

RESOLUTION NO. 44 - 2024

RECOGNIZING Robert A. Bilott as a 2024 Earth Day honoree and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and Council for Mr. Bilott's contribution to public health and environmentalism.

WHEREAS, Robert A. Bilott graduated from Fairborn High School in Fairborn, Ohio, outside of Dayton; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from the New College of Florida and then from The Ohio State University College of Law, Mr. Bilott began practicing law at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, where he works in their environmental and litigation practice groups; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bilott represented Wilbur Tennant of Parkersburg, West Virginia, whose cattle were dying due to environmental contamination from a DuPont landfill located upstream from Mr. Tennant's farm; and

WHEREAS, this lawsuit led to the discovery of wide-spread contamination of drinking water, soils, air, wildlife, and human blood all over the world with carcinogenic perfluorooctanoic acid and other members of the "forever chemicals" family of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS"); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bilott published his book, *Exposure: Poisoned Water, Corporate Greed, and One Lawyer's Twenty-Year Battle Against DuPont*, that documents his decades-long legal battle with DuPont, which was also portrayed in the popular film, *Dark Waters*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bilott's courageous actions have raised the national and international consciousness about the dangers of PFAS and environmental contamination; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Mr. Bilott received the international Right Livelihood Award; and

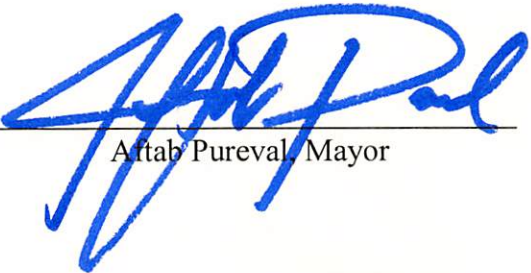
WHEREAS, Mr. Bilott has been a central force in our collective efforts for a more sustainable and just world; now, therefore,

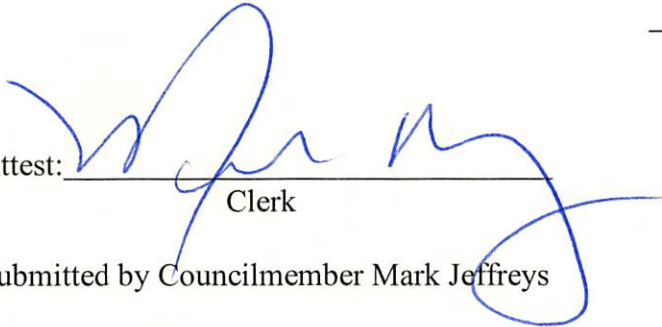
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize Robert A. Bilott as a 2024 Earth Day honoree for his contribution to public health and environmentalism.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to Mr. Bilott through the office of Councilmember Mark Jeffreys.

Passed: May 8, 2024


Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: 
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Mark Jeffreys