

In the Name and by the Authority of
**THE STATE OF
OHIO**



WHEREAS, Hamilton County's Imagination Library is celebrating the distribution of its 1 millionth book to children enrolled in its program; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County's Imagination Library program was launched countywide in March 2020 with support from the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Every Child Capital, Cincinnati Public Schools, PNC Bank, Scripps Howard Foundation, HNTB Corp., Farmer Family Foundation, UnitedHealth Group, and Interact for Health Group; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library, through a partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, mails one age-appropriate book each month to children from birth to age 5 and is available to all children at no cost to their families; and

WHEREAS, there are 321,565 kids in Ohio currently enrolled in the Imagination Library, including 26,486 kids in Hamilton County, totaling 50% of eligible kids within the county; and

WHEREAS, led by Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine, the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library was founded in 2019 with financial support from the Ohio General Assembly and affiliates from throughout the state, and expanded to all 88 Ohio counties by November 2020 to become accessible statewide; and

WHEREAS, a child who cannot read well is four times more likely to drop out of high school before graduation and the U.S. Census estimates that 10% of Ohio adults do not have a high school diploma; and

WHEREAS, reading aloud to children and having access to books in the home is the best way to ensure they are prepared to enter kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, to enroll in the program, visit OhioImaginationLibrary.org; and

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

**HAMILTON COUNTY'S IMAGINATION
LIBRARY'S 1 MILLIONTH BOOK DISTRIBUTION**

on this 17th day of May 2022

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor