



Louisville Metro Government

Legislation Text

File #: R-016-23, Version: 1

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES 2023

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO METRO COUNCIL RULE 7.01(A) REQUESTING THE LOUISVILLE METRO ETHICS COMMISSION TO PROVIDE METRO COUNCIL WITH A FORMAL OPINION REGARDING WHETHER ANY ACTIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBER ANTHONY PIAGENTINI IN CONNECTION WITH THE SIXTH ROUND OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING APPROVED BY METRO COUNCIL CONSTITUTED A VIOLATION OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO ETHICS CODE.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS FOWLER, KRAMER AND PRESIDENT WINKLER

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2022, in Ordinance No. 182, Series 2022, the Metro Council approved a Sixth Round of American Rescue Plan (“ARP”) funding totaling \$58,858,000; and

WHEREAS, the largest project approved for funding in that legislation was a \$40,000,000 appropriation to Economic Development to fund an industry-led and health care focused workforce strategy; and

WHEREAS, the concept was developed by the Healthcare Workforce Innovation Coalition, a group of public and private stakeholders that was convened by the Louisville Healthcare CEO Council; and

WHEREAS, this healthcare innovation project is highly beneficial to Greater Louisville’s economy and to its healthcare workforce; and

WHEREAS, the legislation was originally co-sponsored by Council Member Anthony Piagentini and current Council President Markus Winkler; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Piagentini actively supported the project as it made its way through the ARP work group process and when the legislation that included the project was heard in the budget committee; and

WHEREAS, at the December 1, 2022 Metro Council meeting at which the legislation was considered, Council Member Piagentini stated on the record, without elaboration, that he was withdrawing his sponsorship and that he would abstain from voting on the measure due to a potential conflict of interest; and

WHEREAS, in recent days, Metro Council has learned that the potential conflict of interest was a possible consulting arrangement between Council Member Piagentini and the Louisville Healthcare CEO Council; and

WHEREAS, while Council Member Piagentini has this week requested an opinion from the Ethics Commission regarding his conduct in this matter, Metro Council believes it is imperative that Metro Council also request the Ethics Commission to review this situation as expeditiously as possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (“METRO COUNCIL”) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: The Metro Council hereby requests that the Louisville Metro Ethics Commission review the actions of Council Member Piagentini in connection with the debate on and enactment of Ordinance No. 182, Series 2022 as thoroughly and expeditiously as possible to determine whether any violations of the Louisville Metro Ethics Code have occurred.

SECTION II: The Metro Council hereby requests that the Ethics Commission issue a formal opinion following its review, and to provide a copy of that opinion to Metro Council.

SECTION III: This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Sonya Harward

Markus Winkler

Metro Council Clerk

President of the Council

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____

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