RESOLUTION NO. 2025-52 INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Bodnar

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS, RESEARCH, AND PREVENTION EFFORTS FOR SUDDEN UNEXPECTED DEATH IN EPILEPSY (SUDEP)

WHEREAS, epilepsy is a common neurological disorder affecting more than 3.4 million people in the United States, and nearly one-third of these individuals live with uncontrolled seizures; and

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) is defined as the sudden, unexpected, non-traumatic, and non-drowning death of a person with epilepsy, with or without evidence of a preceding seizure, and where a postmortem examination does not identify a cause of death; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control indicates that 1 in 1,000 people with epilepsy dies from SUDEP each year.

WHEREAS, SUDEP is the leading cause of epilepsy-related death, yet public and medical community awareness remains tragically low, preventing essential risk reduction education from reaching those most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, a patient properly informed about SUDEP can take steps to mitigate the risk of it occurring, including taking anti-epileptic medications, prioritizing sleep, keeping regular doctor visits, avoiding alcohol and recreational drugs, identifying and avoiding seizure triggers, and utilizing seizure detection and alert devices; and

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 731, 134th General Assembly, designates every October 26th as "Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy Awareness Day". This Bill is also known as "Brenna's Law", in honor of the late Brenna Brossard of North Olmsted, Ohio who passed away from SUDEP on January 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Council finds that its support for increasing public awareness, research and prevention efforts related to SUDEP is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of all citizens of Mayfield Village and surrounding communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF MAYFIELD VILLAGE, THAT:

<u>SECTION 1</u>. Mayfield Village recognizes SUDEP as a serious and life-threatening condition associated with epilepsy and stands in support of increasing public awareness, research

and prevention efforts for those living with epilepsy, their families, and the medical professionals dedicated to their care and hereby designates the month of October 2025 as "SUDEP Awareness Month".

<u>SECTION 2.</u> The Clerk of Council is authorized and directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Lou Brossard, President, North Olmsted City Council and Mark Holcomb, President, Board of Directors of the Epilepsy Association of Cleveland.

SECTION 3. The Council finds and determines that all formal actions of the Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution have been taken at open meetings of this Council; and that deliberations of this Council and of its committees, resulting in such formal action, took place in meetings open to the public in compliance with all statutory requirements including the requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary to be effective as soon as possible for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Mayfield Village, the immediate emergency being the necessity to recognize SUDEP as a serious and life-threatening condition associated with epilepsy and to support increasing public awareness, research and prevention efforts for those living with epilepsy, their families and the medical professionals dedicated to their care. It shall, therefore, take effect immediately upon the passage by the affirmative vote of not less than five (5) members elected to Council and approval by the Mayor or otherwise at the earliest time allowed by law.

STEPHEN SCHUTT, Council President

First Reading: October 6 , 2025

Second Reading: Suspended , 2025

Third Reading: Suspended , 2025

PASSED: 0ctober 6 , 2025

BRENDA T. BODNAR, Mayor

Grenda Bodna

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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DIANE A. CALTA, ESQ., Director of Law

MARY E. BETSA, MMC, Clerk of Council