

RESOLUTION NO. 57-2020

OFFERED BY: Mayor Alonso

A RESOLUTION URGING THE ADOPTION OF OHIO HOUSE BILL 308, SPONSORED BY STATE REP. TOM PATTON, TO STAND IN SUPPORT OF OHIO'S FIRST RESPONDERS WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM JOB-INDUCED PTSD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the 133rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio is presently considering House Bill 308, which is commonly referred to as the First Responders PTSD Benefits Bill, sponsored by State Representative Tom Patton; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 308 has already been passed by the Ohio House of Representatives, and several other states have previously adopted similar legislation; and

WHEREAS, this Bill, if enacted into law, will allow first responders, including peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers who suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), acquired on the job and due to their employment, to be eligible to receive compensation and benefits, whether or not they possess accompanying physical injuries; and

WHEREAS, PTSD is a psychiatric disorder that can occur in people who have experienced or witnessed traumatic events such as serious accidents, acts of crime, terror, war or combat, and those who have been threatened with death, sexual violence or serious injury, and symptoms of PTSD can manifest themselves as anxiety, sleeplessness, trouble concentrating, irritability, anger, aggressive behavior, guilt, alcohol and substance abuse, negative job performance, and suicidal thoughts and/or attempts; and

WHEREAS, several groups have testified in support of House Bill 308, including the Ohio Association of Professional Fire Fighters, the Ohio State Medical Association, the Columbus Fire Fighters IAFF Local 67, and the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of House Bill 308 will, as declared by Representative Patton, "ensure the much-needed relief for first responders who have served the public and suffer from PTSD as a result of performing their duties", and their courage and selflessness certainly demands that they be afforded the treatment and care they both need and deserve; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Reminderville, County of Summit, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the Village of Reminderville, the Mayor, and officers of the Administration hereby urge the Ohio General Assembly to promptly enact House Bill 308 in order to support, assist, and protect the mental health and well-being of the courageous individuals who serve the public as peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers.

SECTION 2. The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and instructed to forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Mike DeWine, District 24 State Senator Matt Dolan, and the Clerks of Council in the communities surrounding the Village of Reminderville.

SECTION 3. The Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, comfort, convenience, and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Village of Reminderville, to wit: to timely show support to the Ohio General Assembly, and if this Resolution receives the necessary number of votes, it shall take effect and be in force after its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed:

Sam Alonso, Mayor

Attestation:

Stacey Task
Clerk of Council

I, Stacey Task, Clerk of Council of the Village of Reminderville, Summit County, Ohio do hereby certify that the foregoing **RESOLUTION 57-2020** was duly and regularly passed by the Council of the Village of Reminderville at a regular meeting of Council on the _____ day of _____, 2020.

Stacey Task
Clerk of Council