

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 579**

**Representatives Brennan, Abrams**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 5705.231 of the Revised Code to 1  
allow a township to levy a tax to pay for school 2  
district resource officers. 3

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 5705.231 of the Revised Code be 4  
enacted to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 5705.231.** (A) As used in this section: 6

(1) "School district" means a city, local, exempted 7  
village, or joint vocational school district. 8

(2) "School resource officer" has the same meaning as in 9  
section 3313.951 of the Revised Code. 10

(B) If a school district's revenues will be insufficient 11  
to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of 12  
the school district, the board of education may certify the fact 13  
of such insufficiency to the board of township trustees of each 14  
township with territory included in the school district. 15

Upon receiving such certification, the board may, by vote 16  
of two-thirds of all its members, declare by resolution that it 17  
is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation 18

to fund the provision, by contract, of school resource officers 19  
for the district. The resolution shall state the number of years 20  
the tax shall be levied, which shall not exceed five. If the 21  
township includes in its territory more than one city, local, or 22  
exempted village school district, the board may not adopt such a 23  
resolution until it receives such a certification from each such 24  
school district. If the board receives such a certification from 25  
a joint vocational school district, the board may adopt such a 26  
resolution without receiving such a certification from any other 27  
school district or, if the board has also received a 28  
certification from each city, local, exempted village in its 29  
territory, may adopt a single resolution funding the provision 30  
of school resource officers to all school districts in its 31  
territory. 32

The resolution shall conform to section 5705.19 of the 33  
Revised Code, except that if the township includes in its 34  
territory more than one certifying school district, the 35  
resolution shall provide for the apportionment of revenue from 36  
the tax to each such school district. 37

The resolution shall be certified and submitted to the 38  
electors of the subdivision in the manner provided in section 39  
5705.25 of the Revised Code, except that it may be placed on the 40  
ballot in any special or general election, and shall be 41  
certified to the board of elections not less than ninety days 42  
before the election at which it will be voted upon. If the 43  
resolution includes more than one school district, the ballot 44  
language shall list each school district and the apportionment 45  
of revenue from the tax to each such school district. 46

If the majority of the electors voting on a levy under 47  
this section vote in favor of the levy, the board may levy a tax 48

<u>within the township at the additional rate and for the period</u>	49
<u>and purpose specified in the resolution.</u>	50
<u>A tax levied under this section may be renewed in the</u>	51
<u>manner as provided in section 5705.25 of the Revised Code.</u>	52
<u>(C) All proceeds from a tax levied under this section</u>	53
<u>shall be paid to the school districts specified in the</u>	54
<u>resolution, in the proportion specified for each in the</u>	55
<u>resolution. The school district shall use those proceeds</u>	56
<u>exclusively to pay the costs of contracting for the services of</u>	57
<u>school resource officers.</u>	58