

October 14, 2014

RESOLUTION 2014-
STRONGLY OPPOSING SENATE BILL S648 REQUIRING SHORE TOWNS THAT ACCEPT
GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR BEACH REPLENISHMENT TO HAVE FREE BEACHES

Mayor Engelstad offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the introduction of S648, a revised measure with the same intent as S368, is currently pending before the Legislature that would “block” beach fees in shore municipalities accepting certain government provided beach replenishment funding; and

WHEREAS, to make up for the loss of revenue from the beach fee prohibition this legislation would establish a special fund appropriating 2 percent of the taxable receipts collected under the sales and use tax in the shore municipality back to that municipality of offset the loss of beach maintenance revenue; and

WHEREAS, the amount to be appropriated has no correlation to the revenue required for beach maintenance by the municipality or the ability of businesses in the municipality to collect through sales and use taxes an amount large enough to cover the municipality’s beach maintenance expenses; and

WHEREAS, S648 discriminates between shore communities that receive governmental assistance for beach replenishment versus shore communities that do not receive government assistance; and

WHEREAS, S648 if enacted gives the state control over the replenishment and maintenance of municipal beaches; and

WHEREAS, S648 sets the stage for beach replenishment to be used as a political weapon every year during the budget process, which would be counter-productive to the economic benefits beaches play in the state’s tourism industry.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Bradley Beach finds no logical connection between government assistance for beach replenishment and beach maintenance fees. Rather the connection is solely political on the part of certain legislators to devise a way to eliminate beach tag fees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bradley Beach, County of Monmouth, and State of New Jersey strongly oppose S648 and respectively request it be immediately removed for further consideration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Chris Christie, Governor; the Honorable State Senator Stephen Sweeney, NJ State Senate President and Monmouth County State Legislators.

Seconded by Councilman _____ and adopted upon the following vote:

AYES NAYS ABSTAIN ABSENT

Mr. Cotler
Mr. Volante
Mr. Goldfarb
Mr. Galassetti
Mayor Engelstad

CERTIFICATION

I, Mary Ann Solinski, Municipal Clerk, Borough of Bradley Beach, Monmouth County, New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council at the October 14, 2014 meeting.

MARY ANN SOLINSKI, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk