

***RESOLUTION HONORING WILLIAM G. DRESSEL, JR.***

**FOR HIS YEARS OF HONORABLE, CAPABLE AND DEVOTED SERVICE  
TO THE NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys (“NJILGA”) was established, among other reasons, to assist local government attorneys to better serve local governments in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, NJILGA has been affiliated with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities (“League”) for many years and works in conjunction with the League to provide municipalities throughout New Jersey with assistance, guidance, information and counsel about the myriad challenges facing local governments in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, members of NJILGA have worked very closely with the Executive Director of the League, William G. Dressel, Jr., for many years and have come to know and appreciate his knowledge, skills, dedication and wisdom and wish to accord him the honor and respect that he so justly deserves by outlining in a Resolution his many accomplishments and achievements throughout his long career serving municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, William G. Dressel, Jr., after graduating from Elon College, redirected his initial interest in becoming a minister to the pursuit of a career in public administration, receiving in 1972 a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from West Virginia University.

**WHEREAS**, after working for a stint in the Community Affairs Department of a Pennsylvania township, he joined the New Jersey State League of Municipalities in 1974; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1995 Mr. Dressel was named the Executive Director of the League; and

**WHEREAS**, William Dressel’s accomplishments for the League during his 41-year tenure are significant can only be partially categorized, but include:

1. In 1995, he spearheaded the League’s efforts to obtain voter approval of an amendment to the New Jersey Constitution requiring the State to pay for state mandated programs and services, thereby reducing the municipal tax burden for all New Jersey property owners.
2. Under his leadership, the League acquired and rehabilitated the dilapidated Ferdinand W. Roebing, Sr., Mansion on State Street in Trenton which now serves as the League’s headquarters.
3. In 1999, he received The John G. Stutz Award recognizing 25 years of League service.
4. In 1999, William Dressel was profiled in the *New York Times* where he was described by a prominent Mayor as the “King of Mayors,” but in that same article, Mr. Dressel humbly down played that perception by describing himself as “less of a ruler and more of a servant of Mayors and public officials.”
5. In November 2007, he received the Rutgers Award for public service to New Jersey for excellence in promoting and supporting local government.
6. Throughout his career he has demonstrated unflagging efforts to persuade the Governors and Legislators of the State of New Jersey to recognize the challenges faced by towns and to pass law aimed at helping municipal governments better serve their constituents.
7. At all times, he has proven his dedication by his untiring efforts to educate municipal officials in integrity, competence and good government practices.

**WHEREAS**, while Bill Dressel’s accomplishments are significant, the affection held by NJILGA members for him arises from their appreciation of his character and personal qualities, including his ability to work cooperatively with members of all parties and persuasions; his skill at building consensus; his ability to recognize that the achievable good is better than the unachievable perfect; his willingness to see all sides of a problem and his friendly respectful attitude toward all.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys and all of its members who have worked with William Dressel wish to publicly express their deep appreciation for his ability and achievements, for his dedication to the service of municipalities, for his accomplishments in making New Jersey a better place to live, and, most significantly, for his friendship, guidance and advice for 41 years.

***Robert F. Renaud***  
ROBERT F. RENAUD, PRESIDENT

I certify the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the NJILGA, at a meeting held on March 31, 2015.

***Michele Donato***  
MICHELLE DONATO, SECRETARY