RESOLUTION NO. 2012-389

SPONSOR: Mr. Pry and Council of the Whole

DATE: October 1, 2012

COMMITTEE: Committee of the Whole

First Reading Passage Requested (J. Dodson)

A Resolution supporting Issue 73 on the November 6, 2012 ballot, for the renewal of an existing 2.25 mill tax levy for the Summit County Children Services Board in order to allow that agency to continue its operations and provide compassionate care and protection for the County's children from abuse and neglect, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, this Council previously adopted Resolution No. 2012-212, declaring the necessity of levying a tax outside the ten mill limitation for the benefit of the Summit County Children Services Board ("SCCSB") to be certified for the ballot for the general election on November 6, 2012; and

WHEREAS, SCCSB has provided protection from harm for abused, neglected and abandoned children since the agency's founding as the Summit County Children's Home in 1885; and

WHEREAS, SCCSB has grown and evolved from an orphanage into the one agency mandated by law to respond to, investigate and deal with child abuse and neglect in our community; and

WHEREAS, SCCSB investigated more than 6,500 reports of possible child abuse or neglect in 2011; and

WHEREAS, SCCSB has worked hard to reduce costs in order to reduce the burden on taxpayers while at the same time focusing on constantly improving services to children and families; and

WHEREAS, this levy is the only levy for SCCSB, and, if it fails, the agency will lose more than half its funding; and

WHEREAS, if this levy should fail, the County's general fund would need to support the operating costs of SCCSB, thereby severely burdening the County's resources and jeopardizing County services; and

WHEREAS, protecting children from abuse and neglect is one of the most important things we can do with our tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information, that it is necessary, and in the best interest of the County, to formally express support for the passage of Issue 73.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:
RESOLUTION NO. 2012-389

SECTION 1

This Council hereby expresses its support for Issue 73 on the November 6, 2012 ballot, for the renewal of an existing 2.25 mill tax levy for the Summit County Children Services Board.

SECTION 2

The residents of the County of Summit are respectfully urged to support this levy by voting YES on Issue 73 on November 6, 2012, or by voting early, so that the Summit County Children Services Board will be able to continue to operate and maintain the services and facilities available to Summit County residents.

SECTION 3

This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit and for the further reason of immediately expressing the aforementioned support for Issue 73 prior to the commencement of early voting for the November 6, 2012 election.

SECTION 4

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight 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 5

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 October 1, 2012

ADOPTED October 1, 2012

CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED October 2, 2012

ENACTED EFFECTIVE October 2, 2012

Voice Vote: 10-0. YES: Comunale, Crawford, Feeman, Kostandaras, Kurt Lee, Rodgers, Roemer, Schmidt, Shapiro. Absent: Prentice