

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Resolution No. R2012-0120

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Gallagher, Connally, Greenspan, Miller, Brady, Germana, Schron, Conwell and County Executive FitzGerald	A Resolution urging the United States Congress and the Ohio General Assembly to fully support, fund and build a State Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County recognizes that America's aging veteran population and their healthcare needs are significant issues; and,

WHEREAS, Northeast Ohio has the largest concentration of veterans residing in any of the State's four quadrants; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) operates the largest direct healthcare system for veterans in the nation, including outpatient clinics, medical facilities, long-term care facilities, and state veterans homes; and,

WHEREAS, there are one hundred thirty-seven (137) State Veterans Homes operating throughout the United States, including two Ohio facilities in Sandusky (north central) and Georgetown (southwest); and,

WHEREAS, when the State of Ohio decided to construct a State Veterans Home, the State of Ohio undertook the project jointly with the VA's Construction Grant Program; and,

WHEREAS, under the VA's Construction Grant Program, a state must provide 35% of the cost of renovations or new construction and the VA will provide up to 65% of the total construction cost; and,

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County understands there is a continuing growing population of elderly veterans in Northeast Ohio and is very concerned about the increasing demand for a State Veterans Home in the area; and,

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission and the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission conducted a 2010 feasibility study for a State Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio that fully supported the growing demand; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective to meet the needs of veterans in Northeast Ohio and urge that a State Veterans Home be built in Northeast Ohio.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. , Cuyahoga County urges the United States Congress, and particularly members of the Northeast Ohio Delegation, to fully support, fund, and build a State Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio;

SECTION 2. Cuyahoga County urges the Ohio General Assembly, and particularly members of the Northeast Ohio Delegation, to work with the VA's Construction Grant Program and fully support, fund, and build a State Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio; and,

SECTION 3. Cuyahoga County will actively participate and encourage the United State Congress, the Ohio General Assembly, and other stakeholders to fully support, fund, and build a State Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio.

SECTION 4. Cuyahoga County fully supports a State Veterans Home in Northeast Ohio to meet the increasing needs of our veteran population.

SECTION 5. Cuyahoga County Council authorizes the Clerk of Council to transmit a true and certified copy of this resolution and a copy of the 2010 Northeast Ohio Veterans Home Feasibility Study conducted by the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission and the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission to our Cuyahoga County Congressional Delegation and to the Ohio General Assembly.

SECTION 6. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective, in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue, and to continue the usual and daily operation of the County. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members of Council, this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon the signature of the County Executive.

SECTION 7. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of 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.

On a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Conwell, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas: Schron, Conwell, Jones, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Brady, Germana,
Gallagher and Connally

Nays: None

County Council President Date

County Executive Date

Deputy Clerk of Council Date

Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: June 26, 2012

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