THE CITY COUNCIL OF
NORTH ROYALTON, OHIO

RESOLUTION NO. 20-43

INTRODUCED BY: Marnecheck Fenos, Barath, Langshaw, Dietrich, Weimer, Wos

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO DEVELOP LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS WITH THE EDCHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM NEGATIVELY IMPACTING SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

WHEREAS: The Ohio General Assembly added hastily drafted and poorly conceived amendments regarding the expansion of EdChoice Vouchers before approving HB 166, the State's biennium budget in which these amendments were contained; and

WHEREAS: These amendments dramatically expanded the number of school districts originally intended for EdChoice Vouchers from 30 to more than 1,200 which is plainly an unwarranted and grossly unintended consequence; and

WHEREAS: Without adequate deliberative input from educators, local officials and the community regarding the impact of such action on the state's educational system, the General Assembly mistakenly made EdChoice Vouchers available to nearly every K-12 student in Ohio regardless of grade level, including private and parochial students who never sought to attend a public school but who may now be the unintended beneficiaries of these hastily conceived amendments at the further expense of public schools as has been the experience in poorer districts; and

WHEREAS: The North Royalton City School District anticipates that as a result of these amendments it will suffer a significant loss in funding of approximately $775,000 per year, negatively and permanently impacting the quality of education for students in North Royalton.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH ROYALTON, COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA AND STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. This Council urges the Ohio Governor and the Ohio General Assembly to thoughtfully develop solutions to the EdChoice Voucher program by working collaboratively with educators, local officials and the community and to rein in the repetitive efforts to erode public school funding.

Section 2. The Council Office shall send a copy of this Resolution to the Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio General Assembly, Senator Dolan, Representative Patton, House Speaker Householder, Senate President Obhof, Senate Minority Leader Yuko, and House Minority Leader Sykes.

Section 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted 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.

THEREFORE, provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of a majority of all members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

/s/ Paul F. Marnecheck
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: /s/ Larry Antoskiewicz
MAYOR

DATE PASSED: February 18, 2020

DATE APPROVED: February 19, 2020

First reading suspended
Second reading suspended
Third reading February 18, 2020
Amended February 18, 2020

ATTEST: /s/ Dana A. Schroeder
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

YEAS: Marnecheck, Fenos, Barath, Langshaw
Dietrich, Weimer, Wos

NAYS: none