

# Crawford County Commissioners

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Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Finance Committee

Thank you for this opportunity to address to you, my concerns for the upcoming budget.

My name is Doug Weisenauer and I am a Crawford County Commissioner.

Our founding fathers once wrote, "WE THE PEOPLE". Those words were written as a notion that no matter our viewpoint on a subject, or our social standing in society, we are all one community. We as Government officials are no different, we have been elected to serve the citizens of Ohio, no matter our position, or the location the citizen calls home.

State law mandates that each citizen receive services of the government, whether it be the state, county, township or the city in which they live.

I stand before you today to remind you that if State law requires certain services are to be available to the public, then it is solely the responsibility of the state to provide funding for those services.

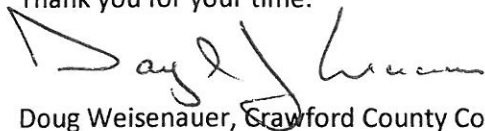
As a Crawford County Commissioner I was advised our funding reduction would be approximately \$700,000 per year in sales tax revenue. This is approximately 12% of our budget. This would return Crawford County to a level that was last seen in 2004 and 2005, far earlier than the Medicare tax went into effect.

I am personally offended, when I am told that the local governments have been "enjoying" this tax for the past 6 years and can quickly learn to live without it.

When I am told such things, it confirms my belief that there are numerous people, who are completely clueless about local government, and the essential services we are required to provide.

I am not before you today to vent frustration, or to point blame, but to remind this body of what our founding fathers once stated. "WE THE PEOPLE", not us and them. I encourage each of you, to find a solution that will make everyone whole financially, The State of Ohio, each and every county, township, and city throughout this great state. Find the funding that is needed.

Thank you for your time.



Doug Weisenauer, Crawford County Commissioner