CITY OF NORTH OLMSTED ORDINANCE NO. 2007 - 71

BY: Mayor O'Grady and Council Members Ryan and Barker

AN ORDINANCE CREATING NEW SECTION 525.21 OF THE GENERAL OFFENSES CODE ENTITLED "FALSE INFORMATION," IN ORDER TO PROHIBIT PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION TO PUBLIC OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING TUITION FREE ASSISTANCE AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR OTHER PUBLIC BENEFITS.

<u>WHEREAS</u>, representatives of the North Olmsted School District have presented complaints to the North Olmsted City Prosecutor regarding persons who have provided false familial or residential information to school officials and employees in order to receive tuition free attendance at North Olmsted public schools; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the City Prosecutor that this Council create a new provision in the City General Offenses Code prohibiting persons from providing false information to public officers or employees to obtain public benefits, including providing such false information in order to obtain tuition free attendance at the North Olmsted public schools; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Council, acting upon the recommendation of the City Prosecutor, to prohibit persons from providing false information to public officers or employees to obtain public benefits, including providing such false information in order to obtain tuition free attendance at the North Olmsted public schools, and to provide for criminal penalties for such wrongful acts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH OLMSTED, COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA AND STATE OF OHIO:

SECTION 1: That there be and hereby is created new Section 525.21 of the General Offenses Code, entitled "False Information," which, as created, shall read as follows:

525.21 FALSE INFORMATION.

- (a) No person, for the purpose of obtaining for any person tuition free attendance at a public school or for the purpose of obtaining any other public service, admission or benefit for any person, or to avoid any public duty or obligation of any person, shall knowingly give or assist in giving to any public officer or employee any false or incorrect name, address, family relationship or other false or incorrect information.
- (b) Whoever is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of this Section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree and shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or imprisoned not more than six (6) months or both. In addition to any imprisonment or fines, any person convicted of a violation of this Section shall be ordered by the court to fully reimburse the school district or other public office for the total dollar amount of the public benefit that was wrongfully obtained by providing such false information to the school or other public office in violation of this Section. Each day of a continuing violation shall be considered a separate offense.

SECTION 2: That any Ordinance, or part of any Ordinance, that is in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance is, to the extent of any such conflict or inconsistency, repealed.

SECTION 3: That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

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