

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2019-315

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3 SPONSORS Mr. Wilhite, Ms. Shapiro, Ms. McKenney, Mr. Schmidt and Council of the Whole

4
5 DATE August 19, 2019 COMMITTEE Committee of the Whole

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7 **A Resolution establishing the Summit County Nursing Homes and Facilities Task Force,**
8 **declaring its purpose, and describing its members, for the County Council and the**
9 **Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

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11 WHEREAS, several nursing homes, residential care facilities and homes for the aging, as
12 defined by Section 3721.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, and hereinafter referred to as “Nursing
13 Homes and Facilities,” operate within Summit County; and

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15 WHEREAS, due to age, fragility, physical disability or mental disability, or a
16 combination thereof, the residents of these Nursing Homes and Facilities are vulnerable and
17 reliant upon the quality and quantity of care provided to them by their caregivers; and

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19 WHEREAS, the residents of Nursing Homes and Facilities in Summit County are our
20 neighbors, friends and family members, many of whom have lived and worked in Summit
21 County for years prior to residing in said facilities; and

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23 WHEREAS, recently, media stories and articles have highlighted deficiencies in care and
24 services provided to the residents of some Nursing Homes and Facilities in Summit County; and

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26 WHEREAS, without proper care and services, the residents of these Nursing Homes and
27 Facilities can incur further injury and even death, and can also suffer a further deterioration of
28 their quality of life; and

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30 WHEREAS, preserving and protecting the health, safety and welfare of the residents of
31 Summit County, including specifically those residents residing in Nursing Homes and Facilities,
32 is a key responsibility of County government; and

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34 WHEREAS, it is a proper function of this Council’s authority to ensure that the residents
35 of Nursing Homes and Facilities in Summit County receive the proper care and services they
36 need while residing in said facilities; and

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38 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
39 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County to create a Summit County Nursing
40 Homes and Facilities Task Force to preserve and protect the health, safety and welfare of the
41 residents in Nursing Homes and Facilities in Summit County.

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

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46 SECTION 1

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48 This Council hereby establishes the Summit County Nursing Homes and Facilities Task
49 Force.

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4 SECTION 2

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6 The purpose of the Summit County Nursing Homes and Facilities Task Force shall be:

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8 1) To examine the current functions, practices, and environments of Nursing Homes and
9 Facilities within Summit County.
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11 2) To examine the regulatory structure and numerous regulations governing Nursing Homes
12 and Facilities within Summit County, including, regulations promulgated by the State of
13 Ohio and Federal governments or any divisions thereof, and the role and/or authority of
14 the County of Summit in such regulatory structure and/or the role in that regulatory
15 structure that can be exercised by the County of Summit.
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17 3) To examine the financial and fiscal considerations of Nursing Homes and Facilities
18 within Summit County.
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20 4) To examine and identify generally recognized best practices among high-performing
21 Nursing Homes and Facilities within Summit County, the State of Ohio and nationally.
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23 5) To make recommendations to County Council and the County Executive for any
24 legislative action that can and should be adopted to preserve and protect the health, safety
25 and welfare of the residents of Nursing Homes and Facilities within Summit County.
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27 6) To make recommendations to County Council and the County Executive for any
28 advocacy efforts that should be undertaken to effectuate necessary changes in the
29 regulatory structure of the State of Ohio and Federal government to improve the
30 preservation and protection of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Nursing
31 Homes and Facilities within Summit County.
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33 In undertaking these purposes, the Summit County Nursing Homes and Facilities Task
34 Force shall consult with residents, facility owners and operators, industry specialists and
35 regulatory actors with appropriate experience and expertise, and may create ad-hoc
36 subcommittees of those individuals to assist the Task Force.
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38 SECTION 3

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40 The membership of the Summit County Nursing Homes and Facilities Task Force shall
41 consist of the following members, which shall be appointed by the County Executive and
42 confirmed by this Council:

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44 1) Summit County Council President or designee
45 2) Summit County Executive or designee
46 3) A representative of the County of Summit's Department of Job and Family Services
47 4) A representative of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas – Probate Division
48 5) A representative of Direction Home (the Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging and
49 Disabilities)
50 6) A representative of the Summit County Combined General Health District
51 7) An owner or operator of a Nursing Home or Facility within Summit County
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4 SECTION 3 (Cont'd)

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6 8) A resident of Summit County who has experience as an employee of a Nursing Home or
7 Facility within the State of Ohio
8 9) A resident of Summit County who is a family member of someone currently in the care
9 of a Nursing Home or Facility within Summit County

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11 In addition to the members appointed by the County Executive, the Summit County Nursing
12 Homes and Facilities Task Force may have two ex-officio members that are representatives
13 of the following agencies, to be designated directly from the following agencies:

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15 1) A representative of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
16 2) A representative of the Ohio Department of Health

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18 SECTION 4

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20 Following the appointment and confirmation of its members, the Summit County Nursing
21 Homes and Facilities Task Force will deliberate for a six (6) month period, commencing with its
22 first meeting, and make a full written report to Council and the Executive setting forth its
23 findings and recommendations at the end of that six (6) month period.

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25 SECTION 5

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27 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
28 welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of immediately
29 creating the Summit County Nursing Home and Facilities Task Force to expeditiously make
30 recommendations that will benefit the residents of Nursing Homes and Facilities within Summit
31 County.

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33 SECTION 6

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

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39 SECTION 7

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41 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
42 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
43 deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were
44 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
45 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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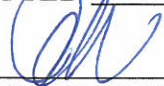
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5 INTRODUCED August 5, 2019

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7 ADOPTED August 19, 2019

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10 CLERK OF COUNCIL


PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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12 APPROVED August 21, 2019

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15 EXECUTIVE

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18 ENACTED EFFECTIVE August 21, 2019

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