



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. 113

**RESOLUTION**

**R - 2016**

*Introduced by City Council on June 1, 2016*

---

**Supports House Bill 17, an amendment to the Public Employee Pension Forfeiture Act that tightens up the forfeiture law for public officials and employees convicted, pleading guilty or no contest to certain crimes relating to their public office**

---

***Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That***

**WHEREAS**, the Public Employee Pension Forfeiture Act (Act 140 of 1978) requires a public employee's or official's pension to be forfeited when they are convicted or plead guilty or no contest to certain crimes related to their public office; and

**WHEREAS**, certain 'loop-holes' allow an official or employee who is charged with a forfeiture crime to plead guilty to a non-forfeiture crime to preserve their pension; and

**WHEREAS**, legislation – House Bill 17 - was introduced in the Pennsylvania Assembly on February 23, 2015 that in effect, would close these gaps in the current Pension Forfeiture Act; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 11, 2016, the House approved the bill by a vote 188-2, in effect, adding a list of additional felonies to the list of crimes requiring forfeiture of the government subsidized portion of their public pension and requiring forfeiture if they are found guilty, plead guilty or no contest to any felony committed as part of their jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, Allentown City Council believes public officials and employees should be of the highest integrity and any violation of the public trust should result in the forfeiture of their pension, in short, corrupt politicians and employees should not receive taxpayer funded pensions after conviction; and

**WHEREAS**, Allentown City Council believes the bill will act as a deterrent to public sector officials and employees overstepping the trust that the public has given them.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by Allentown City Council that they hereby go on record supporting House Bill 17 of the 2015 Session and ask Senator Pat Browne to actively support and vote on this measure.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Pat Browne, and Representatives' Peter G. Schweyer and Mike Schlossberg.