

RESOLUTION 2012-14

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CENTRALIZED COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL INCOME TAXES IN THE STATE OF OHIO.

WHEREAS, during last year's discussion regarding the State Biennial Budget Bill (HB 153) it was suggested the Ohio Department of Taxation take over collection of municipal income taxes; and

WHEREAS, while the final version of said legislation did not contain any provision for the State to take control of municipal incomes taxes, it is the concern of the Village of Hiram Finance Committee and this Council that this issue will be revisited in future legislation; and

WHEREAS, local income tax is the largest source of revenue for the Village of Hiram and likely for the other 578 municipalities in the State; and

WHEREAS, with the reductions in the Local Government Fund, municipalities cannot afford another potential loss in revenue, and administrative fees collected by the State would cost more than the costs currently expended by the Village in the collection of Village income tax; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hiram advocates fair application and enforcement of our tax laws for its citizens, and as laws would be standardized across municipalities, the Village would lose the ability to enforce its Code, along with the loss of personalized service in preparation and filing of individual tax returns, answering questions, and resolution of delinquencies; and

WHEREAS, the Village makes daily bank deposits of tax revenue, and the timing and distribution of State collected revenues to municipalities could impact the Village's cash flow; and

WHEREAS, a centralized tax collection system is contradictory to the idea of smaller government and would circumvent local control and infringe upon the Village's powers of local self-government; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Hiram Finance committee has recommended the passage of a Resolution expressing opposition to the centralized collection of municipal income taxes within the State of Ohio.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Hiram, Portage County, Ohio with at least two-thirds of the members thereto concurring that:

SECTION 1: This Council does hereby declare its strong opposition to any effort by the State of Ohio to take over the collection of municipal income taxes in Ohio, and urges the Governor, the Treasurer and the General Assembly to recognize the negative impact a centralized income tax collection would have on our community.

SECTION 2: The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Governor John Kasich, Treasurer Josh Mandel, Tax Commissioner Joseph Testa, and Local Representatives of the Ohio Legislature.

SECTION 3: This Resolution shall become effective after its lawful approval by a majority of the members elected to the Hiram Village Council at the earliest period allowed by law.

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SECTION 4: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this council concerning and relating to the adoption of the Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including §121.22 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio.

First Reading: March 13, 2012 *passed on 1st reading*
Second Reading: April 10, 2012
Third Reading: May 8, 2012

Mayor Lou Bertrand
Mayor Lou Bertrand

ATTEST:

Kay Ziska
Fiscal Officer

Approved as to Form:

Thomas Kelly
Solicitor

I Kay Ziska, Fiscal Officer of the Village of Hiram, Ohio, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution or Ordinance No. 2012-14 has been duly posted in the required 5 places.
3-14-12 Kay Ziska
Date Fiscal Officer, Village of Hiram