

Resolution No. 731-2019

Council Members: Kelley, Griffin and J. Jones (by departmental request)

An emergency ordinance strongly urging the Ohio Governor and Members of the Ohio General Assembly to restore the Local Government Fund to pre-recession levels.

WHEREAS, the Local Government Fund was reduced in 2011 by 50% during the Kasich Administration, from 3.68% of General Revenue Funds to its current level of 1.66% of General Revenue Funds; and

WHEREAS, past Ohio General Assemblies have repeatedly decreased funding and revenue sharing in recent years in addition to significantly reducing the Local Government Fund, including eliminating the Estate Tax and phasing out the Tangible Personal Property Tax; and

WHEREAS, these reductions have resulted in a loss of revenue of \$163,207,902; and

WHEREAS, this sudden revenue loss has made it increasingly difficult to provide basic services, rebuild infrastructure, and bolster public safety services to fight the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, when municipalities experience success in fostering safe communities, building sound infrastructure, and increasing economic development, the State of Ohio reaps the benefits as well; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure providing for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health or safety in that a reinvestment of Local Government Fund would aid the state in its goal of lowering taxes on the individual by enabling municipalities to decrease the local tax burden; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. The Ohio General Assembly should restore the Local Government Fund to pre-recession levels, ensuring that these local communities are able to provide crucial services and improvements in infrastructure and public safety.

Section 2. This Council does hereby declare its opposition any further cuts to the Local Government Fund or the future diversion of revenues from the Local Government Fund.

Section 3. That this resolution is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted June 3, 2019.

Effective June 5, 2019.