RESOLUTION NO. 2014-579

SPONSORS Mrs. Prentice, Mr. Feeman, Ms. Shapiro, Mr. Pry and Council of the Whole

DATE December 8, 2014 COMMITTEE Human Services

Late Filing
First Reading Passage Request (Mrs. Prentice)

A Resolution declaring the month of January 2015 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Summit County, recognizing human trafficking as a form of modern-day slavery and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement, for the Summit County Council and the Executive, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery and has been identified as a problem throughout the world and in the United States, including Ohio; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is one of the fastest growing worldwide criminal enterprises, with an estimated 1,078 Ohio-born children as victims and 3,016 or more at risk, annually; and

WHEREAS, the most common age for children who become victims of trafficking is 13 years old, and the number of Ohio children who become victims of trafficking each year could fill a large high school; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has passed landmark legislation to address the crime of modern day slavery within its borders, for which the Polaris Project recognized the state as one of the four most improved states in anti-trafficking laws; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps’ Prevention and Awareness of Trafficking in Humans (PATH) is a pioneer program developed to place 7 individuals throughout the State of Ohio to help combat this problem, and two of these individuals working in Summit County, hosted by the Victim Assistance Program in Akron, Ohio; and

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 to declare January 2015 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Summit County and to recognize the outstanding efforts of the AmeriCorps’ Prevention and Awareness of Trafficking in Humans (PATH) program within the Victim Assistance Program.

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

SECTION 1

The month of January 2015 is hereby declared Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Summit County and this Council encourages the residents of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement. Further, this Council hereby recognizes the outstanding efforts of the AmeriCorps’ Prevention and Awareness of Trafficking in Humans (PATH) program within the Victim Assistance Program.
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SECTION 2

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of immediately declaring January 2015 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Summit County prior to the commencement of that month.

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 December 8, 2014

ADOPTED December 8, 2014

CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED December 9, 2014

EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE December 9, 2014

Voice Vote: 8-0 YES: Comunale, Crawford, Feeman, Kurt, Lee, Roemer, Schmidt, Shapiro
ABSENT: Kostandaras, Prentice, Rodgers