

RESOLUTION 012101

Authorizing the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor to employ an expert legal service for the purpose of initiating a legal action against the State of Ohio to challenge the actions of the State of Ohio under House Bill 94.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio approved the budget for the State of Ohio for 2002-2003 in the form of House Bill 94 on May 30, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Governor Robert Taft signed House Bill 94 on June 6, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Supreme Court will consider the State Budget as approved in House Bill 94 as evidence of the State of Ohio's compliance with the order of the Court in the case of DeRolph, et al v. The State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the budget as approved by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor reduces the funds available for services to poor and working families in Cuyahoga County by an estimated \$60 million per year; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 94 diverts significant amounts of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) by supplanting General Revenue Fund dollars spent on essential programs with TANF funds in order to direct funds to primary and secondary education in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Cuyahoga County will be substantially and adversely affected by the diversion of the TANF funds; and

WHEREAS, the use of TANF funds rather than General Revenue Funds for these programs may violate the intent of the United States Congress and may threaten the long-term viability of important programs such as Head Start.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio that the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor is hereby requested to employ an expert legal service for the purpose of initiating a legal action against the State of Ohio to challenge the action of the State of Ohio under House Bill 94.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution each to William D. Mason, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor; Bette Meyer, Deputy County Administrator; Sandy Turk, Director, Office of Budget and Management; and to all Boards of County Commissioners in the State of Ohio.

On Motion of Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Ayes: McCormack, Campbell, Dimora.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

Marjorie J. Pettus
Clerk of the Board

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