
A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE CONSTITUTIONAL TAX AND EXPENDITURE LIMITATION PROPOSALS, AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Citizens for Tax Reform and others are endorsing proposals to amend the Ohio Constitution to institute tax and expenditure limitations at the state, and local levels of government that could only be overridden by a popular vote - an example of these proposals is the so-called "Taxpayers Bill of Rights"; and

WHEREAS, such proposals tie the hands of local leaders in times of crisis and other unpredictable circumstances, circumventing local governments' thoughtful consideration of policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, such a proposal would reduce funding for police, fire protection, capital improvement projects, economic development, and other vital services to citizens; and

WHEREAS, such proposals would prevent local officials from making the tough decisions they were elected to make, passing the responsibility for learning all aspects of often complex issues to citizens who have other jobs and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, amending the constitution is a virtually irrevocable action and should only be undertaken when legislative remedies have proven enduringly inadequate; and

WHEREAS, such constitutional tinkering brings great harm to local communities through continued reductions in state funding, erodes decision-making at the local level and degrades government's ability to provide the basic services residents and businesses expect and deserve; and

WHEREAS, such proposals would force local governments to spend valuable time and money asking for permission from the same people who elected them before any action can be taken on important issues, and would also force taxpayers to pay twice for governance - once for elections of their local officials, and again for elections to make the decisions those officials should have made; and

WHEREAS, such proposals contradict the fundamental principles upon which our constitution and system of representative government are based and damages the ability to craft good public policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOKVILLE, OHIO:

SECTION I: That Brookville City Council believes that local elected officials are elected to do a job - that job is to represent the interests of their constituents, to deal with difficult decisions, to thoughtfully debate and determine the best course of action for the community they serve.

Record of Resolutions

Resolution No.: 200

Passed: XX, XXXX

SECTION II: That Brookville City Council opposes the proposed changes to the Ohio Constitution that would arbitrarily constrain local governments' ability to effectively realize and allocate the tax resources needed to meet the people's needs through a representative democracy, and supports efforts to defeat the proposed changes to the Ohio Constitution, which would apply to local governments.

SECTION III: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency resolution to timely provide copies to the various Representatives of the State of Ohio. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after the date passed according to the Charter of the City of Brookville, Ohio.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2005.

ATTEST:

Sonja M. Keaton, Clerk

David E. Seagraves, Mayor

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, Clerk of the City of Brookville, Ohio, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 05-21, passed by the Council of the City of Brookville, Ohio, on the _____ day of _____, 2005.

Sonja M. Keaton, Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

The undersigned, Clerk of the City of Brookville, Ohio, hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution No. 05-21, was posted at the City Building, U.S. Post Office and the Brookville Branch of the Montgomery County Public Library, Brookville, Ohio, on the _____ day of _____ 2005 to the _____ day of _____ 2005, both days inclusive.

Sonja M. Keaton, Clerk

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Attest:

Jack L. Patterson, Mayor

Bruce E. Fouch, Clerk

Approved as to form:

William M. Owens, Village Solicitor

Record of Resolutions

Resolution No.: 200

Passed: XX, XXXX

I, Bruce E. Fouch, Clerk of the Village of West Lafayette, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is taken and copied from the Records of Proceedings of said Council meeting; that the same has been compared by me with the Ordinance / Resolution on said record and that it is a true and correct copy there. Witness my signature this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Bruce E. Fouch, Clerk