

RESOLUTION 2018 –

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL
OF OCEAN CITY IN SUPPORT OF SURFRIDER FOUNDATION
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND CHAPTER
STRAWLESS SUMMER PLEDGE**

WHEREAS, in early 2018, the Surfrider Foundation – Ocean City, Maryland Chapter decided to ditch the straw by creating a Strawless Summer initiative encouraging businesses and individuals to sign a pledge to reduce single-use plastic and serve plastic straws “upon request” only; and

WHEREAS, we use over 500 million plastic straws every day in the United States, which is enough to wrap around the earth 2.5 times. That is enough straws to fill 46,400 school buses every single year; and

WHEREAS, too many of these straws end up in our oceans, waves and beaches polluting the water and harming marine life. In fact, it is predicted that if we don’t stop our plastic pollution, by 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in our oceans; and

WHEREAS, the Surfrider Foundation – Ocean City, Maryland Chapter Strawless Summer Pledge received signatures from nearly 70 businesses and almost 500 individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Strawless Summer Pledge encourages “straws upon request” which is driving a change in behavior and ultimately creating a scalable impact to reduce our plastic footprint one restaurant at a time and one customer at a time; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ocean City has a commitment to protect our natural environment and is responsible for raising awareness and helping to reduce plastic pollution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of Ocean City support the Strawless Summer Pledge as a positive and effective form of source reduction and proactive protection for our coastal beaches and bays.

RESOLVED AND EFFECTIVE this 19th day of November, 2018.

ATTEST:

DIANA L. CHAVIS, Clerk

RICHARD W. MEEHAN, Mayor

Approved as to form:

LLOYD MARTIN, President

GUY R. AYRES III, City Solicitor

MARY P. KNIGHT, Secretary

LAW OFFICES

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