

COUNCIL CHAMBER

City of Berea, Ohio

Resolution No. 2013 - 37

By Dale A. Lange

Sponsored By Mayor Cyril M. Kleem

President of Council Mary K. Brown

Cheryl A. Banaszak, Nick Waschka,
Margaret S. Kay, Dale A. Lange,
Jim Mansueti, Richard T. Malott, Dean W. Smith

RECognIZING AND SUPPORTING THE SAFE SENIORS PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF BERA UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE ACTIVE SENIOR NETWORK.

WHEREAS, persons 60 years of age and older represent fully twenty per-cent of the population of the City of Berea; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, seniors living alone are a growing segment of the population as people live longer and families are separated by great distances resulting in over one-third of the senior population living alone; and

WHEREAS, living alone is particularly an issue for women aged 85 and older, because more than fifty per-cent of this population live by themselves; and

WHEREAS, more services for this population are being required of third parties, such as private-hire care companies and local government agencies, to make home a safe place for the aging population; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Cyril Kleem and Senior and Community Services Committee Chair Cheryl Banaszak headed a committee comprised of Council President Mary Brown, Councilman-At-Large Dale Lange, Councilman-At-Large Dean Van Dress, Safety Director Kenneth Adams, Fire Chief Mark Kaufhold, Police Chief Mark Schultz and Housing and Community Services Program Coordinator Megan Pochatek and that committee is promoting and supporting the development of a Safe Seniors program as a joint effort of the Department of Public Safety and the Active Senior Network to assist Berea's seniors in obtaining and installing lockboxes and smoke alarms for their homes; and

WHEREAS, lockboxes for seniors allow police or firefighters to gain entry to a home, without having to damage a door or window in situations where a senior is unable to get to the door and lockboxes can also contain valuable information such as a list of prescription medications or medical conditions to help emergency responders carry out their work; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Fire Protection Association, smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a reported fire in half and roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths result from home fires with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Council of the City of Berea, of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the President and all of the members of the Berea City Council and the Mayor and all of the members of the administration do hereby recognize and support the work of the Department of Public Safety and the Active Senior Network in

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the establishment and implementation of the Safe Seniors Program and call upon the people of the City of Berea to support and promote this program to provide extra measures of safety and security for our community's senior population.

SECTION 2. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance 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 actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: March 18, 2013

Mary K. Brown, President of Council

APPROVED: March 18, 2013

Cyril M. Kleem, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alycia Vale, Clerk of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

James N. Walters, III
Director of Law