

**RESOLUTION R-2022-\_\_\_\_**  
**LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

*A Resolution by Luzerne County Council Declaring a Republican Vacancy  
on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration*

WHEREAS, due to the resignation of a board member, Patrick Castellani had been appointed to fill the remainder of a term on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration (Republican seat) on October 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Castellani submitted a letter of resignation regarding his seat on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration; and

WHEREAS, Section 11.06 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter provides that whenever facts or circumstances result in a vacancy as defined in the Charter or applicable law in any County authority, board or commission, County Council shall declare such seat vacant by resolution adopted by an affirmative vote of at least a majority of its current members and announce its intent to fill the seat on the respective board, authority or commission; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to declare a vacancy of a Republican seat on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Luzerne County Council declares a Republican vacancy on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration due to the resignation of a member and Council will fill the board member seat for the remainder of the term in question in accordance with Section 8.04 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter.

This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

**ADOPTED** at a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

Roll Call:

Ayes:

Nays:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Sharon Lawrence  
Clerk to Council

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kendra Radle, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Romilda P. Crocamo  
Acting County Manager

Denise Williams  
Chair, Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration

Ms. Williams

I've taken the time to reflect on the issues and the actions taken at our last meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

I cannot, in good conscience, certify an election that has inherent process flaws related to the use of mail-in and drop boxes. I'm not arguing or disputing the ruling of the PA Supreme Court that allows but not mandates their uses. The process of allowing mail-in and drop boxes removes the election control process out of the hands of the state, county or municipality. By voting in person at a polling site the process is; one person, one election book signature, one vote and out the door. The complete process is controlled by election rules and verified by poll workers and election judges. This verification process can be certified. Certifying thousands of votes that begin uncontrolled outside of the election bureau's control has inherent risks. It's hard to believe we're accepting the election results on moral integrity versus sound processes that would eliminate most election challenges. I find strange that we've been requesting and demanding that the election bureau set up sound standard operating procedures but we don't demand the same of the election process.

After going through one election cycle and evaluating the process, I find it impossible to certify another election due to the lack of ballot control inherent within the mail-in and drop box system.

In light of the above, I do not wish to waste the election bureau's time, nor my time when I know I will not certify another election due to the use of mail-in and drop boxes.

Effective today, Saturday March 26, 2022, I'm resigning my position on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration.

Respectfully,

*Patrick E. Castellani*

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