

INTRODUCED: 3/16/2020

REFERRED TO: Committee of the Whole

SPONSOR: Councillor Osili

DIGEST: consents to extension of Mayor's declaration of local disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

SOURCE:

Initiated by: Councillor Osili

Drafted by: Council Staff

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION:

Subject to approval or veto by Mayor

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Adoption and approvals

GENERAL COUNSEL APPROVAL:



Date: March 16, 2020

CITY-COUNTY GENERAL RESOLUTION NO. ____, 2020

A GENERAL RESOLUTION consenting to the extension of the Mayor's declaration of a local disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS, a Centers for Disease Control risk assessment indicates that the novel Coronavirus Disease, known as "COVID-19," is a serious public-health threat and that "sustained person-to-person spread will continue to occur, including throughout communities in the United States"; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control reports that COVID-19 may cause severe illness, including illness resulting in death, particularly among the elderly and those with severe underlying health conditions like heart disease, lung disease, and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 throughout the United States and Indiana poses a severe and imminent threat to public health, and requires aggressive response measures to slow the spread of the disease and mitigate its impact; and

WHEREAS, guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, and other federal and international public-health authorities indicates that the prevention of public gatherings and other social-distancing measures are effective countermeasures to prevent continued exponential spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020 and declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services declared COVID-19 a public-health emergency for the United States on January 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana confirmed the first known case of COVID-19 in Marion County on March 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Indiana's governor declared the COVID-19 outbreak a disaster emergency for the State of Indiana on March 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Marion County Public Health Department—based on guidance from the State of Indiana and a request from the Mayor’s Office—initially banned all non-essential public gatherings of more than 250 people and has ordered the temporary closure of Marion County schools; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control issued guidance recommending that no gatherings of more than 50 people take place for at least eight weeks; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the State of Indiana issued an order requiring bars, restaurants, and nightclubs to close to in-person patrons; and

WHEREAS, on today’s date, the Marion County Public Health Department is issuing an order prohibiting public gatherings of more than 50 people, limiting food and beverage sales to carry out and delivery only, closing entertainment venues to the public, and closing all gyms and fitness centers in Marion County; and

WHEREAS, Indiana Code § 10-14-3-29 grants the Mayor authority to declare a state of local disaster emergency for seven days; and

WHEREAS, Indiana Code § 10-14-3-29 provides that the Mayor may extend the declaration of a state of local disaster emergency beyond seven days with the consent of the City-County Council; and

WHEREAS, in the event of a declared disaster emergency under Indiana Code § 10-14-3-12, Indiana Code § 10-14-3-17 authorizes a political subdivision to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required by the laws pertaining to the performance of public work; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The Indianapolis City-County Council hereby consents to the Mayor’s extension of the current state of local disaster emergency until April 5, 2020.

SECTION 2. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.

The foregoing was passed by the City-County Council this _____ day of _____, 2020, at _____ p.m.

ATTEST:

SaRita Hughes
Clerk, City-County Council

Vop Osili
President, City-County Council

Presented by me to the Mayor this _____ day of _____, 2020.

SaRita Hughes
Clerk, City-County Council

Approved and signed by me this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Joseph H. Hogsett, Mayor