

July 15, 2019

**WHEREAS**, Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP) is one of the rarest, most disabling genetic conditions in which the body makes additional bone in locations where bone should not form, such as within muscles, tendons, ligaments and other connective tissues; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that FOP has affected approximately one in two million people with researchers at the present time aware of approximately 800 confirmed cases worldwide with 285 known cases in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the symptoms of FOP usually begin in the first or second decade of life, with the majority of patients diagnosed by the age of 10 depriving children of normal development; and

**WHEREAS**, musculoskeletal research is close to achieving major breakthroughs that likely will change and simplify the way bone and joint disorders are treated and prevented throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, a gene has been identified, after fifteen years of hard research by the University of Pennsylvania, the only known research facility currently investigating a cure for FOP; and.

**WHEREAS**, on January 20<sup>th</sup> 2003, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of New Providence approved a proclamation of encouragement and support to increase awareness of this devastating and rare genetic disorder, to eliminate misdiagnosis, develop a treatment and discover a cure for FOP.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of New Providence, County of Union, and State of New Jersey encourage and urge all municipalities in the State of New Jersey to adopt proclamations promoting awareness and supporting continued FOP research.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of New Providence, County of Union, and State of New Jersey hope that one day a Proclamation/Resolution book will be on display in Washington, DC containing proclamations/resolutions acknowledging support of the children and young adults afflicted with FOP from every municipality in the State of New Jersey.

APPROVED, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

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Allen Morgan, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Wendi B. Barry, Borough Clerk