

**RESOLUTION**

**Opposing the proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution that would impose a Tax Expenditure Limitation (TEL) on state and local taxing jurisdictions.**

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**WHEREAS, ill advised, poorly conceived and politically motivated language has been proposed for the November statewide ballot to amend the Ohio Constitution.**

**WHEREAS, this proposed amendment would impose a tax and expenditure limitation on the state and local government and taxing jurisdictions that could only be overridden by a popular vote.**

**WHEREAS, this constitutional proposal undermines the constitutional responsibility of the state government and local governments through their respective budget processes which result in decisions based upon the fiscal and economic environments which are constantly changing.**

**WHEREAS, this constitutional proposal undermines the ability of state and local governments to appropriately plan, prepare, and respond to vital public services, such as higher education, early childhood education, transportation, infrastructure, emergency services all of which are critical to the state and local safety, prosperity and well-being.**

**WHEREAS, this constitutional amendment would undermine the many premier public services of our community: MetroHealth Hospital, The Cleveland MetroParks and the MetroPark Zoo, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, the public libraries, Cuyahoga Community College and many others.**

**WHEREAS, the State of Colorado, on whose example this proposed amendment is modeled, has, as a result, suffered severely in meeting the basic needs of their citizenry, and dropped considerably in a number of key indicators for fiscal, economic, educational, and social service success.**

**WHEREAS, in November 2005 the voters of the State of Colorado elected to suspend, for a period of five years, key aspects of the Colorado Constitution in an effort to salvage the infrastructure of the State of Colorado from any further deleterious impacts brought on by the limitation amendment.**

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners opposes the proposed changes to the Ohio Constitution that would arbitrarily constrain state and 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.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Dennis Madden, County Administrator and Jim Corrigan, Government Relations Officer, Administrator's Office.

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

**Ayes: Hagan, Jones, Dimora.**

**Nays: None.**

**Resolution Adopted.**

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

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