

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2015-178

First Reading Passage Requested

(P. Prentice)

2
3 SPONSOR Mr. Pry, Mrs. Prentice, Mr. Crawford, Ms. Kurt

4
5 DATE _____

COMMITTEE Human Services

6
7 **A Resolution urging the Governor and the General Assembly of Ohio to enact meaningful**
8 **laws to provide for greater accountability, transparency and oversight to the State's**
9 **charter school system, for the Executive and Council, and declaring an emergency.**

10
11 WHEREAS, good local schools are critical for attracting and retaining residents to
12 Summit County's communities, and a strong and fiscally sound local school system has provided
13 the educated citizenry necessary to maintain the American democracy; and

14
15 WHEREAS, charter schools were introduced as a way to provide quality educational
16 options to students in public schools and have expanded to serve more than 120,000 students
17 statewide, at a cost of over \$900,000,000.00 in state funding each year; and

18
19 WHEREAS, state funding for Ohio's traditional public school districts is
20 \$515,000,000.00 less in the 2014-2015 school year than the 2010-2011 school year; and

21
22 WHEREAS, charter school state funding, regardless of charter school quality or
23 performance, is paid for through reductions to traditional public school funds; and

24
25 WHEREAS, Ohio law exempts charter schools from more than 200 requirements that
26 other traditional public schools must follow, while at the same time only 1 in 10 Ohio charter
27 school students are attending a school rated high performing; and

28
29 WHEREAS, the public has limited access to information about how taxpayer dollars are
30 spent by charter school operators, many of whom operate for profit and receive more state
31 funding per pupil than traditional public schools, even while maintaining lower overhead costs;
32 and

33
34 WHEREAS, school districts across Summit County have been negatively affected by the
35 decrease in public school funding, thereby decreasing the ability to provide quality educational
36 services to their students and the community; and

37
38 WHEREAS, greater accountability, transparency and oversight of charter schools,
39 particularly access to how public dollars are spent and holding charter schools to the same
40 requirements as public schools, would improve the quality of education provided by charter
41 schools while providing a full picture on how public dollars are spent; and

42
43 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
44 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County to urge the Governor and the General
45 Assembly of Ohio to enact meaningful laws to provide for greater accountability, transparency,
46 and oversight to the State's charter school system.

47
48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
49 of Ohio, that:

50

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2015-178

2 PAGE TWO

3
4 SECTION 1

5
6 This Council hereby urges the Governor and the General Assembly of Ohio to enact
7 meaningful laws to provide for greater accountability, transparency, and oversight to the State's
8 charter school system.

9
10 SECTION 2

11
12 The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this
13 Resolution to the Governor of Ohio and to the Summit County delegation of the Ohio General
14 Assembly.

15
16 SECTION 3

17
18 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
19 welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit, and for the further reason of immediately
20 showing support for a change in the Charter School System that would further support the public
21 school systems of Summit County and Ohio.

22
23 SECTION 4

24
25 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take
26 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take
27 effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

28
29 SECTION 5

30
31 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
32 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
33 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
34 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
35 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

36
37
38 INTRODUCED April 27, 2015

39
40 ADOPTED April 27, 2015

41
42
43
44 CLERK OF COUNCIL

45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

46 APPROVED April 28, 2015

48
49
50 EXECUTIVE

51 ENACTED EFFECTIVE April 28, 2015

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