

RESOLUTION NO. 158-2024(CRR), *First  
Reading*

By Mayor Seren

A Resolution proclaiming September 13 – 22, 2024, *Welcoming Week*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, the week of September 13 – 22, 2024 will be a special week with a series of events hosted by Global Cleveland that will bring communities together to celebrate their unity and strong connection with each other, and applaud the benefits of welcoming newcomers to our community; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the efforts of newcomers in Ohio because it is part of our present and an important part of our past; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has thrived because of international newcomers, and the population decline of Northeast Ohio from 1970-2013 has been mitigated by the continuous influx of foreign-born persons who have helped Ohio to grow and develop; and

WHEREAS, most international newcomers are well educated, with a bachelor's degree or higher; and

WHEREAS, according to the New American Economy, immigrant households in Cleveland have \$3.9 billion in spending power which contribute to our federal, state, and local tax bases each year; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefit of international students is very clear: In 2020, international students contributed over \$1.2 billion to the Ohio's economy, making Ohio the 8<sup>th</sup> most benefited state by foreign students; and helped support over 12,646 Ohio jobs, and the state was able to retain about one-third of international students after graduation; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefit of international students is very clear and these students also help support jobs which require their unique skills and higher education degrees; and

RESOLUTION NO. 158-2024(CRR)

WHEREAS, the greater Cleveland area has a plethora of institutions, organizations, and companies that work together to integrate newcomers; and

WHEREAS, with ample support from the City of Cleveland and other institutions, Cleveland now has 33 cultural gardens and more in development – designed and cultivated by distinct cultural or nationality groups; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland Cultural Gardens represent the diversity and multiculturalism in Cleveland and the greater Cleveland area and holds mission of “peace through mutual understanding,” which has helped people living in Cleveland and the greater Cleveland area become interculturally competent, unprejudiced and more welcoming towards international newcomers and in turn benefits the city and the state through the impact these newcomers have socially, economically and culturally; and

WHEREAS, as we continue with these efforts, we can continue to transform the greater Cleveland area into an international hub of innovation, we can embrace and cultivate a culture of inclusion and shared prosperity, and we can create a platform for internationalization and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland’s “Welcoming the World” Campaign plays a huge part in continuing the momentum built around shared prosperity in our society, community, city and state; and

WHEREAS, through these efforts Global Cleveland proceeds with its mission to attract, welcome, and connect international newcomers to economic and social opportunities in the greater Cleveland area and Cuyahoga County; and

WHEREAS, Global Cleveland is ‘Strengthening Our City – By Welcoming Our World.’

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby proclaims September 13 – September 22, 2024 as *Welcoming Week* in the City of Cleveland Heights and encourages all residents to attend *Welcoming Week* programs and events.

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.

RESOLUTION NO. 158-2024(CRR)

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 *Welcoming Week* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five or more of the 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 and after the earliest time allowed by law.



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TONY CUDA  
President of Council



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ADDIE BALESTER  
Clerk of Council

PASSED: August 19, 2024

Presented to Mayor: 08/20/2024 Approved: 08/27/2024



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KAHLIL SEREN  
Mayor