National Public Health Week www.nphw.org
AN INITIATIVE OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2017.

Whereas the week of April 3–9, 2017, is National Public Health Week, and the theme is "Healthiest Nation 2030";

Whereas since 1995, the American Public Health Association, through its sponsorship of National Public Health Week, has educated the public, policymakers and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public's health;

Whereas seven in 10 deaths in the U.S. are related to preventable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, and cancer. Another striking fact is that 75 percent of our health care dollars are spent treating such diseases. However, only 3 percent of our health care dollars go toward prevention;[1]

Whereas nearly one-third of all students in the United States do not graduate from high school on time. Students who don't graduate face lifelong health risks and high medical costs, and are more likely to engage in risky health behaviors. They are less likely to be employed and insured, and earn less—all of which continues the cycle of poverty and disparities.

Whereas more than half of all cancer deaths could be prevented by making healthy choices like not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active, and getting recommended screening tests.[2]

Whereas foodborne contaminants cause an average of 5,000 deaths, 325,000 hospitalizations, 76 million illnesses and costs billions of dollars annually. The five most common foodborne pathogens cost the U.S. economy more than $44 billion each year in medical costs and lost productivity. [3]

Whereas strong public health systems are critical for sustaining and improving community health:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Leonard Giles, Vice-President of the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission No. 1, do hereby proclaim the week of April 3-9, 2017, as **National Public Health Week 2017** and call upon the residents of our member towns to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders better understand the value of public health and adopt preventive lifestyle habits in light of this year's theme, **"Healthiest Nation 2030."**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of March, two thousand seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-one.

Signature : *Dr. Leonard Giles*

Vice -President, Monmouth County Regional Health Commission

[1] APHA. Public Health and Prevention Fund. **http://www.apha.org/advocacy/Health+Reform/PH+Fund/**

[2] American Cancer Society. **http://www.cancer.org/healthy/index**

[3] APHA Issue Brief. Creating a Safe Food System for America. 2009. **http://www.apha.org/NR/rdonlyres/572F37ED-86EB-41C2-9EAE-A0E0B8011F69/0/FoodSafetyFinal.pdf**