

WHEREAS, Council recognizes the significant contributions and sacrifices made by youth who assist in caring for their aging, disabled, or health-challenged family members or guardians (youth caregivers); and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 5.5 million children in the United States who provide care for an aging or disabled family member, such as a parent or grandparent; and

WHEREAS, youth caregivers often provide complex medical and nursing care with little to no training or support services; and

WHEREAS, supporting youth caregivers not only enhances the quality of life for aging individuals but also fosters intergenerational bonds and strengthens family units; and

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24 stress, promote mental health, and facilitate their ability to continue providing care
25 effectively; and

26 **WHEREAS**, initiatives aimed at assisting youth caregivers can positively
27 impact the broader community by promoting empathy, resilience, and a culture of
28 mutual support; and

29 **WHEREAS**, Council seeks to effectively address the needs of youth
30 caregivers and their families through collaboration with local organizations; **NOW**,
31 **THEREFORE**,

32 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

33 City Council hereby expresses its support for programs and initiatives
34 designed to assist youth caregivers in fulfilling their caregiving responsibilities for
35 their family members and guardians while also maintaining their overall well-
36 being and personal development.

37 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

38 The City Manager is directed to conduct a study, in coordination and
39 collaboration with local school districts, charter school systems, and other relevant
40 public and private agencies, to determine how many youth 18 years or younger are
41 youth caregivers and serve as the primary caretakers of their family members and
42 guardians; and in this study, the City Manager should gather information regarding
43 the following, as well as other factors that support the spirit of this Resolution:

- 44 1. Percentage of youth 18 years or younger who serve as the primary
45 caregiver of a family member or guardian;
- 46 2. Whether serving as a primary caregiver led to dropping out of school;

3. The type of care provided by the caregiver;
4. The financial constraints faced by youth caregivers; and
5. Relevant demographic data of youth caregivers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to report back to the Public Health Committee with an update no later than September 12, 2024, and final results of the survey no later than May 2025.

ADOPTED: _____, 2024 ATTEST: _____

Myrna Rios
City Clerk