



**Committee to Elect  
Judson Kline for Mayor**

161 Orange Lake Drive  
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022

The Architect for Orange's Bright Future

Rep. Bill Roemer  
Ohio District 31  
Chairman House Ways and Means Committee

RE: Testimony HB1

Dear Chairman Roemer,

My name is Judson Kline, I currently serve as a councilman in Orange Village and am also a candidate for Mayor. I offer my testimony in opposition to HB 1 (Flat Income Tax Bill). My opposition is based upon the following concerns:

- As a local elected official, the impact of the application of the flat tax will result in a reduction in resources available through the Local Government Fund (LGF, Fund 7069).
- Our communities rely upon the LGF to provide resources needed to facilitate the quality services that the people of our communities and state depend upon.
- The reduction of the funding available through the LGF means local communities will either not provide services or look to other means to create resources to continue to do what we need for our residents.
- While the flat tax will reduce what Ohio residents pay to the state, local governments would have to look towards raising their community taxes to compensate for the loss resulting in tax increases driven by Ohio's action.
- Funds collected via a flat income tax will also impact Ohio altogether reducing its ability to serve the residents of Ohio with state support for many important programs that contribute to Ohio being a great state in which to reside.
- We recognize the desire and need to reduce the tax burden on Ohio residents. However, a flat tax unfairly burdens those at one end and unreasonably benefits those at the other end of the of the tax spectrum.

For these reasons, I respectfully oppose this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,  
Judson A. Kline, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP  
Orange Village Council

We are inspired to "envision what is not here, yet"  
Robert Miller, Treasurer