



COMMISSIONERS
Jane L. Campbell
Jimmy Dimora
Tim McCormack

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION

Resolution : Urging the Ohio State Government to hold harmless the local government from additional cuts in the State Budget.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio's and Cuyahoga County's governments are charged with maintaining a baseline of essential services —the basic skeleton of a safety net—to ensure vulnerable populations in our community safe shelter, insurance against hunger, assistance for the jobless, security to our elderly and children against violence and abuse when no other agent in the community can.

WHEREAS, the budget passed by State Government in July of 2001 reduced funding in the amount of \$60 million used by Cuyahoga County for successful welfare to work programs and programs for working families, adversely affecting mental health programming, alcohol and drug rehabilitation programming, job training programming, domestic violence prevention programming, housing eviction prevention programming, child welfare home visiting programming.

WHEREAS, the State Government faces a \$1.5 billion shortfall projected for the final twenty months of the State's two-year budget.

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly considers additional reductions to the local government fund by 6% and reducing another \$160 million in state aid to local governments in addition to 6% across the board reduction ordered by the executive branch, further handicapping counties ability to provide social services to children, the elderly and families working to move off welfare and into better jobs.

AND WHEREAS, the local government fund for all municipalities and entities funded in Cuyahoga County would be cut by \$26.9 million, and specifically, Cuyahoga County government by \$2.4 million.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the Governor and the State Legislature to cease its transfer of fiscal crisis to local communities; hold harmless the local government from additional cuts as well as other line items which would impact local government human services operations. We urge the State Government to address the \$1.5 billion shortfall in a manner that does not additionally jeopardize the children and families of our community made already vulnerable by the current economic situation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Bette Meyer, Deputy County Administrator; Governor Robert Taft; Representative Charles Calvert; Representative Jon Peterson; Senator Doug White; Senator Bill Harris; all of the members of the Cuyahoga County delegation in the Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representatives.

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

Ayes: Campbell, McCormack, Dimora.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

**Marjorie J. Pettus,
Clerk of the Board**

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