

Resolution opposing passage of Ohio Substitute Senate Bill 5

(COMMISSIONERS)

WHEREAS, since 1983 Ohio's collective bargaining law has provided a framework that has made strikes rare and short in duration, best protecting the public's health, safety and welfare, and ensuring the effective use of taxpayer dollars through local decision-making; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Substitute Senate Bill 5 would eliminate collective bargaining for individuals employed by the State of Ohio, having an undue impact on residents of Franklin County employed by the State of Ohio, and further, drastically curtail collective bargaining for all other public employees in the State of Ohio, including those employed by the local appointing authorities of Franklin County; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Substitute Senate Bill 5 would prohibit counties, cities, and other local government employers from continuing to negotiate employee benefit plan coverage and to set local community-based policy standards for public employment and benefits, such prohibition resulting in an unfunded state mandate, and impeding management efficiency and the effective use of tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes the fiscal stability and success of the County's Cooperative Benefit Program, achieved through sound actuarial advice and through the effective give-and-take actions of the managerial and labor members of the County's Joint Benefits committee; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that the Joint Benefits Committee has effectively managed growth in Benefit Program costs through coverage changes, higher employee deductibles, co-payments, and premium costs, and through other concessions that would have likely been prohibited by the unfunded mandates imposed by Substitute Senate Bill 5; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes the high quality public services that county employees render daily to residents and taxpayers, protecting the public health, safety and welfare of children, families, the aged, and the developmentally disabled, and by protecting public property, providing animal care and control, protecting the

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environment, and otherwise substantially ensuring that public health and safety are protected; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, FRANKLIN COUNTY OHIO:

1. That the General Assembly be urged to amend or defeat passage of Ohio Substitute Senate Bill 5 and further prohibit the passage of unfunded state mandates that impede local community-based decision-making;
2. That the General Assembly be urged to amend and modernize the Ohio collective bargaining law based on findings of fact and to review the impact of proposed changes on public health, safety, and welfare, consistent with due process and equal protection under the law;
3. That a copy of this Resolution be respectfully submitted to the Senate Committee Members and to all Franklin County delegation members of the Ohio General Assembly urging their action in accordance thereto.