

RESOLUTION 250(21)

September 1, 2021

WHEREAS, World Rabies Day is the first and only global day of action and awareness dedicated to rabies prevention. The observance reminds us of key current issues in rabies elimination, namely: the importance of dog vaccination and post-exposure prophylaxis, and the need for a united effort towards achieving elimination of this transboundary disease; and

WHEREAS, this year, the 15th World Rabies Day theme is, "*Rabies: Facts, not Fear.*" By sharing facts about the benefits of vaccinating your animals against rabies, and by ensuring that exposed people receive post-exposure prophylaxis, we can dispel any myths about rabies vaccination to ensure that everyone is protected, and the disease eliminated; and

WHEREAS, while rabies is a 100% preventable disease, fifty nine thousand people worldwide die from rabies each year and most human cases are caused by a bite or scratch from an infected dog; and

WHEREAS, today, safe and efficacious animal and human vaccines are among the important tools that exist to eliminate human deaths from rabies while awareness is the key driver for success of communities to engage in effective rabies prevention; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department, through media outlets and additional educational materials, educates the public on limiting family and pet exposure to rabies; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department through the Ocean County Animal Facilities and local municipalities offer free rabies shots to dogs and cats; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Health Department has clinics offering pre-exposure rabies vaccinations for anyone employed in a high risk occupation of becoming exposed to rabies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health hereby proclaims the day of September 28, 2021 as *World Rabies Day* in the County of Ocean and encourages all residents to vaccinate their pets and become educated on the risk factors and warning signs of rabies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners and the Ocean County Animal Facilities.

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


Secretary/Treasurer