

RESOLUTION NO. 049-2024(MSES),
First Reading

By Councilmember Larson

A Resolution recognizing April 2024 as *Earth Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, *Earth Month* takes place during April every year and is a time to raise environmental awareness and create consciousness around the issues that affect our planet's health; and

WHEREAS, *Earth Month* started as a movement to resist the abusive and negligent consumptions of leaded gas by Americans – a crisis which started with air pollution brought about by the emissions of massive, inefficient automobiles; and

WHEREAS, in January 1969 there was a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, which caught the attention of senator Gaylord Nelson who wanted to use students' passion and energy for anti-war protests for ecological activism, particularly regarding air and water pollution; and

WHEREAS, by 1990, *Earth Month* became a global event after 200 million participants from 141 countries joined the initiative, and by 1992 the United Nations became actively involved as well; and

WHEREAS, an inspired group of activists decided to dedicate themselves to encouraging all Americans to be proactive and environmentally conscious, naming their initiative *Earth Day* – and the first *Earth Month* was celebrated in April 1970; and

WHEREAS, leaders and environmental activists from all over the world join together to create sustainable development and offer climate solutions to minimize our carbon footprint and prevent further harm to our planet's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, it is increasingly important to observe this month as Earth starts to unravel the harmful effects of climate change which not only poses a threat to our existence but is irreversibly damaging all forms of life.

NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, OH that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby proclaims April 2024 to be *Earth Month* in the City of Cleveland Heights and encourages the residents of the City of Cleveland Heights to participate in *Earth Day* by:

- Reducing your waste by avoiding single-use plastics, reducing the amount of food you waste, and buying local, seasonal produce.

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- Supporting fair trade and buying recycled, reusable, and eco-friendly products.
- Conserving energy by selecting energy/water efficient household appliances, lighting and showerheads.
- Reducing your transportation footprint by walking or biking instead of driving, taking public transportation, switching to an electric car, or driving less in general.
- Participating in local park clean-ups and pick up trash when you see it
- Eating more plant-based foods.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to recognize *Earth Month* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



TONY CUDA
President of Council



ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

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PASSED: April 1, 2024

Presented to Mayor: 04/10/2024

Approved: 04/11/2024



KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor