2146) because it is not in the best interests of Pennsylvania.

2.) That this resolution shall be sent to our State Representative(s), State Senator, Governor and all member of the House Consumer Affairs Committee, which is the Committee which HB 1620 (PN 2146) has been assigned.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP
Chester County, Pennsylvania

W. Atlee Rinehart, Chairman

ATTEST:

Bernard A. Rodgers, Township Secretary