



VILLAGE OF FARMERSVILLE

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FEBRUARY 14, 2017

TO: OUR HONORABLE OHIO STATE CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Honorable Representatives, it is with extreme urgency and concern that I write to you today.

As Mayor of the Village of Farmersville in southwestern Ohio, I hope to clarify that the proposal for "Centralized Collection and Distribution" of municipal income tax included in the 2018-2019 proposed State budget would have very serious negative financial effects on our small community.

We, in Farmersville strive very hard to maintain a fluent and serviceable infrastructure with extremely limited funding. Eight years ago, our 1% local income tax, as allowed by State of Ohio code, was being managed by an adjoining community's tax department. We studied our effectiveness of the system and realized that we could be more effective by bringing our billing and collection in house. We set up our local tax billing and collection in conjunction with our utilities billing department and we have been very successful.

I was amazed to find the numbers of residents that would file a tax return and then never pay their obligations. Our subcontracted billing and collection agency would never follow up on unpaid returns. By doing these services within our Village department we have shown a 10% to 15% improvement in our revenues. I feel that by allowing our Tax Collection to be managed by a remote State Taxation department we would again fall into the demise of uncollected funds and poorly enforced payment obligations.

I **Urgently** request that you reconsider this request included in the 2018-2019 proposed budget! We previously expressed these concerns during "HB5" legislative processes and we are still and now even more alarmed.

Sincerely,

Daryl E Weller
Mayor of the Village of
Farmersville, Ohio