### RESOLUTION NO. 2570-21

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING, SUPPORTING, AND COMMENDING GLOBAL CLEVELAND WELCOMING WEEK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, this City proudly recognizes the national event of Welcoming Week, September 11-September 19, 2021; and

WHEREAS, this will be a special week with a series of events hosted by Global Cleveland that will bring communities together to celebrate their unity and strong connection with each other, and applaud the benefits of welcoming newcomers to our community, and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the efforts of newcomers in Ohio because it is part of our present and an important part of our past, and

WHEREAS, 2021 is the 150th anniversary of Lithuanian immigration to Cleveland which is one of the many bedrock immigrant groups that formed the city we have today.

WHEREAS, Ohio has thrived because of the international newcomers. The population decline of Northeast Ohio from 1970-2013 has been mitigated by the continuous influx of foreign-born persons who have helped Ohio to grow and develop, and

WHEREAS, many international newcomers to Cleveland come here as educated individuals ready to contribute. The Migration Policy Institute found that in 2017, 49.5% of foreign-born workers have a higher education degree as compared with 33.1% of the native-born population, and

WHEREAS, the spending power of refugees and immigrants are in the billions, which significantly outweighs any cost of public services they incur. According to the New American Economy, immigrant households in Cleveland have \$3.1 billion in spending power and refugee households have \$819 million in spending power. These households also contribute to our federal, state, and local tax bases each year, and

WHEREAS, international students have financially contributed over \$1.1 billion in 2018 to the state's economy, making Ohio the 8th most benefited state by foreign students. The economic benefit is very clear. According to the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors in 2018, international students in Ohio helped support over 14,000 jobs and the state was able help about one third of international students' post-graduation and these students also fill jobs which require their unique skills and education, and

WHEREAS, Cleveland has a plethora of institutions, organizations and companies that work together to integrate newcomers, and

WHEREAS, with ample support from the City of Cleveland and other institutions, Cleveland now has more than 31 cultural gardens – designed and cultivated by distinct cultural or nationality groups. Cleveland Cultural Gardens represent the diversity and multiculturalism in

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Cleveland and holds the mission of "peace through mutual understanding". This has helped people living in Cleveland become interculturally competent, unprejudiced, and more welcoming towards international newcomers. This benefits the city and state through the impact these newcomers have socially, economically and culturally, and

WHEREAS, as we continue with these efforts, we continue to transform Cleveland into an international hub of innovation, we can embrace and cultivate a culture of inclusion and shared prosperity; and we can create a platform for internationalization and economic growth, and

WHEREAS, through these efforts, Global Cleveland proceeds with its mission to attract, welcome and connect international newcomers to economic, educational, and social opportunities in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. We are "Strengthening our Region by Welcoming Our World".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bedford, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio:

<u>Section 1.</u> That the Council hereby recognizes, supports and commends the efforts of Global Cleveland for the reasons stated above.

<u>Section 2.</u> That the Clerk of Council is authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to Global Cleveland upon passage.

Section 3. That actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4. This Resolution is declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the City of Bedford, Ohio and for the further reason to timely endorse the event.

WHEREFORE, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest date permitted by law.

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Stanley C. Koci, Mayor – President of Council

Tracy M. Simons, Clerk of Council

Prepared and approved as to legal content by:

John J. Montello, Law Director

PASSED: September 7, 2021

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I, Tracy M. Simons, Clerk of Council of the City of Bedford, Ohio do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2570-21 passed on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021 by said Council.

Tracy M. Simons, Clerk of Council

CERTIFIED: September 8, 2021