

RESOLUTION NO. 204-2025(CRR): *First
Reading*

By Mayor Cuda

A Resolution recognizing October 2025 as *Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Awareness Month*; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 731 of the 134th General Assembly designates every October 26 as *Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Awareness Day*, 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, in partnership with the Epilepsy Association located in Cleveland, Ohio, the City of Cleveland Heights recognizes the month of October 2025 as *SUDEP Awareness Month* to promote awareness, education, and prevention efforts related to Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that approximately 1 in 1,000 individuals with epilepsy die each year from SUDEP, making it one of the most devastating risks associated with epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, SUDEP is defined as the sudden and unexpected death of a person with epilepsy who is otherwise healthy, where no other cause of death—such as trauma or drowning—can be found. SUDEP most often occurs during or following a generalized seizure, and frequently takes place at nighttime when it is unwitnessed; and

WHEREAS, when patients with epilepsy are informed about SUDEP, they are better able to take proactive steps to mitigate their risk. These steps include consistently taking prescribed anti-epileptic medications, prioritizing adequate sleep, attending regular medical appointments, avoiding alcohol and recreational drugs, identifying and managing seizure triggers, and using seizure detection and alert devices; and

WHEREAS, increasing public awareness of SUDEP empowers patients, families, caregivers, and the community to support education, prevention, and research efforts that can reduce the incidence of this tragic outcome.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby proclaims the month of October 2025 as *Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Awareness Month* in the City of Cleveland Heights, in recognition of those who have been affected by SUDEP and in support of ongoing efforts to raise awareness and prevent future loss of life.

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SECTION 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

SECTION 3. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its content, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights, or by posting the full text of this Resolution to the City of Cleveland Heights website.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to recognize *Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Awareness Month* on a timely basis. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.



GAIL L. LARSON
President of Council



ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

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PASSED: October 6, 2025

Presented to Mayor: 10/07/2025 Approved: 10/07/2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TONY CUDA".

TONY CUDA
Mayor