

RESOLUTION NO. R-21-25

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS, RESEARCH, AND PREVENTION EFFORTS FOR SUDDEN UNEXPECTED DEATH IN EPILEPSY (SUDEP) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, epilepsy is a common neurological disorder affecting more than 3.4 million people in the United States, and nearly one-third of these individuals live with uncontrolled seizures; and

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) is defined as the sudden, unexpected, non-traumatic, and non-drowning death of a person with epilepsy, with or without evidence of a preceding seizure, and where a postmortem examination does not identify a cause of death; and

WHEREAS, SUDEP is the leading cause of epilepsy-related death, yet public and medical community awareness remains tragically low, preventing essential risk reduction education from reaching those most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 731, 134th General Assembly, designates every October 26 as “Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy Awareness Day”. This Bill is also known as “Brenna’s Law”, in honor of the late Brenna Brossard of North Olmsted, Ohio who passed away from SUDEP on January 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Council finds that its support for increasing public awareness, research and prevention efforts related to SUDEP is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of all citizens of Avon and surrounding communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AVON, LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO:

Section 1 - That the City of Avon recognizes SUDEP as a serious and life-threatening condition associated with epilepsy and stands in support of increasing public awareness, research and prevention efforts for those living with epilepsy, their families, and the medical professionals dedicated to their care.

Section 2- That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3 - That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Avon, the immediate emergency being the necessity to recognize SUDEP as a serious and life-

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threatening condition associated with epilepsy and to support increasing public awareness, research and prevention efforts for those living with epilepsy, their families, and the medical professionals dedicated to their care; therefore, this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: _____

DATE SIGNED: _____

By: _____
Brian Fischer, Council President

DATE APPROVED BY THE MAYOR:

Bryan K. Jensen, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

John A. Gasior, Law Director

ATTEST:

Barbara Brooks, Clerk of Council

Posted: _____
Electronically and at City Hall as
Provided by Council

Prepared By:

John A. Gasior, Esq.
Law Director, City of Avon