

RESOLUTION

323(24)

November 13, 2024

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day takes place on the 1st of December each year. It is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), show their support for people living with HIV, and to commemorate those who have died from an acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) related illness; and

WHEREAS, the theme for this year's World AIDS Day will be **Collective Action: Sustain and Accelerate HIV Progress** - this theme encapsulates the U.S. government's dedication to harnessing the significant progress that has been made through global and domestic HIV programs over the last four-plus decades, working to ensure that no communities are left behind; and

WHEREAS, about 6.1 million people worldwide did not know they were living with HIV in 2020. Early HIV diagnosis is crucial. Everyone aged 13-64 should be tested at least once. People at higher risk of acquiring (or exposure to) HIV should be tested at least annually; and

WHEREAS, the only way to know for sure whether you have HIV is to get tested. Knowing your HIV status helps you make healthy decisions to prevent getting or transmitting HIV; and

WHEREAS, a person with HIV who takes HIV medicine as prescribed and gets and stays virally suppressed or undetectable can stay healthy and has effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to HIV-negative partners; and

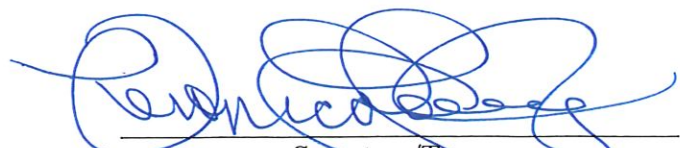
WHEREAS, on this **World AIDS Day**, let us renew our commitment to united action. Let us honor the lives lost, celebrate the progress made, and work tirelessly to ensure a future free from HIV. Together, we are stronger and, together, we will succeed. We know that only by working collaboratively with communities most affected, researchers, healthcare providers, and other partners can our government be successful in ending the pandemic and ensuring a sustained response to HIV; and

WHEREAS, through the PrEP Program, the Ocean County Health Department continues to promote opportunities to increase awareness of the risk and impact of HIV/AIDS in our communities by offering free counseling and testing with a PrEP counselor to all eligible residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey that Sunday, December 1, 2024, is hereby proclaimed World AIDS Day in Ocean County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners.

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



Secretary/Treasurer