Introduced by: Legislator Joshua Lafazan

RESOLUTION NO. 127-2018

A RESOLUTION TO DEVELOP AND PUBLISH A WEBSITE DEDICATED TO BULLYING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS IN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU

APPROVED AS TO FORM

PETER J. CLINES MINORITY COUNSEL

Passed by Nassau County Legislature on 9-9-18 A voice vote was taken with 18 Legislators present.

Voting: aye 18, nay 0, abstained 0, recused 0

Became a resolution on 9-10-13With the approval of the County Executive

WHEREAS, bullying, cyberbullying, and other related forms of unwanted aggressive behaviors are occurring at greater frequency and have been negatively impacting the mental, physical, and social development of young people in the County of Nassau as well as throughout our nation; and

WHEREAS, the impact of bullying on the youth population is extending beyond the confines of the school grounds and traditional school hours because of the large-scale accessibility of the Internet and digital devices, thus cyberbullying can take place twenty-four hours a day and is often unrecognized by parents and teachers; and

WHEREAS, based on data collected by the National Center for Education Statistics and Bureau of Justice Statistics, twenty-eight percent of U.S. students in grades six through twelve have experienced bullying; and WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services cites on the website, stopbullying.gov, data that approximately thirty percent of young people admit to bullying others; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative for people of all ages, gender identities, cultures, and socioeconomic levels to understand that all forms of bullying can damage the reputations of everyone involved — not just the individual being bullied, but those responsible for bullying or participating in it; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent on adults- parents, educators, and members of the community – to play a part in helping young people by learning what bullying is, recognizing the warning signs, and finding resources within the County to help address the situation; and

WHEREAS, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of County residents, it is in the public interest for the County to establish a website dedicated to providing residents easy access to information and resources regarding bullying; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Department of Information Technology, in coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Nassau County Police Department and subject to all County internal approvals regarding content, is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to develop and publish a website dedicated to bullying prevention and awareness which shall include information and resources relevant to the residents of Nassau County; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Nassau County Police Department is authorized, empowered, and directed to utilize information and resources garnered from nonprofits and other advocacy groups regarding bullying prevention and awareness to create content for the website; and be it further

RESOLVED, the information and resources provided on the site shall include but not be limited to annual updates regarding Dignity for All Students Act school coordinators contact

information, and information or links to information defining bullying, explaining different types of bullying, describing the signs that someone is being bullied, or is a bully, and instructing students, parents, and educators on methods of bullying prevention; the website shall also include local resources for children, parents and schools, and resources for young people who are experiencing bullying based on their gender identity or sexual orientation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that information provided on the website as well as any forms and links shall be updated, subject to the proper internal approvals, on a regular basis; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Information Technology shall publish this website by or before August 31, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, it is hereby determined, pursuant to the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, 8 N.Y.E.C.L., section 0101 et seq. and its implementing regulations, Part 617 of 6 N.Y.C.R.R. and section 1611 of the County Government Law of Nassau County, that the adoption of this local law is a "Type II" Action within the meaning of Section 617.5(c)(20) and (27) of 6 N.Y.C.R.R., and, accordingly, is of a class of actions which do not have a significant effect on the environment; and no further review is required.

APPROVED

Jaura Cura

County Executive

DATE 7/10/18