

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-283

First Reading Passage Requested
(Councilman Dickinson)

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4 SPONSORS Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. Shapiro, Ms. Walters & Council of the Whole

5
6 DATE August 31, 2020 COMMITTEE Committee of the Whole

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8 **A Resolution supporting Senate Bill 4258, the Save Our Stages (SOS) Act and Senate Bill**
9 **3814/House Resolution 7481, the RESTART Act which would authorize the Small Business**
10 **Administration (SBA) to make grants to eligible live venue operators, producers,**
11 **promoters, or talent representatives to address the economic effects of the COVID-19**
12 **pandemic on certain live venues for Council and the Executive, and declaring an**
13 **emergency.**

14
15 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 4258, the Save Our Stages Act introduced by Senators Cornyn
16 and Klobuchar and Senate Bill 3814/House Resolution 7481, the RESTART Act, introduced by
17 Senators Young and Bennet in the Senate and Representatives Golden and Kelly in the House,
18 both of which would ensure the survival of independent venues, theatres, and event promoters
19 across the nation; and

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21 WHEREAS, specifically, the SBA may make (1) an initial grant of up to \$12 million
22 dollars to an eligible operator, promoter, producer, or talent representative; and (2) a
23 supplemental grant that is equal to 50 percent of the initial grant. An initial grant must be used
24 for costs incurred between March 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, but a supplemental grant
25 may be used for expenses incurred through June 30, 2021. Such grants shall be used for specified
26 expenses such as payroll costs, rent, utilities, and personal protective equipment; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and other programs do not work for
29 venues and community theatres, which are completely shuttered small businesses in need of
30 long-term support that provides flexibility for the use of funds due to high overhead costs; and

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32 WHEREAS, the live event industry is experiencing upwards of 90 percent revenue loss
33 and will be closed well into 2021 due to safety concerns posed by large gatherings. Without
34 support from Congress, 90 percent of the independent venues across America may be forced to
35 close their doors forever; and

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37 WHEREAS, the permanent closure of these venues would also impact the entire music
38 economy and ecosystem in America – artists, talent agents, stagehands, security, catering, artist
39 managers, tour bus industry, production, radio/social media/television/print advertising, record
40 companies, and many others; and

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42 WHEREAS, locally, the negative financial impact on the Akron Civic Theater is, to date,
43 about \$400,000.00 and likely to increase. In Akron and Summit County, the impact has also been
44 substantially felt by Blossom Music Center, Weathervane Playhouse, Magical Theatre Company,
45 EJ Thomas Performing Arts Hall, and the Goodyear Theater, among others; and

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47 WHEREAS, the closure of these venues would be devastating for music and
48 entertainment lovers. The cultural impact of our venues on our local communities is priceless.

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

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1 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-283
2 PAGE TWO

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4 SECTION 1

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6 This Council and Executive support Senate Bill 4258, the Save Our Stages (SOS) Act
7 and Senate Bill 3814/House Resolution 7481, the RESTART Act. Doing so would ensure that
8 independent venues – arguably the industry hardest hit by the pandemic – receive the financial
9 assistance needed to be able to reopen their doors when it is safe to do so.

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11 SECTION 2

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13 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
14 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit.

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16 SECTION 3

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

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22 SECTION 4

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24 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
25 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
26 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
27 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
28 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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31 INTRODUCED August 31, 2020

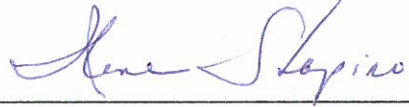
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33 ADOPTED August 31, 2020

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36 _____
37 CLERK OF COUNCIL



PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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39 APPROVED September 3, 2020

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42 _____
43 EXECUTIVE

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45 ENACTED EFFECTIVE September 3, 2020

Voice Vote: YES - 11-0 Dickinson, Donofrio, Feeman, Koehler, McKenney, Prentice, Rodgers, Schmidt, Sims, Walters, Wilhite