RESOLUTION 143(19)

April 3, 2019

WHEREAS, April is known as National Distracted Driver Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, each day in the United States, approximately 9 people are killed and more than 100 injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver; and

WHEREAS, actions that can contribute to distracted driving include eating, drinking, smoking, adjusting the radio, searching for an object in the vehicle, reacing, writing and applying makeup, among others; and

WHEREAS, for drivers 15 to 19 years of age involved in fatal crashes, 21 percent of the distracted drivers were distracted by the use of cell phones; and

WHEREAS, almost 100% of teens agree that texting and driving is dangerous, but half admitted to doing it anyway. It may take only a matter of seconds to glance at your phone, but, if you are driving at 60 miles an hour, your eyes were blind to the road while you drove the length of a football field; and

WHEREAS, a quarter of teens respond to a text message once or more every time they drive. Over twenty percent of teens and many of their parents admit that they have extended multi-message text conversations while driving; and

WHEREAS, drivers under the age of 20 have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Ocean County Board of Health that the month of April 2019 is hereby declared as National Distracted Drivers Month, and promotes addressing and eliminating distracted driving by educating all residents about the dangers it poses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders.