<u>R E S O L U T I O N</u> #2012 - 02

RESOLUTION OF THE OCEAN COUNTY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS "AUTISM AWARENESS" MONTH

WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, learning and behavioral skills of those affected by it; and

WHEREAS, autism was once thought to be a relatively rare disorder, affecting only one in 10,000 people, and

WHEREAS, as more and more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autistic spectrum, resulting in rates as high as one in 90 male children in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive treatment early in their lives, it often is possible for those individuals to lead significantly improved lives; and

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community (COSAC), and Autism Speaks is spearheading an awareness effort in order to educate parents, professionals and the general public about autism and its effects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Ocean County Mayors' Association, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim the month of April as "Autism Awareness Month" and urge all Ocean County municipalities and corporate members to participate in Autism Awareness Month, in order to become better educated on the subject of autistic spectrum disorders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy shall be sent to Alex Gianelos, 713 Northhampton Blvd., Toms River, New Jersey 08757, and that certified copies shall also be sent to all Ocean County Mayor's.

CERTIFICATION

I, Paul J. Kennedy, Secretary of the Ocean County Mayors' Association, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted at an Ocean County Mayors' Association regular business meeting held on the 20th day of March, 2012.

Paul J. Kennedy, Secretary - Ocean County Mayors' Association

Mayor - Borough of Ocean Gate