

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2021-248 First Reading Passage Requested
2 (G. Johnson)

3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council of the Whole

4 August 16, 2021

5 DATE _____ COMMITTEE Human Services

6
7 **A Resolution declaring August 31st Overdose Awareness Day in Summit County, to raise**
8 **awareness of the opioid epidemic and to remember the lives lost to the epidemic, for the**
9 **Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

10
11 WHEREAS, it is important to remember without stigma those who have lost their lives to
12 the opioid epidemic and acknowledge the grief of their family and friends; and

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14 WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day has been recognized by government
15 and non-government organizations since 2001; and

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17 WHEREAS, the State of Ohio declared August 31, 2021, as Overdose Awareness Day in
18 Ohio and Governor DeWine ordered flags to be flown at half-staff; and

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20 WHEREAS, the International Overdose Awareness Day 2021 theme is “Time To
21 Remember; Time To Act.” This day encourages discussion in order to further educate our
22 community about overdose prevention and spread awareness about the range of support services
23 and resources that exist in Summit County; and

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25 WHEREAS, this day provides an opportunity for people to publicly mourn for loved ones
26 and to send a strong message to individuals currently struggling with addiction that they are valued
27 and supported; and

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29 WHEREAS, in 2016, Executive Ilene Shapiro declared a state of emergency in recognition
30 of the harmful toll the epidemic was having on our community. Summit County continues to battle
31 the opioid epidemic and remains committed to providing resources to those that have been affected
32 by the epidemic; and

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34 WHEREAS, since receiving a financial settlement from opioid manufacturers and
35 distributors, the Summit County Opiate Abatement Council has recommended, and Council has
36 approved, over \$5.5 million in grants to local organizations working to abate the epidemic and
37 provide support to those in need; and

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39 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
40 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit that August 31st be declared
41 Overdose Awareness Day in Summit County, and encouraging the residents of Summit County to
42 join in this recognition;

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

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47 SECTION 1

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49 The day of August 31st, 2021, be declared Overdose Awareness Day in Summit County,
50 and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement.
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2 PAGE TWO

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4 SECTION 2

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6 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
7 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
8 immediately declaring August 31st, 2021 as Overdose Awareness Day in Summit County.
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10 SECTION 3

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12 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take
13 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise it shall take effect
14 and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.
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16 SECTION 4

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18 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
19 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
20 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were
21 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22
22 of the Ohio Revised Code.
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25 INTRODUCED August 16, 2021

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27 ADOPTED August 16, 2021

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31 For CLERK OF COUNCIL

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31 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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33 APPROVED August 17, 2021

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37 EXECUTIVE

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39 ENACTED EFFECTIVE August 17, 2021

Voice Vote - YES: 11-0: Darrow, DeVitis, Dickinson, Donofrio,
Feeman, McKenney, Rodgers, Schmidt, Sims, Walters, Wilhite