



OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

MATTHEW J. DETEMPLE, Executive Director
HEIDI M. FUGHT, Director of Governmental Affairs
6500 Taylor Road, Suite A • Blacklick, Ohio 43004
(614) 863-0045 • Fax (614) 863-9751
www.OhioTownships.org

December 5, 2017

2016-2017 Officers

Tom Willsey, President
3421 New London Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Connie Fink, 1st Vice President
2645 Fawn Lane
Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Tim Lynch, 2nd Vice President
5614 N. County Road 11
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Ed Huff, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
P.O. Box 306
Ansonia, Ohio 45303

2016-2017 Board of Directors

Lynda Bowers
6440 Ryan Road
Medina, Ohio 44256

Perry Brock
554 County Road 120
South Point, Ohio 45680

Dale Dietrich
38415 Rock Camp Road
New Malmoras, OH 45767

Bob Entenmann
1400 Washington N. Road
Mansfield, OH 44903

Scott Fabian
126 Montgomery Lane
Mingo Junction, OH 43938

Daniel Frederick
22 Lockwood Road
Milan, OH 44846

Debbie Friedstrom
4870 State Road S.
Ashtabula, OH 44004

Roy Hollenbacher
150 St. Andrews Blvd.
Lima, OH 45804

Larry Johns
09280 Glynwood Road
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Carl Mangun
3063 Lustre Road N.E.
Carrollton, OH 44615

Ron Miller
4161 Bethel Road
Bucyrus, OH 44820

Amy Szmiana
50133 New London Eastern Road
New London, OH 44851

Robert Trowbridge
7777 County Road F
Delta, OH 43515

Robert Wakefield
6828 Dry Run Road
Kingston, OH 45644

Steven Woolf
8803 Baltimore-Phillipsburg Road
Brookville, OH 45309

John C. Zizka
9177 Asbury Road
Mantua, OH 44255

The Honorable Tim Schaffer
Ways & Means Committee, Chair
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street
Columbus, 43215

Re: Opposition to HB 343

Dear Chairman Schaffer,

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA) and the Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships (CLOUT), I am writing to express our opposition to House Bill 343, which requires local governments that contest property values to formally pass a resolution and notify property owners for each contest.

While townships only levy approximately six per cent of the property taxes state wide, the main source of township funding in Ohio is the property tax. Many townships do not file complaints or counter complaints at the Board of Revision, but this bill will drastically impact the ability of those townships that do feel a need to challenge a tax valuation.

First, in current law there are specific timing and notification requirements that must be followed when contesting a property valuation. The property value challenge process at the Board of Revision already provides for notification to the property owner regarding the proceedings. Existing law requires a county auditor, within 30 days after a complaint is filed, to notify each property owner and political subdivision affected if the amount in question is at least \$17,500 and the property owner did not file the complaint. Then, the Board of Revision must notify the property owner and the entity that filed the complaint at least ten days prior to a hearing. House Bill 343 will add another layer in the already complicated process.

Second, the Board of Revision is without jurisdiction to hear any complaint or counter complaint and must dismiss the case if notification and resolution requirements have not been satisfied by the township. The responsibility to comply with the new requirements in HB 343 falls on the township but the County Auditor and the Board of Revision will also have some responsibility in making sure all of the new requirements are followed. Again, adding another layer in the already bureaucratic process.

For these reasons, the OTA and CLOUT oppose HB 343 and respectfully request the committee not vote in favor of the measure or consider amendments to alter the proposal. Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns with House Bill 343. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or OTA Director of Governmental Affairs Heidi Fought at 614.863.0045.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. DeTemple
Executive Director

MJD:hf

