

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-136

First Reading Passage Requested

2
3 **(Executive Shapiro)**

4 SPONSORS Executive Shapiro, Veronica Sims, Erin Dickinson and Council as a Whole

5 DATE May 15, 2023 COMMITTEE Health & Human Services

6

7 **A Resolution declaring Friday, June 2, 2023 as Gun Violence Awareness Day in Summit**
8 **County to honor and remember the victims and survivors of gun violence and to join in**
9 **calling for the prevention of gun violence by wearing orange, for the Executive, and declaring**
10 **an emergency.**

11

12 WHEREAS, in 2021, 48,830 people died due to gun violence in the United States
13 according to Pew Research Center, a 23% increase since 2019; and

14

15 WHEREAS, 20,958 of these deaths were homicides and 26,328 were suicides; and

16

17 WHEREAS, in 2020 and 2021, firearms surpassed motor vehicle accidents as the leading
18 cause of death among children according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with
19 firearms responsible for nearly 19% of deaths among children ages 1-18; and

20

21 WHEREAS, as of May 8, 2023, there have been more mass shootings in the United States
22 than days in the year, with the Gun Violence Archive reporting 202 mass shootings, defined as a
23 shooting where four or more people were shot, either injured or killed, not including the shooter;
24 and

25

26 WHEREAS, this includes the May 6 shooting outside a mall in Dallas, Texas, the April 10
27 shooting at a bank in Louisville, Kentucky, the March 27 shooting at an elementary school in
28 Nashville, Tennessee, the February 13 shooting at Michigan State University in East Lansing,
29 Michigan, the January 21 shooting at a dance hall in Monterey Park, California, and many more,
30 impacting hundreds of communities and thousands of lives; and

31

32 WHEREAS, Gun Violence Awareness Day was founded by the friends of Hadiya
33 Pendleton, a 15-year-old shot and killed in Chicago in 2013 to honor her and all those lost to gun
34 violence, as well as to call for preventing gun violence in the future; and

35

36 WHEREAS, residents are asked to join in mourning those lost and to stand together against
37 gun violence by wearing orange on June 2, 2023; and

38

39 WHEREAS, protecting the community from violence is among the highest responsibilities
40 of elected officials; and

41

42 WHEREAS, in December of 2022 and March of 2023, Summit County Council hosted two
43 gun buybacks, taking in hundreds of firearms and distributing hundreds of gun locks to promote
44 safe storage; and

45

46 WHEREAS, the commitment of the County of Summit to prevent firearms from ending up
47 in the wrong hands, to encourage responsible and safe ownership and use of firearms, and to reduce
48 gun violence and keep the community safe reminds steadfast; and

49

50 WHEREAS, residents are encouraged to join in reaffirming their commitment to a
51 community that is safe, peaceful and free from violence and fear;

52

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2023-136

2 PAGE TWO

3

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

6

7 SECTION 1

8

9 The day of Friday, June 2, 2023 is hereby declared National Gun Violence Awareness Day
10 in the County of Summit to honor and remember victims and survivors of gun violence, reaffirm
11 the commitment to preventing gun violence, and encouraging the residents of Summit County to
12 join in this acknowledgment by wearing orange on that day.

13

14 SECTION 2

15

16 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
17 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
18 immediately declaring Friday, June 2, 2023 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Summit
19 County.

20

21 SECTION 3

22

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

26

27 SECTION 4

28

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

34

35

36 INTRODUCED May 15, 2023

37

38 ADOPTED May 15, 2023

39

40 DocuSigned by:

41 _____
42 F8D2DB132BE041B...
CLERK OF COUNCIL

DocuSigned by:

_____ C85A940FE4B442A...
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

43

44 APPROVED May 15, 2023

45

46 DocuSigned by:

47 _____
48 CBD33E40D287473...
EXECUTIVE

49

50 ENACTED EFFECTIVE May 16, 2023