

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2023

EXPRESSING support from the Council of the City of Cincinnati for Ohio Substitute House Bill 56.

WHEREAS, across the country, and in particular Ohio, lives have been put in danger over reckless and irresponsible actions taken by drivers during street takeovers; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Substitute H.B. No. 56 increases penalties for fleeing from law enforcement, requires law enforcement to have a written policy governing the pursuit of a motor vehicle, and increases penalties for involvement in street takeovers; and

WHEREAS, a street takeover happens when the regular flow of vehicle or pedestrian traffic is blocked or impeded for the purpose of street racing or stunt driving on any public road, street, highway, or private property that is open to the public; and

WHEREAS, during street takeovers, actions such as speeding, street racing, burnouts, doughnuts, drifting, engine revving and allowing passengers to ride partially or fully outside the vehicle have endangered lives of Cincinnati residents; and

WHEREAS, there have been an uptick in street takeovers in Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Council has prioritized pedestrian safety with historic investment in pedestrian and traffic safety to save lives; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati should be a place where residents and visitors feel safe on the streets, no matter the form of transportation they use; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Substitute H. B. No. 56 was introduced by Dayton area Ohio Representatives Phil Plummer and Andrea White to combat street takeovers in their districts and many jurisdictions across the state; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Substitute H. B. No. 56 passed through the House Criminal Justice Committee unanimously with bipartisan support and is awaiting vote by the 135th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, passing this law will aid local law enforcement and local prosecutors in protecting innocent lives; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That this Council hereby expresses support for Ohio Substitute House Bill 56 and strongly encourages the Ohio 135th General Assembly to pass this legislation to support police officers across the state to combat this irresponsible and reckless activity.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy of the resolution be transmitted to Ohio Representatives Phil Plummer, Andrea White, and Cindy Abrams.

Passed: _____, 2023

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____

Submitted by Councilmembers Liz Keating, Mark Jeffreys, and Scotty Johnson