

City of Detroit Detroit City Council Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway District 2

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Whitaker, Director, LPD

THRU: Council President, Mary Sheffield

FROM: Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway

DATE: February 7, 2024

RE: Requesting resolution declaring April as "Syphilis Awareness Month" in Detroit.

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Since the start of this year, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has raised concerns about rising cases of syphilis, a sexually transmitted infection that can affect the health of men, women, and infants.

In 2022, the U.S. surpassed the highest count of infections since 1950.

In Michigan, Syphilis rates have risen, on average, 11% annually since 2012. And, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has reported a 25% increase between the years of 2020 and 2021 alone.

In Detroit, we have the highest rate of syphilis cases in the state.

In recognition of these facts, Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway is requesting that the Legislative Policy Division draft a resolution declaring April as "Syphilis Awareness Month" in the City of Detroit.

Please contact our office if you have any questions or concerns – Breanna Williams, <u>breanna.williams@detroitmi.gov</u>