

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: June 17, 2025

Name: Yvette F. Page

Are you representing: Yourself ☐ Organization ☒

Organization (If Applicable): Trotwood City Council

Position/Title: Mayor

Address: 3035 Olive Road

City: Trotwood State: OH Zip: 45426

Best Contact Telephone: 937-854-7212 Email: ypage@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? N/A; Written Opposition Only

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

We have great concerns with House Bill 335, the "Property Tax Relief Now Act," that would eliminate inside millage and give county budget commissions the authority to override voter-approved levies. Most importantly, the proposed Bill contains no plan to replace the revenues that would be lost to local municipalities and school districts across the State.

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

The Honorable Desiree Tims
Ohio House of Representatives, District 38
77 South High Street, 10th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

IN RE: Opposition to House Bill 335, the “Property Tax Relief Now Act”

Dear Representative Tims,

I am writing on behalf of the Trotwood City Council to express our strong opposition to House Bill 335 (“HB 335”), the “Property Tax Relief Now Act,” currently under consideration by the Ohio General Assembly.

While we support meaningful reforms that provide property tax relief to Ohio residents, HB 335 proposes provisions that would have a detrimental impact on our local government and its ability to serve the residents of Trotwood. Specifically, we are concerned with the bill’s elimination of unvoted inside millage and the expanded authority it grants to county budget commissions.

Concerns Regarding Elimination of Inside Millage:

- **Inside millage** is an essential source of revenue for municipalities like ours, funding critical local services such as police, fire, emergency medical services, road maintenance, and parks. The elimination of inside millage would significantly reduce our financial flexibility and create an immediate budgetary crisis.
- This drastic measure would harm local governments' ability to provide services without the ability to raise taxes through votes of the electorate. It effectively undermines our local fiscal autonomy and forces us into a situation where we must rely more heavily on state funding or alternative revenue sources such as income or sales taxes, which may not adequately replace lost revenue.

PHONE 937-837-7771
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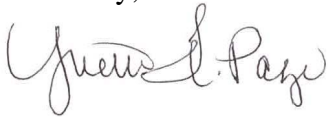
3035 OLIVE ROAD
Trotwood, OH 45426

Concerns Regarding County Budget Commissions:

- HB 335's provision to **expand the authority of county budget commissions** raises serious concerns. These commissions, which are often not well-known to the public, would gain the power to limit local tax rates, revise municipal budgets, and reduce tax levies based on their review. This level of control over local budgets should remain with municipal officials, who are most directly accountable to our constituents.
- This would create a loss of local control over how we allocate resources, potentially putting vital services in jeopardy and creating confusion about fiscal policies that were previously managed by our local government. We respectfully urge you to oppose HB 335 in its current form. While we agree that property tax reform is necessary, we believe this bill oversteps the bounds of local autonomy and would significantly harm municipalities and their residents. Instead, we encourage the Legislature to pursue a balanced approach that addresses property tax concerns while maintaining the ability of local governments to manage their own budgets and levy taxes.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your service to the people of Ohio and trust that you will consider the negative implications of HB 335 on our local governments and the municipalities you represent. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Yvette F. Page
Mayor

YFP/kl

cc: The Honorable Bill Roemer, Ohio House of Representatives, District 31
Chair, Ohio House Ways and Means Committee