As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session 2025-2026

H. B. No. 592

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Representatives Thomas, D., Mathews, A.

To amend sections 707.02 and 707.29 and to repeal

section 707.04 of the Revised Code regarding

municipal incorporation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:	
Section 1. That sections 707.02 and 707.29 of the Revised	4
Code be amended to read as follows:	5
Sec. 707.02. The petition required by section 707.01 of	6
the Revised Code shall be signed by fifty-one per cent of the	7
electors within the territory proposed to be incorporated, as	8
determined by the total number of votes cast within that	9
territory for the office of governor at the preceding general	10
election for that office, and shall contain or have attached	11
thereto:	12
(A) A full description and an accurate map of the	13
territory within the proposed municipal corporation;	14
(B) A statement signed by the county auditor as to the	15
total assessed valuation of the area proposed for incorporation;	16
(C) A statement that the area consists of not less than	17
two square miles, includes a population of not less than eight	18

hundred persons per square mile, and has an assessed valuation

of real, personal, and public utility property subject, except

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as otherwise provided in this division, to general property	21
taxation of at least three thousand five hundred dollars per	22
capita. In determining per capita assessed valuation under this	23
division, the assessed valuation of any tangible personal	24
property, buildings, structures, improvements, and fixtures that	25
are exempt from taxation under division (B) of section 5709.081	26
of the Revised Code shall be added to the assessed valuation of	27
real, personal, and public utility property subject to general	28
property taxation.	29
(D) A statement by the secretary of state that the name	30
proposed in the petition is not being used by any other	31
municipal corporation in the state;	32
(E) The name of a person to act as agent for the	33
petitioners;	34
(F) A statement of whether or not the proposed municipal	35
corporation contains and includes territory within three miles-	36
of any portion of the boundary of an existing municipal	37
corporation.	38
Sec. 707.29. (A) Cities may be incorporated in the manner	39
provided in sections 707.29 and 707.30 of the Revised Code.	40
Application for incorporation of a city shall be made by	41
petition addressed to the board of county commissioners. The	42
territory proposed for incorporation as a city shall meet all of	43
the following criteria:	44
(1) It shall consist of not less than four square miles.	45
(2) It shall have a population of not less than twenty-	46
five five thousand and a population density of at least one	47
thousand persons per square mile.	48
(3) It shall have an assessed valuation of real, personal,	49

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and public utility property subject, except as otherwise	50
provided in division (A)(3) of this section, to general property	51
taxation of at least twenty-five hundred dollars per capita. In	52
determining per capita assessed valuation under division (A)(3)	53
of this section, the assessed valuation of any tangible personal	54
property, buildings, structures, improvements, and fixtures that	55
are exempt from taxation under division (B) of section 5709.081	56
of the Revised Code shall be added to the assessed valuation of	57
real, personal, and public utility property subject to general	58
property taxation.	59
(4) It shall not completely surround an existing municipal	60
corporation.	61
(5) It shall be contiguous.	62
(B) No territory within the boundaries of a military base,	63
camp, or similar installation under the jurisdiction of a	64
military department of the United States government, that is	65
used for the housing of members of the armed forces of the	66
United States and is a center for military operations of the	67
department shall be incorporated without the approval of the	68
secretary of defense of the United States, <u>hisa</u> designee <u>of the</u>	69
secretary of defense, or other person having authority under	70
federal law to give such approval.	71
Section 2. That existing sections 707.02 and 707.29 of the	72
Revised Code are hereby repealed.	73
Section 3. That section 707.04 of the Revised Code is	74

hereby repealed.

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