

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2021-269

First Reading Passage Requested
(Executive Shapiro)

2
3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4 August 30, 2021

5 DATE _____ COMMITTEE Committee of the Whole

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7 **A Resolution declaring September 10-19, 2021, as Welcoming Week in Summit County,**
8 **recognizing refugees and new Americans, and the contributions they make to our**
9 **community, as well as the challenges and roadblocks they have faced and continue to face,**
10 **and declaring an emergency.**

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12 WHEREAS, the week of September 10, 2021, is nationally celebrated as Welcoming
13 Week; and

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15 WHEREAS, during Welcoming Week, organizations and communities bring together
16 refugees, new Americans, and long-time residents to build strong connections and affirm the
17 importance of welcoming and inclusive places in achieving collective prosperity; and

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19 WHEREAS, we celebrate Welcoming Week as a way of bringing neighbors from different
20 communities of the world together to build relationships and work together on shared goals; and

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22 WHEREAS, in 2015, this Council voted unanimously to declare Summit County a
23 Welcoming County and participate in the global celebrations of Welcoming Week each year; and

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25 WHEREAS, this year's theme is "Belonging Begins," which aims to draw attention to the
26 language barriers and cultural differences that impact the feeling of belonging among refugees and
27 new Americans; and

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29 WHEREAS, Summit County is home to people of all backgrounds and is therefore
30 committed to giving those who were not born here, but now call it home, a place to belong; and

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32 WHEREAS, ensuring all residents are welcome harnesses the strengths, talents, and
33 contributions of each and every person; and

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35 WHEREAS, the welcoming of new residents is vital to our community, as they bring ideas,
36 start businesses, serve in civic roles, work in critical conditions, and contribute to the spirited
37 diversity in our community; and

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39 WHEREAS, as a Welcoming County, in recognition of this year's theme, we are reminded
40 how important a sense of belonging among our residents is and how influential that belonging is
41 to the fabric of our community;

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

45
46 SECTION 1

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48 The week of September 10-19, 2021 is hereby declared Welcoming Week in Summit
49 County, and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgment.
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