

COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-187

TITLE: RESOLUTION URGING THE RESTORATION OF ENERGY TAX RECEIPTS

WHEREAS, taxes on gas and electric utilities were originally collected by host municipalities to be used for local purposes and to compensate the public for the use of their rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, when the State made itself the collection agent for these taxes, it promised to dedicate the proceeds to municipal property tax relief; since, just as municipalities collect property taxes for the benefit of school districts, counties, and other entities, the State is supposed to collect Energy Taxes for the benefit of municipal governments; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the State has diverted significant portions of these revenues for State budget purposes rather than returning them to municipalities as originally intended; and

WHEREAS, by keeping flat funding of the Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid (CMPTRA) appropriation year after year, State budget makers have been able to continue collecting Energy Taxes while retaining revenues that should have been returned to municipalities to provide property tax relief; and

WHEREAS, in State Fiscal Year 2023, the State provided much-needed relief through the allocation of \$75 million in Municipal Relief Funds; and

WHEREAS, in State Fiscal Year 2024, the State allocated \$150 million in Municipal Relief Funds; however, in State Fiscal Year 2025 and as proposed in State Fiscal Year 2026, no such allocation exists; and

WHEREAS, in State Fiscal Year 2024, the Energy Tax Receipts Program should have received more than \$350 million to restore municipalities to 2008 funding levels; however, the State's diversion of Energy Taxes has continued to grow, creating an even larger financial gap; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative impact of years of flat funding and underfunding has left many municipalities with serious fiscal challenges and burdensome property taxes; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials are in the best position to determine the most effective use of these resources, which were always intended to support local programs and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the Borough calls for the immediate restoration of funding diverted from Energy Taxes intended for local use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough respectfully calls upon State policymakers to end the diversion of municipal resources to support State spending and to restore this important source of funding intended to help relieve the property tax burden borne by New Jersey residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Mikie Sherrill, Lieutenant Governor Dale Caldwell, State Treasurer Aaron Binder, Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs Jacquelyn A. Suárez, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Speaker of the Assembly Craig Coughlin, Senator Gordon M. Johnson, Assemblywoman Shama Haider, Assemblywoman Ellen Park, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

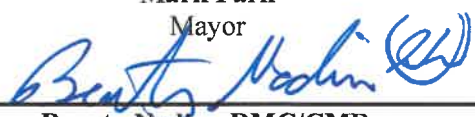
CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 2 page(s), was adopted at the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Englewood Cliffs, held on this 8th day of July 2026.

	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Biegacz			✓			
Liang		✓	✓			
Patel			✓			
Kapsaskis	✓		✓			
Lee			✓			
Koutroubas			✓			
Mayor Park						



Mark Park
Mayor



Beauty Nadim, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk