

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2017-139

First Reading Passage Requested
(J. Dodson)

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3
4 SPONSORS Ms. Shapiro, Mrs. Prentice and Council of the Whole

5
6 DATE April 17, 2017 COMMITTEE Committee of the Whole

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8 **A Resolution urging the Ohio General Assembly to adopt a FY2018-2019 biennial general**
9 **fund operating budget that adequately compensates and/or restores the County of Summit**
10 **and all Ohio counties for the loss of revenues through the elimination of the Medicaid**
11 **Managed Care Organization sales tax, for the Executive's Department of Finance and**
12 **Budget, and declaring an emergency.**

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14 WHEREAS, the State FY2018-2019 biennial general fund operating budget proposed by
15 Governor Kasich provides an inadequate mechanism to replace all revenue lost due to the
16 elimination of the Medicaid Managed Care Organization sales tax; and

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18 WHEREAS, under the Governor's proposed mechanism, several counties would receive
19 disparate treatment based upon their "capacity" to raise the county sales tax, thereby punishing
20 those counties that have weathered the economic downturn by consolidating and becoming more
21 efficient, rather than raising their county sales tax; and

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23 WHEREAS, in addition to unfairly punishing counties that have kept their sales taxes
24 low, the Governor's proposed solution to the elimination of the Medicaid Managed Care
25 Organization sales tax negatively impacts large counties in Ohio; and

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27 WHEREAS, as the fourth largest county in Ohio, and as the county with the lowest sales
28 tax rate, the County of Summit is disproportionately impacted by the Governor's proposed
29 budget, and will receive far less proportionate funding to bridge the loss of the Medicaid
30 Managed Care Organization sales tax than other counties in Ohio; and

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32 WHEREAS, the County of Summit has continued to be efficient and careful watchdogs
33 of the taxpayers funding by not raising the County sales tax to continue to provide the necessary
34 services that the citizens of Summit County deserve; and

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36 WHEREAS, no county should be punished for being responsible watchdogs of taxpayer
37 funding by not raising the county sales tax and weathering the recent economic downturn; and

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39 WHEREAS, the Charter of the County of Summit also includes a provision requiring any
40 increase in the county sales tax to be voted on by the public, whereas all other 87 counties have
41 the ability to enact emergency sales taxes without a vote of the public; and

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43 WHEREAS, the Governor's proposal would result in an annual loss in revenue to the
44 County of \$4.2 million, while providing one-time funding of only \$2.3 million, which will result
45 in even more strain on an already limited budget that has resulted in the elimination of over 800
46 employees and the closure of a wing of the Summit County Jail; and

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48 WHEREAS, the County Executive's Office has continued to meet with State
49 Representatives and State Senators to explain the disparate treatment that is present under the
50 current methodology set forth in the Governor's proposed budget to provide temporary relief
51 from the loss of the Medicaid Managed Care Organization sales tax; and

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4 WHEREAS, as part of the Ohio House of Representatives' budgetary process, several
5 members of the Ohio House of Representatives have submitted alternative proposals to the
6 Governor's proposed treatment of the elimination of the Medicaid Managed Care Organization
7 sales tax that would be more favorable to Summit County and other counties in the State; and

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9 WHEREAS, this Council urges the Ohio House of Representatives, and subsequently the
10 Ohio Senate, to consider the alternative proposals and adopt a solution to the Medicaid Managed
11 Care Organization sales tax that provides additional monetary relief to the County of Summit and
12 counties as a whole in Ohio; and

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14 WHEREAS this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
15 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to urge the Ohio General
16 Assembly to adopt an alternate proceed that adequately compensates the County;

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

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21 SECTION 1

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23 The County of Summit hereby urges the Ohio General Assembly to adopt a FY2018-
24 2019 biennial general fund operating budget that adequately compensates and/or restores the
25 County of Summit and all Ohio counties for the loss of revenues through the elimination of the
26 Medicaid Managed Care Organization sales tax.

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28 SECTION 2

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30 The Clerk of Council is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Ohio General
31 Assembly Delegation, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and President of the Ohio
32 Senate.

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34 SECTION 3

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36 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
37 welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit, and for the further reason that it necessary to
38 immediately urge the Ohio General Assembly to take the action requested as they consider the
39 FY2018-2019 biennial general fund operating budget.

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41 SECTION 4

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

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4 SECTION 5

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6 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
7 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
8 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
9 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
10 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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13 INTRODUCED April 17, 2017

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15 ADOPTED April 17, 2017

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CLERK OF COUNCIL

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED April 18, 2017

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EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE April 18, 2017

Voice Vote: 11-0 YES: Crawford, Dickinson, Donofrio, Feeman, Hamilton,
Koehler, Prentice, Rodgers, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite