

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION NO. 09-173

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EQUALITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS
FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER AMERICANS**

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

WHEREAS, The U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted a resolution in 1984 calling for the legal protection of gay and lesbian rights at all levels of government, and within two years dozens of cities had adopted anti-discrimination policies or executive orders; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has long supported granting the protection of federal hate crimes laws to all citizens, including lesbian and gay communities, and adopted its first resolution calling for increased vigilance in preventing hate crimes in 1991, citing statistics compiled by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; and

WHEREAS, subsequent hate crimes resolutions were adopted by the Conference in 1992 and 1994, designed to strengthen protections for all communities; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of mayors have been at the forefront of the battle for marriage equality, from the historic leadership of Mayor Gavin Newsom of San Francisco in early 2004 granting marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples, to a paradigm-shifting news conference by Mayor Jerry Sanders of San Diego in 2008, to Mayor Adrian Fenty of Washington DC in 2009 signing legislation to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states; and

WHEREAS, then-Conference President Wellington Webb of Denver spoke on behalf of the nation's mayors at the Millennium March for Gay and Lesbian Rights in 2000 calling for federal action on hate crimes, employment discrimination protection, repeal of don't-ask-don't-tell, and marriage equality; and

WHEREAS, current Conference President Manuel A. Diaz of Miami co-chaired the statewide campaign against marriage discrimination in 2008, and incoming President Greg Nickels of Seattle issued an executive order recognizing same-sex marriages; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Conference of Mayors has a long record of leadership in advancing civil rights and equality for all, answering President Kennedy's call for national mayoral action in support of the civil rights movement at the Honolulu annual meeting in 1963; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted 200 LGBT civil rights laws at the state, county and municipal levels including 12 expansions of the domestic partnership law from 2004 to 2006; a civil union law in 2006; a law expanding the Law Against Discrimination to include the transgender community in 2006; and in 2008, a statewide law that simultaneously overhauls the state's anti-bullying law, expands the state's hate crimes law to encompass the transgender community, and toughens up the entire hate crimes law to strengthen the fight against all bias-motivated violence; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, New Jersey became only the second state in the United States, after California, to mandate paid family leave to employees who need to provide care for their same-sex partners.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Red Bank had been designated an Inclusive Community by the National League of Cities and has pledged to make inclusion a fundamental aspect of our community and to continue efforts to achieve that goal;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank endorses the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, the Uniting American Families Act, and the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank support marriage equality for same-sex couples, and the recognition and extension of full equal rights to such unions, including family and medical leave, tax equity, and insurance and retirement benefits, and oppose the enshrinement of discrimination in the federal or state constitutions.

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: July 13, 2009