

Resolution No. 131-2021

By Council Members: McCormack, Bishop, Brancatelli, Cleveland, Conwell, Griffin, Hairston, Johnson, B. Jones, J. Jones, Kazy, Kelley, Mooney, Polensek, Santana, Slife and Spencer

An emergency resolution declaring March 19th annually as Cleveland CACNA1A Awareness Day; and encouraging our citizens to work together to raise awareness of this condition and support our citizens with CACNA1A variants and their loved ones.

WHEREAS, along with the CACNA1A Foundation, this Council recognizes March 19th as an official day to increase awareness of the serious illness of genetic variants on the CACNA1A gene that affects the lives of residents of the City of Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, a diagnosis of a genetic variant on the CACNA1A gene means an individual could have neurodevelopmental differences, epilepsy, ataxia, migraines, cerebellum atrophy and eye disorders; and

WHEREAS, CACNA1A is a gene that plays a vital role in the communication between neurons in the brain, is located on the short arm of the 19th chromosome, and a change in the gene alters the function of the channels and affects the release of neurotransmitters; and

WHEREAS, individuals with a variant on the CACNA1A gene can experience life-altering neurological emergencies of hemiplegic migraine attack, stroke, coma, seizure emergencies and cerebral edema; and

WHEREAS, treatment options for individuals with a CACNA1A gene variant are limited to treating symptoms only with medications and diet—there is no cure; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this health issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, state and national levels; 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 declares March 19th annually as Cleveland CACNA1A Awareness Day; and encourages our citizens to work together to raise awareness of this condition and support our citizens with CACNA1A variants and their loved ones.

Section 2. 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.

Adopted March 8, 2021.

Effective March 9, 2021.