



COUNTY OF BERGEN

NEW JERSEY

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Ireland is an ancient and distinct island-nation that was artificially partitioned by the United Kingdom with the Government of Ireland Act 1920; and

WHEREAS, the partition divided the nation into Northern Ireland, which is composed of six northern counties and is one of the four constituent countries of the United Kingdom, and Southern Ireland, which would eventually become the Republic of Ireland, and which consists of the remaining 26 counties; and

WHEREAS, negotiated with American support, the Belfast Agreement, commonly known as the Good Friday Agreement, was ratified by the British and Irish governments on April 10, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Good Friday Agreement represents a fundamental political advance that created a framework and a mechanism for further political development toward the final resolution of the Irish issue of reunification; and

WHEREAS, the time has come to end the partition of Ireland in favor of a united, sovereign nation that guarantees equal rights and equal opportunities for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, in every area that affects the life and well-being of the Irish people, including the economy, education, health, governance and social interaction, a united Ireland offers the best opportunity for peace and prosperity for the Irish nation and its people; and

WHEREAS, partition violates democracy, and an end to partition should be supported by all democratic-minded people and people of good will.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Bergen County Executive requests the Irish government to formally study the implications of a United Ireland and outline steps fundamental to restore the Irish Nation and publicly report their finding and plans, and respectfully suggests that the Irish government move without delay to further the peaceful healing of the Irish nation.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Bergen County Ancient Order of Hibernians as evidence of the sincere sentiments and recognition of this body.

NOW THEREFORE,

I, DENNIS McNERNEY,

Executive of the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey,

Do hereby call upon the English and Irish governments to take immediate steps necessary to bring to fullness the promises of the All Ireland institutions called for and envisioned by the Good Friday Agreement.

DENNIS McNERNEY
Bergen County Executive

May 21, 2010