

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-198

First Reading Passage Requested

(G. Johnson)

2
3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4
5 DATE June 30, 2025

COMMITTEE Human Services

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7 **A Resolution declaring the month of August 2025 as National Immunization Awareness**
8 **Month, recognizing the individual and community benefits of receiving immunizations, for**
9 **the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

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11 WHEREAS, National Immunization Awareness Month is celebrated annually in August to
12 highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages; and

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14 WHEREAS, immunizations protect the health of residents, their families, and their
15 communities through a decreased risk of contracting a disease and a decreased severity of
16 symptoms; and

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18 WHEREAS, safe and effective vaccines have been used by millions of people for decades
19 and contributed to the decline or eradication of polio, mumps, measles, rubella, pertussis,
20 diphtheria, rotavirus, hepatitis, mpox, and more; and

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22 WHEREAS, according to the United Nations, the lives of four million children are saved
23 every year due to immunization; and

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25 WHEREAS, according to a study by the World Health Organization (WHO), immunization
26 efforts worldwide have saved an estimated 154 million lives in the past 50 years; and

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28 WHEREAS, according to the Ohio Department of Health, immunization rates for students
29 entering kindergarten are declining, with a 86.2% vaccination rate during the 2023-2024 school
30 year down to 85.4% rate during the 2024-2025, down even further from pre-pandemic rates of
31 nearly 90%, of which all vaccination rates in past years have been lower than the 95% goal for
32 effective disease prevention in the community; and

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34 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control recommends all children get two doses of the
35 MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine, starting with the first dose at 12 through 15 months of
36 age, and the second dose at 4 through 6 years of age, with two doses being 97% effective against
37 measles; and

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39 WHEREAS, immunization can prevent severe complications of measles, such as
40 pneumonia, encephalitis, hospitalization (about 1 in 5 unvaccinated people in the United States
41 who contract measles are hospitalized), complications during pregnancy, and death; and

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43 WHEREAS, continuing to encourage residents to receive immunizations for COVID-19
44 and other diseases improves the health and safety of Summit County; and

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46 WHEREAS, the 2022-2023 outbreak of mpox that, according to the World Health
47 Organization, caused a public health emergency of international concern continues to demonstrate
48 the necessity of immunization and public health education for rare and less common diseases
49 beyond COVID-19 and influenza;

50
51 WHEREAS, Summit County Public Health continues to make vaccines and information
52 about vaccines accessible to all residents; and

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WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit that August 2025, be declared National Immunization Awareness Month in Summit County, and encourages the residents of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement;

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

SECTION 1

The month of August 2025 is hereby declared National Immunization Awareness Month in Summit County and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this acknowledgement.

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 August 2025 as National Immunization Awareness 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 June 30, 2025

ADOPTED June 30, 2025

Signed By:

Monique Willis

CLERK OF COUNCIL

DocuSigned by:

Rita S. Darrow

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED June 30, 2025

Steve Shapiro

EXECUTIVE

Voice Vote – YES: 10 – 0: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite
Absent: Ford

ENACTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 2025