RESOLUTION NO. 2022-079

SPONSOR Executive Shapiro & Ms. Sims

DATE COMMITTEE Human Services

A Resolution declaring the month of April 2022 as Minority Health Month in Summit County, recognizing the health inequalities facing minorities, and encouraging all health organizations to conduct appropriate programs and activities to promote healthfulness in minority communities, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, National Minority Health Month was first recognized nationally by Congress in 2002 with its origin dating back to 1915 with the establishment of National Negro Health Week by Booker T. Washington; and

WHEREAS, it is important to raise awareness about health disparities that continue to affect racial and ethnic minority populations and encourage action through health education, early detection, and control of disease complications; and

WHEREAS, the disproportionate effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on racial and ethnic minority and indigenous communities has highlighted on a national scale the health disparities that minority communities face when accessing the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, this year’s theme is “Give Your Community a Boost!,” aims to draw attention to the importance of vaccinations, including booster shots. The COVID-19 Vaccine is one of the strongest tools we have to combat the pandemic.

WHEREAS, Summit County Public Health’s Office of Minority Health is dedicated to providing minority health data and technical assistance to local agencies working to improve the health status of minority populations; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Minority Health works to eliminate differences in health status between racial and ethnic minority and non-minority populations by providing leadership and guidance on best ways to address racial and ethnic health disparity and specific health needs of racial and ethnic minority groups; and

WHEREAS, as we adapt to living with COVID-19 as an endemic disease, Summit County Public Health and its partners are committed to working together to ensure equitable COVID-19 vaccine and test distribution to the minority residents of Summit County;

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

SECTION 1

The month of April 2022 is hereby declared Minority Health Month in Summit County, and the residents and employees of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement.
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SECTION 2

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of immediately declaring April 2022 as Minority Health Month in Summit County.

SECTION 3

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

SECTION 4

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

INTRODUCED March 14, 2022

ADOPTED

CLERK OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED

EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE