

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ - 2021**

**RECOGNIZING** and supporting the designation of the first Monday in March as “COVID-19 Memorial Day,” in remembrance of those who have lost their lives and in honor of those who are forever marked by COVID and continue to suffer from the impact of this virus, and **RECOGNIZING** all the decency demonstrated in times of need by our citizens, especially front line workers and health care professionals.

WHEREAS, the first Monday in March has been designated as COVID-19 Victims and Survivors Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) is an illness caused by a virus that can transmit from person to person and has spread across the world, creating a global pandemic that is having catastrophic effects on human life, our community, and our economy; and

WHEREAS, local and state governments, health departments, and public servants have taken bold actions to protect residents, support struggling local economies, and find innovative ways to provide services; and

WHEREAS, in response to rapid spread of COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, essential workers have stepped up to provide critical services to help protect our communities and save lives, sacrificing their own health and safety; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color, exacerbating inequities already prevalent in our systems that we must address as a nation; and

WHEREAS, public health guidance and policies targeted at prevention, such as social distancing, wearing masks in public, and staying home help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, prevent illness, and lessen the burden on individuals and society; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms and severity of COVID-19 can vary dramatically by individual and the long-term health implications for survivors is largely unknown, as many survivors suffer with lingering side-effects of the disease long after they no longer test positive; and

WHEREAS, more than 2,400,000 people worldwide and 500,000 in the United States have lost their lives due to COVID-19, and in Ohio more than 16,000 lives have been lost with Cincinnati alone having already lost more than 220 lives to this deadly virus; and

WHEREAS, each life lost to COVID-19 mattered and leaves a hole in the hearts of loved ones, family members, and surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has demonstrated the resilience of frontline workers, health care professionals, and first responders and has triggered many acts of kindness of neighbors helping neighbors; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is already the seventh most deadly pandemic recorded in history, despite tremendous advances recently in science and particularly in genetics; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. That the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati support the designation of the first Monday in March as “COVID-19 Memorial Day,” in remembrance of those who have lost their lives and in honor of those who are forever marked by COVID and continue to suffer from the impact of this virus, and also recognize all the decency demonstrated in times of needs by our citizens, especially front line workers and health care professionals.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Cranley, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember David Mann