

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2026-150

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Ms. Dickinson, Ms. Walters, Council as a Whole

4
5 DATE May 11, 2026 COMMITTEE Human Services

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7 **A Resolution declaring Friday, June 5, 2026 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.**

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12 WHEREAS, 38,827 people died from gun violence in the United States in 2025 according
13 to the Gun Violence Archive, which includes 14,737 homicides and 24,090 suicides; and

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15 WHEREAS, mass shootings are defined by the Gun Violence Archive as an incident where
16 at least four people were shot, either injured or killed, not including the shooter; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Gun Violence Archive reported 407 mass shootings in 2025 and as of
19 April 23, 2026 there have been 120 mass shootings in 2026 in the United States; and

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21 WHEREAS, suicides contributed to 6 in 10 gun deaths in 2023, according to the Centers
22 for Disease Control and Prevention, with gun suicides reaching an all-time high in 2022; and

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24 WHEREAS, according to a KFF analysis of data from the Centers of Disease Control and
25 Prevention (CDC) firearms surpassed motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of death among
26 children aged 1-19 in 2020 and 2021, and has continued to be the leading cause of death for this
27 age group for the past five years; and

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29 WHEREAS, KFF reports the United States has the highest child and teen firearm mortality
30 rate among developed countries at 6.01 deaths per 100,000 among people aged 1-19, with the next
31 highest being Canada at 0.62 deaths per 100,000; and

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33 WHEREAS, among the highest responsibilities of elected officials is the obligation to
34 prevent and respond to violence, in this case gun violence, and to protect the health and safety of
35 the community; and

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37 WHEREAS, local officials are closest to their communities and best positioned to
38 understand the needs of residents and ensure their safety and wellbeing; and

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40 WHEREAS, in 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was shot and killed at the age of 15 on a
41 playground in Chicago, spurring her loved ones to wear orange in her honor of her and other
42 victims of gun violence every year thereafter; and

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44 WHEREAS, orange was chosen by Hadiya's loved ones because it is the color hunters
45 wear in the woods to protect themselves and others; and

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47 WHEREAS, leaders and residents are asked to join in mourning those lost and standing
48 together against gun violence by wearing orange on Gun Violence Awareness Day, June 5, 2026;
49 and

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

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

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11 SECTION 1

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13 The day of Friday, June 5, 2026 is hereby declared Gun Violence Awareness Day in the
14 County of Summit to honor and remember victims and survivors of gun violence, reaffirm the
15 commitment to preventing gun violence, and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join
16 in this acknowledgment by wearing orange on that day.

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18 SECTION 2

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20 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
21 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
22 immediately declaring Friday, June 5, 2026 as Gun Violence Awareness Day in Summit County.

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24 SECTION 3

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

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30 SECTION 4

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

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38 INTRODUCED May 11, 2026

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40 ADOPTED _____

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43 CLERK OF COUNCIL

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

45 APPROVED _____

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48 _____

49 EXECUTIVE

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51 ENACTED EFFECTIVE _____