

**David Mirkin**

1040 Colonial Dr  
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44505

Phone (330) 718-8858

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As the owner of an agency that provides in-home care, chore services and non-emergency transportation through three different County Senior Levies, I am concerned about this bill. As a provider and senior advocate, I have called both Senator O'Brien and Senator Rulli to have them discuss senior advocacy and how senior services will be affected by this bill. Although Mr. O'Brien states in his letter to Dr. Marchbanks that he has consulted with constituents and leaders in our community, it has been a handpicked few and he has missed many important stakeholders. The seniors have thrived living in their community since the inception of the Senior Levies. Seniors deserve to be at home where they desire living out their lives with respect and dignity. Funds transferred to transportation would invariably decrease Levy funding for such services as, home delivered meals, personal and home maker services, adult protective services and adult day centers to name a few. With a decrease in these services many of our Ohio seniors will be unable to remain at home. They may find it necessary to relocate to Nursing Homes. This could lead to an increase in Medicaid spending. In Trumbull County for example, the Trumbull Transit Board already receives \$425,000 of the \$2,100,000 Senior Levy funding. Will this bill allow more money to be taken? At this time, we are awaiting a ruling by the Attorney General's Office as to the legality of this practice. I believe it would be irresponsible to approve this part of the bill before the ruling. In addition, there has been constant

misinformation disseminated by the supporters of this bill regarding federal matching funds.

I have read the bill and the information that Senators O'Brien and Rulli had sent to the Director of Ohio Dept of Transportation. I am appalled that the Senators conclude that taking money from any social service levy is the solution to fix transportation funding. What gives anyone the right to prioritize this service when the voters approved the levy for another service? Who do they take from next to correct the senior services shortage?

If the senators are so intent on finding additional funding, try to pass a transportation Levy in Trumbull County.

They did try, and the voters overwhelmingly turned it down.

I understand how important it is for adequate funding for transportation. My agency will provide approximately 45,000 trips this year. I am all for additional funding, but this is not the way to get it. What happens if those who voted for these Levies are not happy with the reallocation of funds? Maybe the next Social Service Levy fails. We need to continue looking for an appropriate solution. This bill is not it!