RESOLUTION 113(22)

April 6, 2022

WHEREAS, the week before Memorial Day has been designated "National Healthy and Safe Swimming Week;" and

WHEREAS, Healthy and Safe Swimming Week highlights the roles that swimmers, parents of young swimmers, aquatics and beach staff, residential pool owners, and public health officials play in preventing disease outbreaks, drowning, and pool chemical injuries; and

WHEREAS, swimming is the fourth most popular sports activity in the United States and a good way to get regular aerobic physical activity, but thousands of Americans get sick with recreational water illnesses, which are caused by germs found in places where we swim; and

WHEREAS, recreational water illness is preventable, but prevention requires swimmers to take an active role in protecting themselves and other swimmers by practicing good hygiene, not swallowing pool water, checking diapers, showering for one minute, etc. before entering the water; and

WHEREAS, every day, two children under the age of 14 years die from drowning which is the leading cause of injury death for children 1-4 years of age; and

WHEREAS, when in the water, it is important to use life jackets that fit for younger or weaker swimmers, provide continuous, attentive supervision close to the swimmers even if there is a lifeguard and avoid alcohol and drugs when swimming or watching swimmers; and

WHEREAS, pool chemicals, like chlorine, are needed to protect swimmers' health. However, pool chemical injuries lead to about 4,500 U.S. emergency department visits each year, and over one-third of these preventable injuries are in children or teens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health does hereby proclaim May 23-27 as NATIONAL HEALTHY AND SAFE SWIMMING WEEK. We urge everyone to take the steps to prevent germs from causing recreational water illnesses and to keep germs out of the pool in addition to taking steps to reduce the risk of drowning and pool chemical injuries.

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

Name	Bacchione	Hill	Kubiel	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes					/			
Abstain								
Nays								
Absent								

Secretary/Treasurer