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June 10, 2025

Mayor Francisco & Council Members
Englishtown Borough Hall
15 Main St.
Englishtown, NJ 07726

Attention Mayor Francisco & Members of the Council:

It has come to our attention that the council is considering a resolution to remove a significant portion of the permit to carry fees in the Borough. This move is nothing less than commendable. On behalf of our over 600,000 members, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms supports this resolution and applauds these efforts. This council is considering a laudable public service to the people of Englishtown.

Aside from the severe constitutional questions New Jersey's onerous \$200 fee imposes upon applicants, this is a real threat that leaves the economically disadvantaged disenfranchised from an inalienable right. Further compounding the issue, as you are aware, New Jersey's permits are only good for two years.

Seeing this body move within their powers to create a rebate vehicle for permit to carry applicants is a show of true leadership. Rebating the \$150 portion the municipality collects makes the—still unconstitutional—permitting scheme more palatable. This will positively impact your citizens.

This is a potentially life-saving measure, as people without a high level of financial liquidity will have access to the most effective self-defense tool possible. Raising this matter is good stewardship to Englishtown's citizens.

We believe that from a constitutional perspective, the \$200 fee that the New Jersey Legislature says is sound is instead abusive. In review of footnote #9 of *New York State Rifle & Pistol Club v. Bruen*, it's explicitly noted that "because any permitting scheme can be put toward abusive ends we do not rule out constitutional challenges to shall-issue regimes where, for example, lengthy wait times in processing license applications or exorbitant fees [emphasis added] deny ordinary citizens their right to public carry." The Committee asserts \$200 is exorbitant.

We support the passage of this resolution and urge this body to follow through. If executed, this move will undoubtedly serve as a positive example for other municipalities to follow. Your actions here are commendable.

Cordially,

Alan M. Gottlieb
Chairman of the Board
Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms

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