

Resolution No.974-2019

Council Member Kelley

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Recognizing “Welcoming Week”, a national event to be held September 13 through September 22, 2019, and further recognizing Global Cleveland’s “Welcoming the World” event, a month-long campaign that will begin during Welcoming Week.

WHEREAS, Welcoming Week is a national event occurring September 13-September 22, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Welcoming Week will be a special week with a series of events hosted by Global Cleveland that will bring communities together to celebrate their unity and strong connection to each other, and applaud the benefits of welcoming newcomers to our community; and

WHEREAS, Welcoming Week will begin with Global Cleveland’s month-long “Welcoming the World” campaign - an exciting way to showcase Cleveland and the surrounding communities as Global Friendly cities; and

WHEREAS, through Welcoming the World, Global Friendly corporations and organizations will share their global story by putting decals on their windows, floors, and elevators to showcase their diversity, inclusivity, and that they are global friendly employers; and

WHEREAS, this Council acknowledges the importance of contributions from past and present immigrants, refugees and all newcomers to Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the population decline in Northeast Ohio from 1970-2013 has been mitigated by the continuous influx of foreign-born persons who have helped Ohio grow and develop; indeed, Ohio has thrived in part because of these international newcomers; and

WHEREAS, 49.5% of foreign-born workers have a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 33.1% of the native-born population; and

WHEREAS, according to the New American Economy, immigrant households in Cleveland have \$3.1 billion in spending power and refugee households have \$819 million in spending power, significantly outweighing the cost of public services they incur; moreover, these households contribute to federal, state, and local tax bases; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, international students financially contributed over \$1.1 billion to the state’s economy and Ohio ranks 8th as a state that most benefits from its foreign student population; and

WHEREAS, international students pay full college tuition here which is, on average, three times as much as American students pay and foreign born students are not eligible for financial aid; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, international students in Ohio helped support over 14,000 jobs and the state was able to retain about one-third of its international students post-graduation, and

WHEREAS, with generous support from the City and other institutions, Cleveland now has more than 31 cultural gardens – designed and cultivated by distinct cultural or nationality groups; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Cultural Gardens, with its mission “peace through mutual understanding”, represent the diversity and multiculturalism of Cleveland and encourage people to learn about other cultures, reject prejudice and welcome international newcomers; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland’s many institutions, organizations and companies that work together to integrate newcomers will continue to transform this City into an international hub of innovation, embracing and cultivating a culture of inclusion and shared prosperity, and creating a platform for internationalization and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland’s “Welcoming the World” campaign will play a huge part in continuing the momentum built around shared prosperity in our community and throughout Ohio; and

WHEREAS, through these efforts Global Cleveland continues its mission to attract, welcome and connect international newcomers to economic and social opportunities in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland is “Strengthening Our Communities – By Welcoming Our World”; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council hereby recognizes “Welcoming Week”, a national event to be held September 13 through September 22, 2019, and further recognizes Global Cleveland’s “Welcoming the World” event, a month-long campaign that will begin during Welcoming Week.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to transmit copies of this resolution the appropriate persons at Global Cleveland.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

KJK:rns
8/21/19