

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2014-314 ***Late Filing***

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3 SPONSOR Mr. Pry, Ms. Kurt, Mr. Comunale, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Feeman, Mr. Kostandaras,
4 Ms. Lee, Ms. Shapiro, Mr. Schmidt, Mrs. Prentice

5
6 DATE June 30, 2014 COMMITTEE Planning

7
8 **A Resolution expressing support for Gay Games 9 to be held from August 9 to 16, 2014 in**
9 **Akron and Cleveland, and encouraging the citizens of Summit County to join in this**
10 **expression of support, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

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12 WHEREAS, the Gay Games were conceived in 1980 by Dr. Tom Wadell in order to
13 build a legacy of cultural, social, and political change for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and
14 Transgender community; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Gay Games have continued to create an athletic environment open to all
17 people regardless of age, sex, race, religion, sexual orientation, or athletic ability, thus being
18 consistent with the policies and Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, which has
19 already extended non-discrimination protection based on sexual orientation and gender identity,
20 and has provided bereavement leave, sick leave and healthcare benefits for domestic partners;
21 and

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23 WHEREAS, several sporting events will be taking place within the boundaries of
24 Summit County, including softball, golf, a marathon, the rodeo, track and field, soccer, and
25 martial arts; and

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27 WHEREAS, the total economic impact of the Gay Games is estimated to total over \$40
28 million for the Northeast Ohio region, which in turn benefits local business, both large and small,
29 and County and local governments that rely on much needed tax revenues; and

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31 WHEREAS, the Gay Games are an internationally renowned set of sporting events that
32 are predicted to draw 11,000 participants from across the world to Northeast Ohio who will be
33 staying in hotels, eating at restaurants, utilizing local amenities, and positively benefiting both
34 small and large business in Summit County; and

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36 WHEREAS, the Gay Games continue to provide a positive impact upon the community
37 even after the Games have ended through a developed Sustainability Plan that targets economic
38 improvement, social responsibility, and environmental stewardness as the key factors of success;
39 and

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41 WHEREAS, this Council recognizes the dignity of all individuals, and encourages events
42 such as Gay Games 9 that recognize the value, contributions and equality of all people,
43 regardless of what they look like or who they love; and

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45 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
46 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to express support for the
47 Ninth Gay Games to be held in Cleveland/Akron in 2014 and to encourage the citizens of
48 Summit County to join in this expression of support for the dignity of all citizens of the County.

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

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1 RESOLUTION NO. 2014-314

2 PAGE TWO

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4 SECTION 1

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6 This Council expresses its support for Gay Games 9 to be held from August 9 to 16, 2014
7 in Akron and Cleveland, and encourages the citizens of Summit County to join in this expression
8 of support.

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10 SECTION 2

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12 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
13 welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit, and for the further reason of immediately
14 expressing support for the Ninth Gay Games to be held in Cleveland/Akron in 2014 before the
15 Games begin in August.

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17 SECTION 3

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

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23 SECTION 4

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25 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
26 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
27 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
28 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
29 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.


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32 INTRODUCED June 16, 2014

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34 ADOPTED June 30, 2014

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38  _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

 _____
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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40 APPROVED July 1, 2014

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43  _____
44 EXECUTIVE

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46 ENACTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 2014

Voice Vote 9-1 YES: Komunale, Crawford, Feeman, Kostandaras
Kurt, Lee, Roemer, Schmidt, Shapiro
NO: Rodgers
ABSENT: Prentice