

RESOLUTION 2019 – 371

RESOLUTION OF BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP, OCEAN COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING A826 AND S1614, NEW JERSEY SHORE PROTECTION FUND

WHEREAS, the dedicated \$25 million annual allocation for the New Jersey Shore Protection Fund has supported a unique and successful cost-sharing partnership with the federal government in replenishing eroded beaches along the 137 mile Jersey coast from Middlesex to Cape May County and provides needed matching funds for the NJ DEP's numerous other municipal coastal projects; and

WHEREAS, Ocean County is uniquely situated at the Jersey Shore with approximately forty-five (45) miles of coastline along the Atlantic Ocean; and

WHEREAS, Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders ("the Board") has consistently made shore protection a priority through its continuance of its annual beach grass and dune fencing distribution program; and

WHEREAS, Superstorm Sandy demonstrated the value of well-nourished wide beaches with dune systems in protecting life and property along the coast and preventing more extensive damage to critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, healthy beaches, coastal ocean front, and bayside shorelines contribute to our State's economy, bringing in over \$20.1 billion annually or one half of the State's total \$44.7 billion tourism revenue; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey must work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop comprehensive adaptation plans for coastline communities that include improving navigable waters, erosion control, and increasing flood protection; and

WHEREAS, the \$25 million allocated from the Shore Protection Fund will not be enough to meet current and anticipated future matching costs of Army Corps of Engineers and State replenishment projects and other needed coastal protection projects by the numerous coastal municipalities in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 826 and Senate Bill 1614 currently being reviewed by the State Legislature would increase the amount annually credited to the Shore Protection Fund to \$50 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Barnegat of the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. It encourages the New Jersey Legislature to pass legislation to increase funding for the dedicated New Jersey Shore Protection Fund to be used for future coastal protection projects and provide a further incentive for federal matching funds.

2. The Municipal Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to forward copies of this Resolution to the members of the New Jersey Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Hon. Phil Murphy, Governor, New Jersey, the Ocean County Municipal Mayors and the Jersey Shore Partnership.

CERTIFICATION

I, Michele Rivers, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting held in the Municipal Complex, 900 W. Bay Avenue, Barnegat NJ on the 7th day of November, 2019.

Michele Rivers, RMC
Municipal Clerk