

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION NO. 14-62

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A BAN ON THE
SUBTHERAPEUTIC USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN LIVESTOCK AGRICULTURE**

Councilman Zipprich offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, eighty percent of the antibiotics sold in the United States are used in livestock production and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported that most of those antibiotics are used irresponsibly; and

WHEREAS, low doses of antibiotics are routinely fed to livestock for growth promotion and disease prevention to compensate for crowded, unsanitary conditions in a practice known as “subtherapeutic use;” and

WHEREAS, “subtherapeutic use” creates ideal conditions for the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistant bacteria on livestock operations are known to spread to retail meat, farmers and farmworkers and rural environments; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance in pathogens due to subtherapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock production has been a public health concern since the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistant bacteria have been the cause of several foodborne illness outbreaks, including the 2011 outbreak of antibiotic resistant *Salmonella* in ground turkey that sickened 136 people, hospitalized 37 and killed one and lead to the third largest meat recall in the USDA’s records; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that at least two million Americans suffer from antibiotic resistant bacterial infections each year and twenty-three thousand Americans die from those infections; and

WHEREAS, the medical and social costs of antibiotic-resistance infections in just one hospital for one year have been estimated to be between \$13 million and \$18 million; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has limited subtherapeutic uses of two classes of antibiotics, but otherwise largely relied on voluntary guidance to attempt to reduce overuse of antibiotics in livestock production, despite regular acknowledgements that subtherapeutic use and the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria poses a significant public health threat; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank support a statewide and nationwide ban on subtherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough of Red Bank supports the Protection of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (PAMTA)/Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act (PARA).

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough of Red Bank will send a letter to our State Representatives, Congressional Representatives and US Senators calling for a ban on the subtherapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock agriculture and for them to co-sponsor the PMTA/PARA.

Seconded by Councilwoman Horgan and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Murphy	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Burnham	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Horgan	(x)	()	()	()
Councilwoman Lewis	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Zipprich	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman DuPont	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: March 12, 2014