

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE TOBACCO 21 (T21) INITIATIVE OF THE SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO RAISE THE MINIMUM AGE OF TOBACCO SALES IN THE CITY OF HUDSON TO 21.

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States (“U.S.”), resulting in approximately 480,000 deaths a year, or one in five of all deaths in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, more than 16 million Americans live with a disease caused by smoking, resulting in direct medical costs of about \$170 billion annually, with total economic costs of more than \$300 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, if current rates of youth tobacco use continue, 5.6 million Americans currently under the age of 18 are expected to die from smoking; and

WHEREAS, tobacco use contributes to many of Ohio and the City of Hudson’s greatest health challenges, including cardiovascular disease, cancer, and infant mortality; and

WHEREAS, according to 2014 data, in Summit County, pregnant women under age 21 smoke at a rate that is 70% higher than their older counterparts and 23.7% of pregnant women in Summit County age 18 to 21 smoked while pregnant; and

WHEREAS, research shows that increasing the tobacco sales age to 21 across the U.S. could result in 249,000 fewer premature deaths, 286,000 fewer pre-term births, and 438,000 fewer babies with low birth weight; and

WHEREAS, studies show that young people who are addicted to nicotine are seven times more likely to suffer from a drug use disorder, and that individuals who have never used tobacco by age 21 are unlikely to ever start smoking; and

WHEREAS, 75% of adults support raising the tobacco sales age to 21, including 70% of smokers, and five states and more than 270 U.S. cities have already done so; and

WHEREAS, military leaders are supportive of raising the tobacco age to 21 due to tobacco’s negative impact on military readiness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson seeks to promote the health and well-being of all its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Hudson, County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1: The City of Hudson hereby supports the Tobacco 21 Initiative of the Summit County Public Health Department.

Section 2: The City of Hudson will study and explore the possibility of fully implementing the T21 initiative to aid in the prevention of tobacco addiction for citizens under the age of 21 which in turn will significantly reduce the likelihood of use of tobacco after they reach the age of 21.

Section 3: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David A. Basil, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Slagle, Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 19-15 was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality on \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Slagle, Clerk of Council