

Legislation Text

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To acknowledge and congratulate all of the sponsors, planning committee participants and the hundreds of volunteers who make the highway ramp cleanup KickButtColumbus successful year after year, especially on the advent of this 4th annual cleanup special event on Saturday, March 31, 2012.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), Ohio Nursery & Landscaping Association (ONLA), Columbus Young Professionals Club (CYP), G & J Pepsi Cola, Columbus Chamber, Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), and Central Ohio Restaurant Association (CORA) contributed food, goods, services and volunteers to the KickButtColumbus highway ramp cleanup; and

WHEREAS, special recognition is certainly due to Mr. Patrick Lynch of Peabody Landscape who brought the idea of such a cleanup to the city of Columbus in 2008. He and other members of the Ohio Nursery & Landscaping Association also brought their many trucks and other vehicles to the Dodge Park launch cite and to the ramps to collect the many bags of trash filled by volunteers and take them back to Dodge Park to dump the collections into roll off dumpsters; and

WHEREAS, the combined totals of the 2009, 2010, and 2011 KickButtColumbus cleanups include 1,003 devoted volunteers who cleaned 23.335 tons of litter and recycling from 76 ramps, including an amazing 95,302 cigarette butts and the fun and entertaining competition to win the coveted Golden Ash Tray awarded to the person or team collecting the most butts; and

WHEREAS, special recognition is also earned by Stu Stull, Department of Development graphic designer who created the little man angered by cigarette butts who is part of the highly recognized KickButtColumbus logo; and

WHEREAS, Keep Columbus Beautiful (KCB) is a program of the City of Columbus, Department of Public Service and is an award-winning affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., a national non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals improve their community environments, and is the organization that cites the results of an exhaustive study declaring cigarette butts the most littered item in America today; and

WHEREAS, litter in general and cigarette litter in particular harm the beauty, tranquility and economic viability of the city's many fine neighborhoods, endanger waterways and wildlife; now, therefore

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

That this Council does hereby add the voice of City Council to that of the Administration of the City of Columbus in proclaiming March 31, 2012 KickButtColumbus Day, and call upon our citizens to join in activities such as KickButtColumbus and volunteer in organizations such as Keep Columbus Beautiful to promote responsible environmental stewardship and help us renew our commitment to building a better quality of life for all of our citizens.