

**REQUEST TO AMEND THE CURRENT BINDING
INTEREST ARBITRATION LAWS**

WHEREAS, personnel and personnel related costs make up approximately 70+% of municipal budgets;
and

WHEREAS, municipalities are faced with the rising costs of health care and the mandated budget CAP enforced by the State; and

WHEREAS, binding interest arbitration has been a principal reason for the increase in public safety salaries and therefore correlates to increased salaries for all public employees; and

WHEREAS, binding interest arbitration often, if not always, significantly exceeds the annual CPI, which was 2.8% for 2008; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong connection between current binding arbitration awards and the overwhelming property tax burden on the residents of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, an amendment of binding interest arbitration laws to mandate greater emphasis on the municipalities ability to pay and the impact on the taxpaying public would help to level the playing field and lessen the impact upon residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ringwood, Passaic County, State of New Jersey hereby encourages the Legislature and the Governor to amend the current binding interest arbitration laws to provide municipalities with a fairer and more appropriate process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Jon Corzine, the Legislators in the 40th District, Municipalities of Passaic County and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

WALTER J. DAVISON, MAYOR

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Municipal Council of the Borough of Ringwood at the Business Meeting of April 16, 2009.

KELLEY A. ROHDE, RMC
BOROUGH CLERK

Council Member	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Davison			X			
Anderson		X	X			
Conley			X			
Marsala	X		X			
Schaefer			X			
Speer			X			
Taukus			X			

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