

# RESOLUTION 145(19)

April 3, 2019

WHEREAS, National Hepatitis Awareness Month was first established in 2001 to create an awareness and educate people about the disease; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis is a disease which causes inflammation of the liver and up to 5 million Americans are affected by this disease; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis A, hepatitis B and hepatitis C are all different diseases. Each type of hepatitis is caused by a different virus and spread in different ways. Hepatitis A does not cause a long-term infection, although it can make people very sick. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C can become chronic, life-long infections and lead to serious health problems; and

WHEREAS, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C can become chronic, life-long infections which can lead to liver cancer. Millions of Americans are living with chronic viral hepatitis, and many do not know they are infected; and

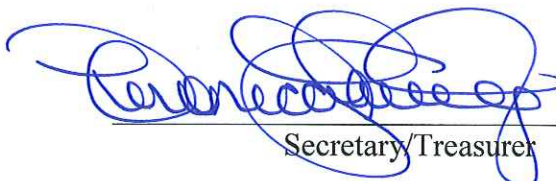
WHEREAS, more than 300 million people are infected with the hepatitis B virus (HBV) or the hepatitis C virus (HCV) and are at risk of developing escalating health problems. HBV and HCV are responsible for more than half of all new liver cancer cases and one in every 12 cancer deaths; and

WHEREAS, the Hepatitis B vaccine is now recommended for all infants at birth followed by two more immunizations against this disease in their first six months, and for adults who may be at risk; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department continues to promote age-appropriate vaccinations for children, including Hepatitis A and B and audits school immunization records to assure compliance for our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health proclaims the month of May 2019 as National Hepatitis Awareness Month and encourages those who may be of risk to take the Hepatitis Risk Assessment Test that can be accessed on the Ocean County Health Department website at [www.ochd.org](http://www.ochd.org).

Name	Bacchione	Blake	Dasti	Hill	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Abstain									
Nays									
Absent									

  
Secretary/Treasurer