RESOLUTION 2026-10
A RESOLUTION TO MAINTAIN A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM FOR NEW SMOKE/VAPE SHOPS FOR UP TO TWELVE ADDITIONAL MONTHS IN THE CITY OF CLEVELAND, GA

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Cleveland became effective on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager was instructed and successfully coordinated a systemic comprehensive review of the current Code of Ordinances by June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City continues to evaluate and modernize its land use regulations, zoning ordinances, business licensing provisions, and public health and safety regulations; and

WHEREAS, ongoing changes in state and federal law continue to affect the regulation and sale of tobacco and nicotine products; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland's current zoning ordinances and land use controls do not specifically and adequately address businesses that sell tobacco and nicotine products; and

WHEREAS, there are already multiple businesses within the City and White County that are authorized to sell tobacco and nicotine products; and

WHEREAS, the City's newly adopted Code of Ordinances and Chapter 64 (Zoning) do not specifically address businesses whose primary business activity involves the sale of tobacco and nicotine products; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that concerns continue to exist regarding the long-term health effects associated with inhaling aerosolized substances from vaping products, potential exposure to chemicals contained in or generated by e-liquids during the heating process, and the increased risk of youth access and initiation associated with flavored vaping products; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council find that maintaining the status quo while further study and potential ordinance amendments are considered serves the public health, safety, and welfare of the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Cleveland as follows:

1. "Smoke/ Vape Shop" means any retail business for which a significant portion of its business consists of the sale of tobacco products, nicotine products, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, vaping liquids, or similar products intended for smoking, vaping, or nicotine consumption.

2. A temporary moratorium on the issuance of new business licenses for Smoke/ Vape Shops is hereby continued and extended within the City of Cleveland.

3. During the moratorium period, the City shall not accept, process, approve, or

issue any new business license for any establishment meeting the definition of a Smoke/ Vape Shop.

4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect through 11:59 p.m. on June 15, 2027, unless sooner repealed, modified, superseded by ordinance, or extended by action of the Mayor and Council.

SO RESOLVED, this 15th day of June, 2026.

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Josh Turner,	Mayor	Nan Bowen,	Council Member District 1 Mayor Pro Tem
_____		_____	
Annie Sutton,	Council Member District 2	Jeremy McClure,	Council Member District 3
		ATTEST:	
_____		_____	
C.J. McDonald,	Council Member District 4	Lisa Ritchie,	City Clerk