

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-293

2

3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4

5 DATE October 28, 2024 COMMITTEE Human Services

6

7 **A Resolution declaring November 23, 2024, as National Adoption Day in Summit County,**  
8 **raising awareness about the need for permanent families for children in foster care,**  
9 **recognizing our children and the joy they bring to their adoptive families, and encouraging**  
10 **Summit County residents to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children by**  
11 **considering becoming a foster-to-adopt family, for the Executive, and declaring an**  
12 **emergency.**

13

14 WHEREAS, National Adoption Day was launched by a coalition of national partners – the  
15 Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Alliance  
16 for Children’s Rights, and Children’s Action Network – twenty-five years ago in 1999.

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18 WHEREAS, Summit County Children Services (“SCCS”) has more than 860 children in  
19 custody, 200 of which are in permanent custody of the agency, and over 60 of these children have  
20 no specific plan for permanency; and

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22 WHEREAS, children in the care of SCCS become available for adoption only after  
23 reunification with their biological family is not possible due to safety concerns; and

24

25 WHEREAS, SCCS works each day to support children who have experienced great  
26 hardship, often suffering dependency, abuse, and neglect, and work to provide them with adequate  
27 care, love, and resources as they navigate the world without the certainty of a permanent home or  
28 family; and

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30 WHEREAS, Summit County Probate Court, as the court of new beginnings, spends a  
31 significant amount of time working with adoptive families as they complete the required legal  
32 process to officially adopt their children; and

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34 WHEREAS, adoptive families provide a loving, safe, and permanent home for their  
35 children as they grow into adulthood and beyond; and

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37 WHEREAS, the Executive and Council encourage residents to become a foster-to-adopt  
38 parent to aid in the process of ensuring all Summit County children experience a permanent, safe  
39 environment with a loving family; and

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

43

44 SECTION 1

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46 The day of November 23, 2024, is hereby declared National Adoption Day in Summit  
47 County and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement by  
48 raising awareness about the need for permanent families for children in foster care, showing  
49 appreciation for foster-to-adopt families, and considering becoming a foster-to-adopt family in the  
50 future.

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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 November 23, 2024, as National Adoption 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.

23

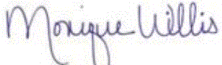
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25 INTRODUCED October 28, 2024

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27 ADOPTED November 18, 2024

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DocuSigned by:  
  
CLERK OF COUNCIL  
5560BEF400F5451...

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DocuSigned by:  
  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL  
132AA5B69D28443...

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34 APPROVED November 18, 2024

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DocuSigned by:  
  
EXECUTIVE  
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38

Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, Dickinson,  
Donofrio, Ford, Kacyon, McKenney, Rodgers,  
Schmidt, Wiedie Higham, Walters, Wilhite

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ENACTED EFFECTIVE November 19, 2024