



NJSFWC Headquarters

New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC

Shirley A. Holly, President

*"Love, Loyalty, Friendship –
The Bonds of Volunteerism"*

March 2023

Dear Members,

Enclosed you will find copies of the proposed **Resolutions** that will be presented for delegate approval at the 129th Annual Convention, May 2023.

Please be sure that the Delegates representing your Club read these carefully and are familiar with them. In the interest of time, NJSFWC Legislation/Resolutions Chairman Gail Kovacs-Felici will not read the proposed Resolutions in their entirety when presenting them to the Assembly. These are the **only copies your club will receive**; therefore, it is imperative your Delegates bring this copy to Convention.

It is important that members follow-up with letters to legislators named in the Resolutions approved at Convention. Only individual follow-up will bring action.

I look forward to meeting and greeting you at our Convention.

In Federation,

Shirley A. Holly
NJSFWC President

Encl.



BANNING INSIDER TRADING IN CONGRESS ACT

- WHEREAS, Insider trading is the buying or selling of stocks by an individual who has privileged information about the company that is not available to the public, giving an unfair advantage, and is illegal and unethical according to standards by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and is punishable by stiff fines and/or imprisonment. Some high-ranking government officials have inside knowledge of government contracts with public companies and may use their positions for monetary gain with trading knowledge not available to the public; and
- WHEREAS, Although the Stock Act of 2012, or the “Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act”, is the only current piece of legislation that discourages lawmakers from buying or selling stock while in office, it has not been effective due to the lack of accountability and transparency; and
- WHEREAS, The Banning Insider Trading in Congress Act would prohibit a member of Congress or a member’s spouse, from holding, purchasing or selling certain investments where any profit made in violation of the prohibition, must be disgorged to the Treasury and may subject the member to a civil fine; also, each member must submit an annual certification of compliance which would require the Government Accountability Office to conduct compliance audit; therefore
- RESOLVED, The New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 5,600 concerned women, in Convention assembled May 2023, strongly urges Congress to pass HR6490 and S3504, the Banning Insider Trading in Congress Act, which would ban legislators from purchasing/selling certain investments where a violation is made, may be subject to disgorgement, civil fines and where they adhered a loss from a transaction in violation of this bill, may not be deducted from the amount of income tax owed by the applicable member or member’s spouse; and
- RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Joseph Biden, President of the United States of America; Kamala Harris, Vice-President of the United States of America; Kevin McCarthy, Speaker of the House; Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader; Congressman Richard Neal, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler, Sponsor of HR6490; Congressmen Christopher Smith and Chris Stewart, Co-sponsors of HR6490; Gary C. Peters, Senate Chairman of Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee Chairman; Senator Josh Hawley, Sponsor of S3504; Charles P. Rettig, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service; GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman; and GFWC Resolutions Chairman.

Submitted by:
GFWC Central Valley Contemporary Club
Chris Sienkielewski, President

EMINENT DOMAIN

WHEREAS, Eminent domain is the power of government to take private property for public use with payment of fair compensation to the owner; and

WHEREAS, Eminent domain is critical in the development, maintenance and revitalization of infrastructure in municipalities, counties, and the state of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Eminent domain has been used to condemn property for the benefit of private developers; therefore

RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of more than 5,600 concerned women, in Convention assembled May 2023

- Strongly urges the adoption of legislation which prohibit the use of eminent domain within a redevelopment context from condemning a property that is legally occupied as residential property and maintained in accordance with applicable housing codes and standards to accomplish economic development objectives such as construction of non-public office buildings, mega stores and shopping centers; and
- Strongly urges that legislation be adopted which places a 24-month moratorium on certain uses of eminent domain, namely, the taking of private property when the primary purpose of the taking is economic development that would result in ownership being vested in another private person; and
- Establish an Eminent Domain Study Commission which will study the use and procedure of eminent domain in the State of New Jersey and recommend legislation to discourage the abuse of eminent domain; and
- Strongly urges that a state constitutional amendment be proposed to limit the eminent domain power of state and local government to the acquisition of private property only for purposes considered to be "essential public purposes" (establishment of utility and transportation corridors, educational facilities, airports, correctional facilities, solid waste handling facilities, landfills, sewage treatment facilities, storm management facilities, in-patient health facilities, and recreational facilities).

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Phil Murphy, Governor of New Jersey; Nicholas P. Scutari, President of the Senate; Teresa Ruiz, Senate Majority Leader, Steve Oroho, Senate Minority Leader; Craig J. Coughlin, Speaker of the General Assembly; Louis Greenwald, Assembly Majority Leader; John DiMaio, Assembly Minority Leader; Troy Singleton, Senate Community of Urban Committee Chairman; Shawn M. LaTourette, Department of Environmental Commissioner; Sheila Y. Oliver, Lieutenant Governor, Department of Community Affairs Commissioner; GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman and GFWC Resolutions Chairman

Submitted by:
NJSFWC Legislation/Resolutions Committee

Rationale: To consolidate into a more effective resolution. (*Includes Eminent Domain – Condemnation 2006, 2008; Eminent Domain – Constitutional Amendment 2006, 2008; and Eminent Domain – Moratorium 2006, 2008*)

PROPORTIONAL PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS

- WHEREAS, Honorably discharged veterans who are 100% service-related disabled are exempt from paying property taxes; and
- WHEREAS, A large percentage of honorably discharged veterans return home less than 100% service-related disabled; and
- WHEREAS, Many of these veterans are unemployed or underemployed; therefore
- RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 5,600 concerned women, in Convention, assembled May 2023, strongly urges the New Jersey Legislature to pass S522 and A888, requiring that honorably discharged veterans, having a service-connected disability less than 100%, receive a property tax exemption in proportion to their disability rating, and
- RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Phil Murphy, Governor of New Jersey; Nicholas P. Scutari, President of the Senate; Nilsa J. Cruz-Perez, Sponsor of S522; Joseph Lagana, Declan O'Scanlon, Christopher Connors, Brian Stack, Paul Sario, Fred Madden, Patrick Diegnan, Anthony Bucco, Nicholas Sacco, Steven Oroho, Michael Testa, Robert Singer, Holly Schepisi, Sam Thompson, Joseph Pennacchio, Michael Doherty, James Holzapfel, Nellie Pou, Sandra Cunningham, Richard Codey, Vince Polistina, Andrew Zwicker and Nia Gill; Co-Sponsors of S522, Craig J. Coughlin, Speaker of the General Assembly; Brian Bergen, Sponsor of A888; Edward Thomson, Christopher DePhillips, John DiMaio, Gerry Scharfenberger, Christopher Tully, Raj Murkherji, Sean Kean, William Moen, Kevin Rooney, Anthony Verrelli, Parker Space, Hal Wirths, Brian Rumpf, Daniel Benson, Thomas Giblin, Pedro Mejia, Robert Clinton, Clinton Calabrese, Erik Simonsen, Antwan McClellan, James Kennedy, Robert Auth, William Spearman, Robert Clifton, Paul Moriarty, Ralph Caputo, Don Guardian, Christian Barranco, Jay Webber, Lisa Swain, Annette Chaparro, Verlina Reynolds-Jackson, Gabriela Mosquera, Annette Quijano, Nancy Munoz, DiAnne Grove, Angelica Jimenez, Angela McKnight, DeAnne DeFuccio, Vicky Flynn, Claire Swift, Michele Matsikoudis, Bethanne McCarthy-Patrick, Aura Dunn, Beth Sawyer, Kim Eulner, Marilyn Piperno and Carol Murphy, Co-Sponsors of A888; Vincent Solomeno, New Jersey Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs; GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman and GFWC Resolutions Chairman.

Submitted by:
Past Presidents' Club 11th District
Jean Revis, President

2023 RESOLUTIONS TO BE AMENDED

ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA LONG TERM PLANNING COMMISSION

Amend by insertion - Insert "A2682 and" before "S1033".

TO READ: RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 6,400 concerned women, in Convention assembled April 2021, 2022, strongly urges New Jersey legislators to support A2682 and S1033, establishing the 'Alzheimer's and Dementia Long Term Planning Commission' in the Department of Human Services which would provide for the ongoing evaluation of NJ's Alzheimer's disease and dementia care system and identify means and methods that can be used to address significant shortcomings and expand and prepare the system to meet the increasing and evolving needs of an aging population; and

Rationale: To update

GROSS INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR HONORABLY DISCHARGED

Amend by substitution - By striking after the words to pass "legislation" and inserting "A2871".

TO READ: RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 7,200 concerned women, in Convention assembled May 2017, 2018, 2022, strongly urges New Jersey legislators to pass A2871 to provide a \$1,000 gross income tax exemption for those who served in the military and received an honorable discharge; and

Rationale: To update

SAFE TEENAGE DRIVING

Amend by deletion - by striking section 1 and 2 and renumbering sections 3, 4 and 5.

TO READ: RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 11,000 concerned women, in Convention assembled, May 2008, strongly urges the New Jersey Legislature to enact legislation to strengthen the existing laws and regulations concerning teenage drivers under the age of 18 to include:

1. Include in the monetary penalty structure fines for the parents of the teenage driver who violates the provisions of a special learner's permit, an examination permit or a provisional driver's license.
2. Increase the driver's fines for a violation of the provisions of a special learner's permit.
3. Formulate point assessments and suspension periods to be more punitive than existing regulations and

Rationale: Sections 1 (Kyleigh's Law) and 2 were signed into law by Governor Corzine in 2009

2023 RESOLUTIONS TO BE RESCINDED

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 8,500 concerned women, in Convention assembled May 2012, strongly urges New Jersey legislators to enact legislation mandating extra precautions to ensure a safe, healthy shore environment; and

Rationale: The Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant was shut down in September 2018. About 200 employees will remain at the plant to carry out the decommissioning work with Holtec Decommissioning International.

PROTECTING THE HIGHLANDS REGION BY OPPOSING THE PILGRIMS PIPELINE

Resolved, THAT the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 8,000 concerned women, in Convention assembled May 2015, urges the enactment of SR106 and AR191 opposing the construction of the Pilgrim Pipeline through New Jersey; and

Rationale: SR106 was passed on June 29, 2015 and AR191 was passed on December 18, 2014.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

RESOLVED, That the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of GFWC, an organization of approximately 14,000 concerned women, in Convention assembled, May 2004, strongly urges the Governor of New Jersey, the Department of Human Services and the Division of Youth and Family Services to expeditiously meet the terms of the agreed settlement with Children's Rights, Inc., and

Rationale: The Settlement Agreement was reached with New Jersey officials in September 2005. The settlement also ensured that the children receive needed educational and therapeutic services. As a result of this lawsuit, the right of children in foster care to sue the state for damages has been substantially strengthened.

PROPOSED TO BE RESCINDED - PENDING ADOPTION OF NEW

RESOLUTION ENTITLED: **EMINENT DOMAIN**

EMINENT DOMAIN – CONDEMNATION - May 2006, 2008

EMINENT DOMAIN – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – May 2006, 2008

EMINENT DOMAIN – MORATORIUM – May 2006, 2008