

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** ON SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019 THE RED BANK POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION ALONG WITH PARTICIPATING LOCAL BUSINESSES GAVE THE PUBLIC ITS 17TH OPPORTUNITY IN NINE YEARS TO PREVENT PILL ABUSE AND THEFT BY RIDDING THEIR HOMES OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS EXPIRED, UNUSED, AND UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS; AND

**WHEREAS,** LAST FALL AMERICANS TURNED IN NEARLY 460 TONS (MORE THAN 900,000 POUNDS) OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AT MORE THAN 5,800 SITES OPERATED BY THE DEA AND ALMOST 4,800 OF ITS STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS. OVERALL, IN ITS 16 PREVIOUS TAKE BACK EVENTS, DEA AND ITS PARTNERS HAVE TAKEN IN ALMOST 11 MILLION POUNDS—NEARLY 5,500 TONS—OF PILLS. AND

**WHEREAS,** THIS INITIATIVE ADDRESSES A VITAL PUBLIC SAFETY/PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE BY HELPING TO DISPOSE OF MEDICINES THAT LANGUISH IN HOME CABINETS AND ARE HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO MISUSE, AND ABUSE AND RATES OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE IN THE U.S. ARE ALARMINGLY HIGH, AS ARE THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTAL POISONINGS AND OVERDOSES DUE TO THESE DRUGS, AND

**WHEREAS,** THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION'S NATIONAL SURVEY ON DRUG USE AND HEALTH SHOWS YEAR AFTER YEAR THAT THE MAJORITY OF MISUSED AND ABUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ARE OBTAINED FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS, INCLUDING SOMEONE ELSE'S MEDICATION BEING STOLEN FROM THE HOME MEDICINE CABINET AND AMERICANS ARE NOW ADVISED THAT THEIR USUAL METHODS FOR DISPOSING OF UNUSED MEDICINES—FLUSHING THEM DOWN THE TOILET OR THROWING THEM IN THE TRASH—BOTH POSE POTENTIAL SAFETY AND HEALTH HAZARDS.

**NOW THEREFORE I,** PASQUALE MENNA, MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 27, 2019 AS PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY IN THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK AND THANK OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT AND LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION OF THIS WORTHWHILE AND IMPORTANT EVENT THAT HELPS TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE FROM BOTH MISUSE AND UNSAFE DISPOSAL OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

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PASQUALE MENNA  
MAYOR