

RESOLUTION 2017 – 3

OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF THE STATE OF OHIO'S PROPOSED 2017-2018 BUDGET, WHICH PROPOSES CENTRALIZED COLLECTION OF NET PROFIT TAX RETURNS AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX CAUSING FINANCIAL HARM TO THE CITY OF MASON AND OTHER MUNICIPALITIES WHILE ENCROACHING UPON THE CITY OF MASON'S HOME RULE POWERS GRANTED BY THE OHIO CONSTITUTION

WHEREAS, it is proposed in the State's 2017-2018 Budget to institute a State controlled program for the centralized collection of local municipal income tax; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason is supportive of creating a business-friendly environment in Mason and throughout the State of Ohio with consistent standards for net-profit reporting without added layers of State bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason places top priority in attracting and maintaining business within the corporate limits and has been successful in adding over 3,000 jobs and \$580 million of new investment from January 2015 through December 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason is opposed to all encroachment upon the City of Mason's rights of local self-government conferred by the Ohio Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio should partner with successful communities such as Mason in growing the economy and access to high-paying jobs rather than taking local revenue to grow State government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason is strongly opposed to revisions on municipal tax collection that decreases local control and flexibility while increasing the size of an overreaching centralized State government at the expense of local government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason is opposed to revisions, reversed compromises and broken promises made by the State, such as the Local Government Fund, financially harming the City of Mason and other local governments resulting in local tax increases; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason is opposed to additional requirements and unnecessary burdensome demands imposed to the benefit of special interest groups; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason is opposed to revisions imposing an additional and growing layer of State bureaucracy that prescribes all forms, policies, instruction, enforcement action and publications for part of the municipal income taxes and ultimately motivated to centralize all aspects of municipal income tax collection and redistribution; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mason understands the State's history of diminishing local control to increase centralized revenues and weaken local decision making; and

WHEREAS, the proposal creates ongoing uncertainty to how much locally generated revenues will return to the community. This places the City of Mason's financial integrity and its Aaa bond rating from Moody's at risk and will result in declining services and higher taxes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Council of the City of Mason, Ohio, six members thereto concurring:

Section 1. That the City of Mason does hereby declare that the Ohio General Assembly should request the immediate removal of all language pertaining to municipal income tax collection and administration.

Section 2. That the City Manager is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Speaker Rosenberger, Representative Zeltwanger, Governor Kasich and all members of the House of Representatives, Ohio State Senate and candidates for Governor.

Section 3. That the City of Mason through its elected and appointed officials will cooperate with other municipalities and the Ohio Municipal League to achieve municipal income tax administration that is business-friendly without causing excessive harm to the City of Mason and other municipalities.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall take effect and be enforced from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 27th day of February, 2017.

Vice Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council
CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, Clerk of Council of the City of Mason, hereby certifies this to be a true and exact copy of **Resolution No. 2017 - 3**, adopted by the Council of the City of Mason on February 27, 2017.

Clerk of Council