

2020 - 2021

**Officers**

Tim Lynch, President  
5614 N. County Road 11  
Tiffin, OH 44883

Ed Huff Jr., 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
P.O. Box 306  
Ansonia, OH 45303

Scott Fabian, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
126 Montgomery Lane  
Mingo Junction, OH 43938

Ron Miller, Secretary-Treasurer  
1371 Lemert Road  
Bucyrus, OH 44820

2020 - 2021

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Dale Dietrich  
38415 Rock Camp Road  
New Matamoras, OH 45767

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1400 Washington N. Road  
Mansfield, OH 44903

Daniel Frederick  
49 Main Street  
Milan, OH 44846

Ed Good  
56080 Matts Lane  
Shadyside, OH 43947

Barbara Greuey  
2817 Conk Palmer Road  
Malta, OH 43758

Ellen Homan  
402 Pine Road  
Ft. Recovery, OH 45846

Larry Johns  
09280 Glynwood Road  
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Marissa Lautzenheiser  
9091 Sandyville Road N.E.  
Mineral City, OH 44656

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

Sandra Reichley  
17540 State Route 664 S.  
Logan, OH 43138

Gary Salmon  
7350 Brookville Road  
Oxford, OH 45056

Tom Shay  
686 Kale Adams Road  
Leavittsburg, OH 44430

Robert Trowbridge  
7777 County Road F  
Delta, OH 43515

Mark Van Buren  
4832 Keller Road S.W.  
Hebron, OH 43025

Steven Woolf  
8803 Baltimore-Phillipsburg Road  
Brookville, OH 45309

John C. Zizka  
9177 Asbury Road  
Mantua, OH 44255



# OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

HEIDI M. FOUGHT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MARISA MYERS, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
6500 TAYLOR ROAD, SUITE A  
BLACKLICK, OH 43004  
PHONE: 614-863-0045 | FAX: 614-863-9751  
OHIOTownships.org

December 8, 2020

The Honorable Nathan Manning, Chair  
Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs Committee  
Ohio Senate  
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Opposition to HB 75

Dear Chairman Manning,

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA), I am writing to express our opposition to House Bill 75, 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 statewide, 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.

In current law, there are already specific timing and notification requirements that must be followed when contesting property valuation. The property value challenge process at the Board of Revision 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. As drafted, House Bill 75 will add another layer to this process.

Additionally, the bill specifically states that a Board of Revision is without jurisdiction to hear any complaint or counter-complaint if the notification requirements are not satisfied. The bill places compliance requirements on townships but leaves questions for enforcement of the notification requirements.

We understand that the committee is considering amendments to this legislation and we look forward to reviewing any changes. However, the OTA remains concerned with the provisions of the bill.

For these reasons, the OTA opposes HB 75. Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns with House Bill 75. Should you have any questions or concerns about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-863-0045.

Sincerely,

Marisa Myers  
Director of Governmental Affairs