

TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD



RESOLUTION NO. 89-22

RESOLUTION ENDORING THE ENACTMENT BILLS A938/S386, THE "NEW JERSEY REPARATIONS TASK FORCE ACT"

WHEREAS, this resolution endorses the "New Jersey Reparations Task Force" which will act to conduct research and develop reparatory proposals and recommendations to address the generational harms caused by New Jersey's role in America's institution of slavery and its legacy of systemic racial discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Maplewood is a multicultural and diverse town which is home to over 25,600 residents and which according to last census, Black people make up more than 38 percent of Maplewood's population; and

WHEREAS, the system of slavery that flourished in the United States constitutes an immoral, shameful, and inhumane deprivation of the life, liberty, humanity, citizenship, and cultural heritage of African Americans and also denied them, among other things, the fruits of their own labor upon which this country and its economy were built; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's deep roots in American slavery and its vestiges have endured to the present day; and

WHEREAS, a direct line can be traced from New Jersey's role in American slavery to its system today of voter suppression, racial wealth disparities, mass incarceration, racial segregation, and crumbling infrastructure in Black communities in New Jersey, such as the current elevated lead levels in water and homes; and

WHEREAS, the full effects of the institution and legacy of slavery on Black people and communities in New Jersey have not been sufficiently examined, nor have there been remedies for past injustice and present harm, or sufficient efforts at transformation; and

WHEREAS, in line with the advocacy of the "Say the Word: Reparations" campaign, we call on the Senate President and the Speaker of the Assembly to hold committee hearings on the "New Jersey Reparations Task Force" bill, call on the Legislature to pass the "New Jersey

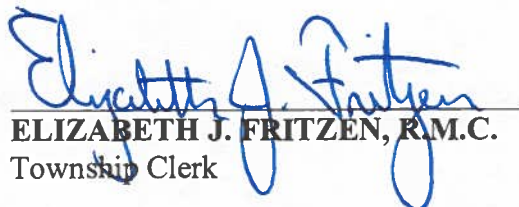
Reparations Task Force” bill as soon as possible thereafter and then call on the Governor to sign the bill into law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Maplewood, County of Essex, State of New Jersey that:

1. The Township fully endorses the enactment of the “New Jersey Reparations Task Force” bill.
2. The Township Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the New Jersey Assembly and the New Jersey Senate, including Maplewood’s representatives of those bodies.

I, Elizabeth J. Fritzen, Township Clerk of the Township of Maplewood, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Maplewood, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, at a regular meeting of said Committee held on March 15, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Township of Maplewood in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey, on this 15th day of March, 2022.


ELIZABETH J. FRITZEN, R.M.C.
Township Clerk