

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2026-137

Council as a

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Mr. Licate, Mrs. Darrow, Mrs. McKenney, Mr. Ford, Whole

4
5 DATE April 27, 2026 COMMITTEE Human Services

6
7 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness**
8 **Month in Summit County and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join in this**
9 **acknowledgement, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

10
11 WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s disease,
12 is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease in which a person’s brain loses connection with
13 their muscles, slowly reducing a person’s ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe; and

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15 WHEREAS, according to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated
16 35,000 people in the United States are living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (“ALS”), with
17 approximately 5,000 new cases diagnosed every year; and

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19 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from
20 the time of diagnosis, symptoms vary by person depending on which nerve cells are affected and
21 generally begins with muscle weakness and gets worse over time; and

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23 WHEREAS, for about 10% of people with ALS, a genetic factor can be identified to cause
24 the disease, but for 90% of cases, the cause is unknown; and

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26 WHEREAS, people who have served in the military are more likely to develop ALS and
27 die from the disease than those with no history of military service, although it is not clear what
28 environmental factor related to military service might trigger ALS; and

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30 WHEREAS, there is no known cure for ALS, treatments focus on slowing progression,
31 managing symptoms, and improving quality of life; and

32
33 WHEREAS, securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and
34 communication technologies is of vital importance to people living with ALS; and

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36 WHEREAS, clinical trials play a pivotal role in evaluating new treatments, enhancing
37 quality of life, and fostering assistive technologies for those living with ALS; and

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39 WHEREAS, the ALS Association is the largest philanthropic funder of ALS research
40 globally and has committed more than \$162 million to support more than 600 projects across the
41 United States and 18 other countries; and

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43 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month provides an opportunity to
44 increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with ALS, acknowledge the
45 terrible impact this disease has on those individuals and their families, and support research to
46 eradicate this disease; and

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48 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
49 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit that May 2026 be declared
50 Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month in Summit County and encouraging the residents
51 of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement;

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

6

7 SECTION 1

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9 The month of May 2026 is hereby declared Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness
10 Month in Summit County, and the residents of Summit County are encouraged to join in this
11 acknowledgement.

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13 SECTION 2

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15 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
16 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
17 immediately declaring May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month in Summit
18 County to encourage the support ALS research, advocating for increased funding, and standing in
19 solidarity of those affect by this relentless disease during the month of May.

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21 SECTION 3

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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.

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27 SECTION 4

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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.

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36 INTRODUCED April 27, 2026

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38 ADOPTED May 11, 2026

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40 Signed by:
41 Monique Willis

42 CLERK OF COUNCIL

43

44 APPROVED May 11, 2026

45 Signed by:
46 Steve Shapiro

47 EXECUTIVE

48

49 ENACTED EFFECTIVE May 12, 2026

Signed by:
Erin Dickinson

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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