

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION NO. 09-163

RESOLUTION URGING CHILD SWIMMING SAFETY

Ms. Horgan offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, last August alone, six children drowned in swimming pools across New Jersey and already this year, four children have drowned; and

WHEREAS, drowning is one of the leading causes of child deaths and tragedies like these are a sad reminder that accidents can happen in a matter of moments; and

WHEREAS, a child can drown in just a few inches of water within seconds – often without any splashing or screaming, but child drownings are preventable; and

WHEREAS, to urge parents and caregivers to use caution and vigilance when children are near water, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) has launched its new “Not Even for a Second” public awareness campaign; and

WHEREAS, with hot summer days approaching, and families planning to cool off at the shore, lakes and around backyard swimming pools, parents and caregivers must be vigilant with children around water; and

WHEREAS, DCF is seeking community support from every municipality in the state in spreading this important, life-saving message of water safety to help raise awareness and prevent any more tragedies from happening this summer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank hereby support the New Jersey Department of Children and Families and urge residents to protect the children of our community around water using the following guidelines:

- Never leave a child unattended around water;
- Teach your children to swim at an early age – always have an adult supervising;
- Flotation devices or inflatable toys are not substitutes for supervision;
- Don’t mix alcohol and supervision of children near water;
- Enclose pools completely with a self-locking, self-closing fence, and don’t leave furniture around that children can use to climb over the fence;
- Be sure that the adult watching your child knows how to swim, get emergency help and perform CPR;
- Keep rescue equipment (such as life preserver or shepherd’s hook) and a telephone near the pool;
- Be sure to remove pool covers completely to reduce the risk of children getting caught underneath;
- Always drain and store in an upright position all plastic or blow-up wading pools after use;
- Secure the pool so that children cannot get back in after they are finished swimming;
- And remember, **NOT EVEN FOR A SECOND! NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED AROUND WATER.**

Seconded by Mr. Zipprich and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Lewis	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Zipprich	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. DuPont	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Horgan	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Lee	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Murphy	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: June 9, 2009