

Resolution No. 149-2019

Council Members: Mayor Jackson, Griffin, Kelley and McCormack

An emergency resolution reaffirming this Council's and the City's commitment to addressing childhood lead poisoning and supporting the formation of the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition to confront lead poisoning in the City and to effectively advance lead safe efforts through implementation of a Lead Safe Solution.

WHEREAS, both this Council and the Jackson administration understand the urgency of confronting childhood lead poisoning in Cleveland and recognize it is unacceptable for any child to have lead poisoning; and

WHEREAS, for the past 12 months, this Council and the Jackson administration have been working with public and private institutions, philanthropic and non-profit organizations, and other community stakeholders to formulate a comprehensive, sustainable and preventative approach to the lead crisis that will provide enforceable, affordable and lasting solutions; and

WHEREAS, in June 2018, a delegation comprised of the above entities attended the National Environmental Health Association's 2018 Annual Educational Conference and HUD Healthy Homes Conference for in-depth discussions with national lead experts and to gather information on local and national best practices for lead poisoning prevention, awareness, and education; and

WHEREAS, this same delegation participated in the Cleveland-Rochester Learning Exchange in Rochester, New York, to learn about Rochester's success in reducing lead poisoning by over 80% in about 10 years; and

WHEREAS, this Council and the Jackson administration realize that lead poisoning is a complex, systemic problem that requires a collaborative effort to correct; because no single entity can successfully tackle the lead issue, Council and the Jackson administration will continue to work with other community stakeholders to identify policy, system and program changes to better prevent lead poisoning; and

WHEREAS, to this end, a collaborative Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition has been formed that includes representatives from this Council, the Mayor of Cleveland, the City's Departments of Public Health, Building and Housing, and Community Development, and members of many public and private institutions and organizations including: Cuyahoga County Board of Health and Department of Development, Case Western

Reserve University, the Cleveland Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, Environmental Health Watch, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, the Bruening Foundation, the George Gund Foundation, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, Saint Luke's Foundation, Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, Third Federal Foundation, United Way of Greater Cleveland, the Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Concerned Citizens Organized Against Lead, Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, the MetroHealth System, Sherwin-Williams Company, Sisters of Charity Health System, University Hospitals, UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, and Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition will work toward a Lead Safe Solution: a cost-effective approach that recognizes that homes built before 1978, like the majority of homes in Cleveland, can be made lead safe by using interim controls or safety measures, to remediate lead and to eliminate the possibility of poisoning; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Safe Solution means an effective collaboration of smart, adaptable public policies, knowledgeable agencies and systems willing to collaborate, proven community programs, and public sector and private sector accountability; the Lead Safe Solution will provide a comprehensive, sustainable and preventative approach to address lead poisoning; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition will update Cleveland's existing lead hazard ordinances by introducing comprehensive legislation that addresses four key areas: prevention, screening, treatments and interventions, and education and outreach; this legislation will address childhood lead poisoning in ways that are sustainable, enforceable, and affordable, based on what has been learned through continued exchanges with experts; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition will hold a Cleveland Lead Summit and will invite local and national experts, landlords, media, advocates, community members, elected officials, and others to learn about strategies to prevent lead poisoning, to launch an educational campaign, to work on the Lead Safe Solution together and to commit to a common goal to decrease childhood lead poisoning by 90% in 10 years; and

WHEREAS, a Cleveland Lead Safe Home Fund will be created to support the Coalition's work with resources from public-private partnerships between the City, philanthropic and corporate sectors; 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 re-affirms its and the City's commitment to addressing childhood lead poisoning and supports the formation of a Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition to confront lead poisoning in the City and to effectively advance lead safe efforts through implementation of the Lead Safe Solution.

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 February 4, 2019.

Effective February 5, 2019.