



Legislation Text

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STATEMENT, (DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY) , dated 12/29/2021, submitted by Mayor John Cranley and City Manager Paula Boggs Muething, Pursuant to Article III of the Cincinnati Charter, Article XVIII of the Administrative Code of the City of Cincinnati, I hereby declare that the extremely rapid increase in new cases of COVID-19 in the Cincinnati region during this holiday season and, specifically, the resulting impact on fire department staffing levels constitutes a public danger and fire-safety emergency that, if unaddressed, would cause staffing shortages that would substantially undermine the City's fire-fighting and first-responder readiness levels. This declaration of emergency is limited to conditions within the City's fire department, as testified to by the City's Fire Chief, where the combination of scheduled holiday leave and rising levels of COVID-19 quarantines make the fire department vulnerable to staffing shortages that would substantially impair the City's ability to protect the lives and property of Cincinnatians. By this declaration of emergency, the city manager "shall perform such duties and shall immediately proceed to take all action necessary to preserve and protect the public peace and the lives, persons and property within the City of Cincinnati that are endangered or potentially endangered by the factors constituting such public danger or emergency," as required by the Charter and Article XVIII of the Administrative Code. The City Manager may take such actions consistent with law as are necessary to ensure necessary staffing of the City's fire stations including, without limitation, the temporary suspension of applicable City rules or personnel policies to address the public emergency. This order is based upon the existence of a condition of public danger or emergency, as established herein, and shall continue in effect for 60 days unless prior withdrawn or superseded.

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