

RESOLUTION

Calling upon Ohio lawmakers to restore budget cuts for
programming for vulnerable citizens in all Ohio Counties including
Cuyahoga.

Cuyahoga County is the legal subdivision of the State of Ohio and the State of Ohio, in accepting money from the United States Congress, also accepts the responsibility for programs that provide for the safety and security of poor children, frail elderly and the impoverished for which that money was appropriated.

Cuyahoga County, Ohio reports nearly 200,000 individuals living at or below federal poverty levels (for a family of four - \$18,400) and over 400,000 individuals living at or below 200% of poverty levels (for a family of four-\$36,800) and over 100,000 households are served on Cuyahoga County's welfare caseloads.

Cuyahoga County, Ohio reports almost 275,000 seniors in our community, the fastest growing segment of our population, many of whom are eligible for or will soon become eligible for assistance with daily living in either the affordable PASSPORT program or the more extreme and more expensive nursing home facility.

Cuyahoga County, Ohio historically has been able to utilize much needed federal funding passed down from United State's Congress to the States, and subsequently to the counties to provide critical safety net services for which those dollars were intended, healthcare, child care, job readiness training, mental health and alcohol & drug treatment, domestic violence services and youth diversion activities.

The Citizens of Cuyahoga County, Ohio have been forced to raise taxes at the local level, this year \$78 million of the most regressive revenue-local property taxes and sales taxes, to support our frailest and most vulnerable of citizens with much needed services in our community because of the State's seizure of dollars appropriated by Congress.

In recent years, in a repeated pattern, the State of Ohio has turned back federal funding and is considering doing so again at great risk and peril to the poorest, most vulnerable and neediest of Ohio's Citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio that we call upon State lawmakers of both the Ohio Senate and the Ohio House to adhere to the federal appropriations and to restore funding cuts in the Medicaid program for working poor families, restore funding cuts in childcare eligibility levels for working poor families, restore funding cuts in the senior PASSPORT and community-based services program, restore funding cuts in disability assistance, to not walk away from the citizens you serve, and to fully draw down all the federal dollars that are made available to the State of Ohio and to its 88 counties who serve these most frail of our citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Robert Taft, Governor, State of Ohio; each member of the Cuyahoga County delegation in the Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representatives; State Budget Advocates; County Commissioners Association of Ohio; one copy to Rick Werner, Interim Deputy County Administrator and one copy to Jim Corrigan, Government Relations Officer, Cuyahoga County Commissioners.

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

Ayes: Jones, McCormack, Dimora.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

**Penelope M. Hughes,
Clerk of the Board pro tem**

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