RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH MONMOUTH COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES IN MONMOUTH COUNTY DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK UTILIZING THE MUNICIPAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND PROGRAM

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus, was declared a Pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020, and states of emergency have been declared by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020 and by President Trump on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the outbreak of this disease has severely affected travel, commerce and financial markets globally, and is expected to alter the behavior of people and businesses in a manner that will likely have significant negative impacts on the global, national and local economies; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, most public events have been canceled, schools and colleges have been closed, most retail businesses have been ordered to close, and residents have been directed to take pro-active measures, including use of "social distancing" to reduce interpersonal contacts; and

WHEREAS, protecting the health, safety, and welfare of County residents is of vital concern for the Board of Chosen Freeholders, particularly during the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Federal emergency relief funds have been allocated; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, the County and the Municipalities have become victims of the COVID-19 Virus and Pandemic (the "Coronavirus"); and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus has caused economic damage and hardships to states, counties and municipalities throughout the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020 the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (the "CARES Act") was signed by President Donald J. Trump; and

WHEREAS, the CARES Act was enacted, among other purposes, in order to combat the economic damage caused to states, counties and municipalities because of the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the County has received CARES Act funds from the United States Treasury (the "Stimulus Funds") to be used to reimburse the County due to economic damage caused to them by the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, as the recipient of the Stimulus Funds it will be the responsibility of the County to disburse the Stimulus Funds to eligible recipients in accordance with the terms and provisions of the CARES Act and any guidelines or regulations issued by United States government or any of its agencies and/or departments; and

WHEREAS, the Freeholders have determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Monmouth County to dedicate a share of the funding to reimburse municipalities for COVID-19 related costs and expenses under the Municipal Coronavirus Relief Fund Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Monmouth that a public health emergency exists in Monmouth County, and that to address said emergency the County Administrator shall be authorized, in her sole discretion, to enter into one or more agreements with Monmouth County municipalities to provide for expenditure reimbursement under the Monmouth County Municipal Coronavirus Relief Fund Program. Any municipality desiring to enter into such an agreement shall provide the County Administrator with a fully executed agreement for COVID-19 related expenditures as soon as practical.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of each agreement entered into by the County Administrator shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and shall be available for public inspection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the County Administrator, the Deputy County Administrator, the Chief Financial Officer and County Counsel.