

To the Honorable Derek Merrin
77 South High Street
13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: HB 157 Testimony

Dear Representative Merrin,

My name is Ryan Rogalski. I am the Tax Commissioner for the City of Struthers, Ohio and our city is a member of the Ohio Municipal League.

In a city that has already been impacted by the economic downturn of not only COVID but of the changing economic structure of Northeast Ohio itself, Struthers would be deeply affected by the passing of the proposed House Bill 157 which would repeal the state's municipal income tax withholding policy during the COVID-19 pandemic. The substantial revenue cuts alone would lead to a massive destabilization of our already fragile city economy. We would additionally suffer the added administrative burden of tracking, reporting and remitting municipal income tax based on employees' work-from-home locations, increasing the cost of doing business in Struthers.

I am writing to urge to you give both businesses and municipalities adequate time to prepare for the substantial impacts of the proposed bill as well as allowing the DeWine Administration the opportunity to establish a task force, as much more data is needed to fully understand the future impact of work-from-home employer policies on municipalities and the state's economy.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Ryan Rogalski | Tax Commissioner

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