

**RESOLUTION**

**68(21)**

January 27, 2021

WHEREAS, February 2021, the American Dental Association (ADA) sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM) to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. NCDHM messages and materials have reached millions of people in communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, this month-long national health observance brings together thousands of dedicated professionals, healthcare providers, and educators to promote the benefits of good oral health to children, their caregivers, teachers and many others; and

WHEREAS, this year the NCDHM is celebrating the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of community water fluoridation. In observance, the 2021 campaign slogan is "Water, Nature's Drink;" and

WHEREAS, teaching kids about good oral hygiene is vital to keeping them healthy. And by developing good habits in one area, it will be easier for kids to develop good habits in other areas of their lives; and

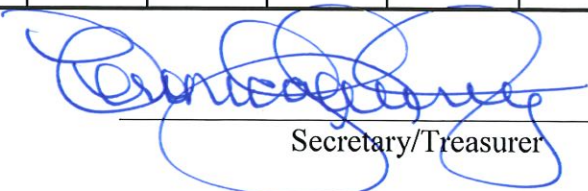
WHEREAS, attitudes and habits established at an early age are critical in maintaining good oral health throughout life. NCDHM raises awareness of how important it is for children to develop good oral habits at an early age to ensure a lifetime of healthy smiles. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) regularly recommends that children receive their first dental exam no later than one year of age to head off potential early dental problems; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that it's almost entirely preventable, tooth decay is the most common chronic disease in children. Good oral hygiene practices such as thorough brushing with fluoride toothpaste can help keep children from getting cavities; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department continues to work with the two Federally Qualified Health Centers in Ocean County to help those without insurance and those with emergent issues in addition to providing dental education programs to schools, day care centers and summer camps, and community groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ocean County Board of Health proclaims February 2021 as **NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH** and encourages all residents and communities to join in this observance.

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



Secretary/Treasurer