

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2021

A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO STRONGLY OPPOSING ANY EFFORT BY THE STATE OF OHIO TO ABOLISH THE LOCAL NEW PHILADELPHIA CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, WHICH HAS PROVEN INVALUABLE IN PROTECTING THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF THE ENTIRE CITY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES DURING A TIME OF GLOBAL PANDEMIC, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have been advised of the proposed state budget, House Bill 110, which includes language that requires "...a study examining the efficiency and effectiveness of the city health district merging with the general health district of the county in which the city is located."; and

WHEREAS, the proposal is likely the first step in an effort by the State of Ohio to abolish the local New Philadelphia Health Department so as to give greater control and authority to a centralized government in Columbus without regards to local needs; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio only contributes \$3,200 per year for the operation of the New Philadelphia Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the New Philadelphia City Health Department has proven invaluable in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the entire City of New Philadelphia and surrounding communities during a time of global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Philadelphia strenuously objects to any effort by the state of Ohio to abolish the local New Philadelphia City Health Department, and moves that any effort to study the feasibility of dissolving the same or otherwise abolish it be immediately stricken from any State Budget proposals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Ohio General Assembly should immediately remove all language pertaining to House Bill 110 requiring "...a study examining the efficiency and effectiveness of the city health district merging with the general health district of the county in which the city is located." and oppose any effort in the State Budget that would abolish local city health departments in general and the New Philadelphia City Health Department specifically.

SECTION 2. The New Philadelphia City Health Department has proven invaluable to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the entire City of New Philadelphia and surrounding communities during a time of global pandemic, and the City opposes any efforts by the Governor or the Ohio General Assembly to abolish the same and deprive the local community of such a valuable and necessary asset to its citizens.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and its immediate passage is necessary in order to preserve, protect and maintain the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of New Philadelphia, Ohio.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED: April 26, 2021

Donald C Kemp
DONALD C. KEMP
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

Julie Courtright
JULIE COURTRIGHT
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED:

Joel B. Day
MAYOR JOEL B. DAY

SPONSORED BY: SAFETY, HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE