Resolution No. 833-2020

By Council Members Kelley, McCormack, Hairston, Cleveland, Polensek, Conwell, Zone, Griffin, Brancatelli, Mooney, B. Jones, Johnson and Bishop

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Supporting Issue 68, a tax property renewal and increase to support the Cleveland Municipal School District.

FOR ADOPTION
October 21, 2020

WHEREAS, Issue 68, a property renewal and tax increase supporting Cleveland Municipal Schools, is on the ballot on November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Issue 68 will renew a tax that accounts for 12% of the district's budget and add 5 mills to cover expenses, in part incurred due to the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Issue 68 would extend the tax renewal cycle to 10 years; and WHEREAS, if the district had asked only for the renewal, it would have had to make cuts at the end of the year because of expenses, especially those incurred due to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, forecasted losses are due in part to drops in state funding, but also because the district has already spent nearly \$23 million related to the pandemic, including almost \$17 million on technology; and

WHEREAS, the school district has made much progress since the initial levy was passed in 2012: reading and math scores have improved, preschool enrollment has increased, the gaps in graduation rates of minority students have narrowed and there is currently an 80% graduation rate; and

WHEREAS, this Council believes that passage of Issue 68 will address "a severe and urgent societal need" and stands with the Mayor and other community leaders to support Issue 68; 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:

<u>Section 1.</u> That this Council supports Issue 68, a tax property renewal and increase to support the Cleveland Municipal School District.

<u>Section 2.</u> That the Clerk of Council is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Eric Gordon, CEO, Cleveland Municipal School District.

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 10/21/2020

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READ FIRST TIME

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REPORTS

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RST, SE		PRESIDENT
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		MAYOR
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REPORT after second Reading