

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: June 17, 2025

Name: Quincy E. Pope Sr.

Are you representing: Yourself ☐ Organization ☒

Organization (If Applicable): City of Trotwood

Position/Title: City Manager

Address: 3035 Olive Road

City: Trotwood State: Ohio Zip: 45426

Best Contact Telephone: 937-854-7202 Email: Qpope@trotwood.org

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes ☒ No ☐

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 335

Specific Issue: Property Tax Relief Now Act

Are you testifying as a: Proponent ☐ Opponent ☒ Interested Party ☐

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes ☒ No ☐

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? I am just submitting written opposition

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

On behalf of the city of Trotwood, I am writing to express our strong opposition to House Bill 335, the "Property Tax Relief Now Act," currently under consideration by the Ohio General Assembly.

** See attached

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.



June 17, 2025

Honorable Bill Roemer
State of Ohio Representative
District 31
77 South High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Representative/Chairman Roemer,

On behalf of the city of Trotwood, I am writing to express our strong opposition to House Bill 335, the “Property Tax Relief Now Act,” currently under consideration by the Ohio General Assembly.

While we support efforts to provide meaningful and responsible property tax relief to Ohio residents, we are deeply concerned that HB 335, as currently written, would significantly impair our municipality’s ability to fund essential public services and govern effectively at the local level. Specifically, we oppose the bill’s elimination of unvoted inside millage and the expanded authority it grants to county budget commissions.

Elimination of Inside Millage

- Inside millage is a vital and stable revenue source for municipalities such as ours. It directly supports essential public services, including police, fire protection, emergency medical response, road maintenance, and park operations.
- Eliminating this millage would create immediate budgetary shortfalls, forcing difficult decisions and potentially undermining our ability to maintain basic services.
- By removing a key tool of fiscal management without providing viable alternatives, HB 335 would constrain our financial flexibility and push municipalities to seek less predictable or more regressive revenue sources, such as income or sales taxes.

Expanded Authority of County Budget Commissions

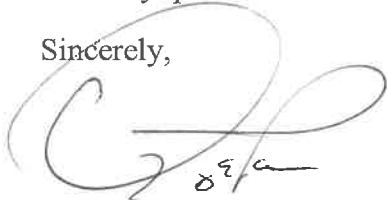
- Granting budget commissions expanded powers to limit tax rates, alter local budgets, and reduce levies would significantly erode local self-governance.
- These bodies are not directly accountable to the residents we serve, yet HB 335 would give them unprecedented oversight of local fiscal decisions—authority that rightfully belongs to locally elected officials.

- Such a shift would introduce confusion and inconsistency, potentially delaying or disrupting critical public services.

We respectfully urge you to oppose HB 335 in its current form. While we recognize the importance of tax reform, any such efforts must preserve the fundamental principles of local control and fiscal responsibility. We are eager to collaborate on solutions that provide tax relief while protecting the integrity and sustainability of municipal services.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We appreciate your leadership and your commitment to the well-being of all Ohioans. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or wish to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Q. Pope", with a large, stylized loop at the beginning.

Quincy E. Pope Sr., M.P.A. ICMA-CM, CPM, CLEE
City Manager
City of Trotwood
937-854-7202 (Office)

Qpope@trotwood.org