

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2011-0045

Sponsored by: County Executive FitzGerald/Department of Health and Human Services and Councilmembers Brady, Jones, Miller, Simon and Germana	An Ordinance establishing divisions and sections within the Department of Health and Human Services, and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 8.01 of the Charter created the Department of Health and Human Services, and provides, in pertinent part, that the Department of Health and Human Services “shall administer all programs and activities for which the County has or has assumed responsibility for the protection and enhancement of the health, education and well-being of County residents”; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services was appointed by the County Executive pursuant to Article VIII, Section 8.02, and was confirmed by the Cuyahoga County Council in Motion No. M2011-0011; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 8.01 of the Charter also provides that Council “shall provide by ordinance for such deputies and assistants to the Director of Health and Human Services as shall be conducive to the efficient performance of the duties of the Department of Health and Human Services”; and

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3.09, subsection 2, gives Cuyahoga County Council the authority to establish departments, and divisions and sections within departments, under the supervision of the County Executive as the Council determines to be necessary for the efficient administration of the County; and

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 13.04 provides for the transfer of powers and duties, as designated by ordinance, of departments, offices, and agencies existing at the time of the Charter’s adoption; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of divisions and sections within the Department of Health and Human Services is necessary for the efficient administration of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Departments of Children & Family Services, Employment & Family Services, Senior & Adult Services, and the Cuyahoga Support Enforcement Agency were not specifically delineated in the Charter of Cuyahoga County, yet such departments existed under the prior form of government; and

WHEREAS, this Council’s purpose and intent is to recognize the continued existence of the Divisions of Children & Family Services, Employment & Family Services/Cuyahoga Support Enforcement Agency, and Senior & Adult Services and incorporate each as individual divisions within the Department of Health and Human

Services in order to more efficiently and effectively provide for the administration of services and programs for the protection and enhancement of the health, education and well-being of County residents; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a division of Community Initiatives within the Department of Health and Human Services is necessary to provide a variety of collaborative, wrap-around services on a continuum of care to children, families, homeless, and returning felons; and

WHEREAS, the Family and Children First Council, Office of Early Childhood, Office of Homeless Services and Office of Re-entry were not specifically delineated in the Charter of Cuyahoga County, yet such offices existed under the prior form of government; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of the Family and Children First Council, Office of Early Childhood, Office of Homeless Services and Office of Re-entry as sections within the division of Community Initiatives within the Department of Health and Human Services is necessary in order to more efficiently and effectively provide for the administration of services and programs for children, families, homeless persons and returning felons within Cuyahoga County; and

WHEREAS, this Council determines that it is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue and to provide for the usual, daily operation of a County Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. The duties, functions, and employees of the former Departments of Children & Family Services, Employment & Family Services, Cuyahoga Support Enforcement Agency, and Senior & Adult Services, each of which have historically operated as its own department, shall be incorporated as three separate divisions within the Department of Health and Human Services. These divisions shall be known as Employment and Family Services/Cuyahoga Support Enforcement Agency, Children and Family Services, and Senior and Adult Services. Each of these divisions will be supervised by an Administrator who will report to the Director of Health and Human Services.

SECTION 2. The Department of Health and Human Services shall also contain the Community Initiatives Division, consisting of the Family and Children First Council, the Office of Early Childhood, the Office of Homeless Services, and the Office of Re-entry.

SECTION 3. The Director of Health and Human Services is hereby authorized to also employ and supervise such deputies, assistants and employees as shall be conducive to the efficient performance of the duties of the Department of Health and Human Services and as is consistent with approved budgetary parameters determined by Council.

SECTION 4. Nothing in this Ordinance is intended to limit the ability of the County Executive and the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to abolish positions for the purpose of enhancing the efficiency of operations or for any other reason permitted by general law.

SECTION 5. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that critical services being provided by Cuyahoga County can continue without interruption, and to continue the usual daily operation of the County. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of eight members of Council, this Ordinance shall become immediately effective upon the signature of the County Executive.

SECTION 6. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the 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.

On a motion by Mr. Schron, seconded by Ms. Simon, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas: Miller, Brady, Germana, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell, Jones, Rogers, Simon, Greenspan and Connally

Nays: None

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County Council President	Date
_____	_____
County Executive	Date
_____	_____
Clerk of Council	Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: September 13, 2011

Committee(s) Assigned: Health, Human Services & Aging

Additional Sponsorship Requested: September 29, 2011

Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: October 11, 2011

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