

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2015-247

2
3 SPONSOR Ms. Prentice

4
5 DATE June 1, 2015 COMMITTEE Planning

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7 **A Resolution opposing the use of “Fast Track” trade promotion by the Executive Branch of**
8 **the United States to negotiate trade policy outside of the public eye, for the Council, and**
9 **declaring an emergency.**

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11 WHEREAS, under “Fast Track,” Congress cedes its power under Article 1, Section 8 of
12 the U.S. Constitution to “regulate Commerce with foreign Nations” to the Executive Branch; and

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14 WHEREAS, “Fast Track” is an unaccountable process that limits citizen participation in
15 or knowledge of the details of trade negotiations, limits debate, and does not allow trade
16 agreements or their implementing bills to be amended or improved in any way; and

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18 WHEREAS, “Fast Track” does not require Congress or any independent body to evaluate
19 a trade deal before finalization of the deal to ensure that it will have a positive impact on the U.S.
20 trade balance, create good, family-wage jobs or ensure that state and local government can
21 continue to legislate and regulate in the public interest; and

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23 WHEREAS, “Fast Track” would apply to trade agreements, such as the Trans Pacific
24 Partnership, which are already being negotiated even though Congress has not yet weighed in on
25 whether all the participants are appropriate trading partners; and

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27 WHEREAS, ever since the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was enacted
28 under “Fast Track” procedures, workers across the United States have experienced downward
29 pressure on wages and greater threats to the ability to organize and collectively bargain; and

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31 WHEREAS, these trade policies put America’s families at risk from unsafe imports,
32 including food, pet food, and children’s toys, do not have enforceable rules against currency
33 manipulation, and provides corporate rights without corporate responsibilities by failing to
34 ensure that corporations are responsible for labor, environmental and health and safety violations
35 in their supply chain; and

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37 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
38 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to oppose the use of “Fast
39 Track” trade promotion by the Executive Branch of the United States to negotiate trade policy
40 outside of the public eye;

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42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the County of Summit,
43 State of Ohio, that:

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45 SECTION 1

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47 This Council opposes the use of “Fast Track” trade promotion by the Executive Branch
48 of the United States to negotiate trade policy outside of the public eye.
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SECTION 2

The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to send a copy of this resolution to Summit County's federal congressional delegation and the President of the United States.

SECTION 3

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of immediately expressing opposition to the use of "Fast Track" trade promotion and to let Summit County's federal delegation and the President of the United States know of this opposition.

SECTION 4

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

SECTION 5

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Codes.

INTRODUCED May 11, 2015

ADOPTED June 1, 2015

CLERK OF COUNCIL

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED June 2, 2015

EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE June 2, 2015

Voice Vote: 10-0 YES: Comunale, Crawford, Donofrio, Feeman, Kostandaras, Lee, Prentice, Rodgers, Schmidt, Shapiro
ABSENT: Kurt