



City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk
90 West Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215-9015
columbuscitycouncil.org

Legislation Text

File #: 0123X-2015, **Version:** 1

To Recognize May as Water Safety Month in Columbus, Ohio

WHEREAS, May is National Water Safety Awareness Month, a joint public awareness and safety campaign led by the American Red Cross, The Association of Pool & Spa Professionals, the National Recreation and Park Association and the World Waterpark Association.

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross Ohio Buckeye Region has provided the Columbus community with safety and comfort through disaster recovery along with emergency preparedness services for nearly 100 years; and

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross Ohio Buckeye Region is the local organizer of Water Safety Awareness Month, promoting many water safety guidelines such as: making water safety a priority, preventing unsupervised access to water, maintaining constant supervision, knowing what to do in an emergency, and choosing a safe place to swim; and

WHEREAS, This Council remembers the tragic events of February 7, 2013 which culminated in the loss of Elijah Walker, a five year old boy who fell through the icy water near his home, and James Russell Jenkins, a hero, who attempted to rescue Elijah; and

WHEREAS, First responders, Sergeant Christopher Smith Hughes, Officer Logan Ramsier, and Firefighter John Vingle also acted valiantly on that day; and

WHEREAS, The City of Columbus responded to this tragedy by equipping every Columbus Division of Police frontline cruiser with live-saving ropes; and

WHEREAS, This Council recognizes the actions of James Russell Jenkins, Columbus Police Officers Smith Hughes and Ramsier, and Firefighters such as John Vingle as brave and courageous, and will regard this misfortune as motivation for all of our citizens to educate themselves on water safety.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

That this Council does hereby declare May of 2015 as Water Safety Month and encourages all citizens to learn more about the tremendous dangers manmade and natural bodies of water pose during all months of the year and to enjoy them responsibly by making themselves aware of water safety protocol.