WHEREAS, the proposed budget of the State of Ohio included the expansion of Medicaid to extend coverage to those persons aged 19-64 living within 138% of poverty; and

WHEREAS, according to the independent Health Policy Institute of Ohio (HPIO), Cuyahoga County could see an additional 72,000 county residents enrolled in Medicaid and provided basic health care by 2015 and up to 89,000 Cuyahoga County residents enrolled by 2022; and

WHEREAS, some 4300 new jobs are projected to be created in Cuyahoga County by 2015 as a result of the proposed extension of basic health care to these currently not enrolled in Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, sales tax revenues in Cuyahoga County are projected to add an additional $9M annually to the county’s general fund by 2015; and

WHEREAS, to promote the health and wellness of Ohio’s citizens, and because of the increased economic activity resulting from Medicaid expansion in the form of new jobs and additional sales tax revenues, the State of Ohio should extend Medicaid coverage to those living within 138% of poverty.

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order to timely express Council’s concerns to the Ohio General Assembly.

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

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council urges the Ohio General Assembly to authorize the expansion of Medicaid coverage or insurance premium assistance from Medicaid funding, as presented in “the Ohio Plan”, to those Ohioans living within 138% of the poverty level.
SECTION 2. That the Cuyahoga County Council authorizes the Clerk of Council to transmit a copy of this Resolution to members of the Ohio General Assembly who represent any area of Cuyahoga County.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order to timely express Council’s concerns to the Ohio General Assembly, for the usual daily operation of the County and the reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least eight members of Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon the earliest occurrence of any of the following: (1) its approval by the County Executive through signature, (2) the expiration of the time during which it may be disapproved by the County Executive under Section 3.10(6) of the Cuyahoga County Charter, or (3) its passage by at least eight members of Council after disapproval pursuant to Section 3.10(7) of the Cuyahoga County Charter. Otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

SECTION 4. 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. Brady, seconded by Mr. Miller, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

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

Nays: Schron

________________________________________  ______________________
County Council President  Date

________________________________________  ______________________
County Executive  Date

________________________________________  ______________________
Clerk of Council  Date
Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: April 23, 2013

Legislation Amended on the Floor: April 23, 2013

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