

On motion of Mr. Hartmann, seconded by Mr. Monzel the following resolution was adopted.

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RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE WORKING STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR 2011 AND 2012

BY THE BOARD:

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners shall establish state legislative policy direction for the improvement of Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the national economic downturn on our local economy has been severe and the primary challenge facing Hamilton County remains providing services that meet state and federal mandates and satisfy the needs of the community in the midst of a challenging economic climate, while balancing the budget and replenishing County reserves; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes that the substantive state legislative changes needed to improve the local and regional economy, positively impact the County budget and improve service delivery to our citizens requires concentration on several key priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners supports the attached working state legislative agenda which shall be communicated to those representing Hamilton County as members of the Ohio General Assembly or before either chamber of Ohio's legislative branch; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio, that the attached state legislative agenda of the Board of Commissioners continues and reaffirms many desired policy initiatives of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be and hereby is directed to certify copies of this resolution to County Administrator Christian Sigman, to all members of Hamilton County's state legislative delegation and to all Elected Officials of Hamilton County.

ADOPTED at a regularly adjourned meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio this 23rd day of May, 2011.

Mr. Hartmann YES

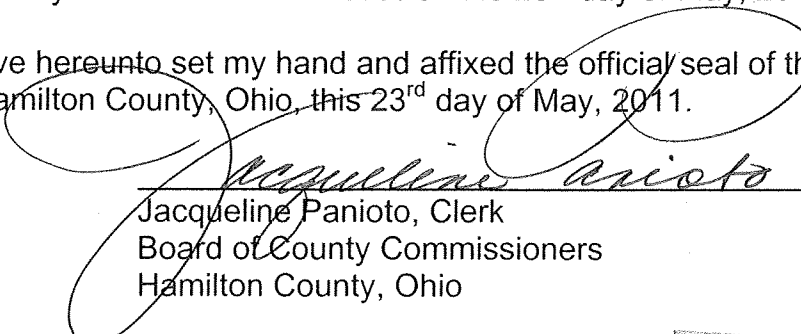
Mr. Monzel YES

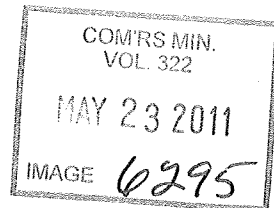
Mr. Portune YES

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in session the 23rd day of May, 2011.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Office of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio, this 23rd day of May, 2011.


Jacqueline Panioto, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Hamilton County, Ohio





Hamilton County

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Greg Hartmann
President
Phone (513) 946-4405
Fax (513) 946-4404

Board of County Commissioners

Christian Sigman
Administrator
Phone (513) 946-4420
Fax (513) 946-4444

Chris Monzel
Vice President
Phone (513) 946-4409
Fax (513) 946-4407

Room 603
County Administration Building
138 East Court Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Jacqueline Panioto
Clerk of the Board
Phone (513) 946-4414
Fax (513) 946-4444

Todd Portune
Phone (513) 946-4401
Fax (513) 946-4446

TDD/TTY: (513) 946-4719

www.hamilton-co.org

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners State Legislative Agenda 2011-2012

Updated: May 18, 2011

The Hamilton County Board of Commissioners has adopted the following state legislative agenda to lend further direction and constructive communication on policy matters of interest to those representing Hamilton County before the Ohio General Assembly. This working policy document will develop and adapt as state legislation evolves and new issues arise concerning Hamilton County.

General Legislative Areas of Interest:

- Economic development issues/assistance
- Criminal Justice System reform/cost relief legislation
- Regulations impacting municipal sewer district activity and ratepayer relief
- Unfunded mandates
- Shared Service/Centralized Service legislation

Pending Legislation/State Budget Issues of Interest:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| HB 153 | County Centralized Services (and Political Subdivision Shared Services)
Public Notice Reform (Statewide Public Notice Website)
Online advertising
Reduction in mandated share to JFS
Prevailing wage
Public construction reform |
| SB 143 | State whistle-blower protection to enable more expedient investigation of fraudulent activity |

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Requests For State Legislative Assistance:

1. **Retain Wireless 9-1-1 Surcharge:** In order to ensure the viability of local emergency communication systems, the State should make permanent the 28 cent wireless surcharge to assist in funding the operation of E 9-1-1 centers in Ohio.
2. **Commercial Building Permit Reform:** The Ohio Commercial Building Code requires that building departments review commercial applications for building permits in the order in which they were received. Counties should be provided specific legislative flexibility to review plans in a manner which allows for expedited review of projects that have significant local and/or economic development impacts. The current permit process as defined by Ohio law can add months to a waiting period to finalize permit approval for those working to create jobs in our community.
3. **Hamilton County DETAC pilot:** The legislature approved authority within Hamilton County alone to used surplus DETAC funding to support the general operations of the County Prosecutor and County Treasurer. This authority ends June 30, 2011. The Hamilton County Commission, Prosecutor and Treasurer support the continued use of DETAC funding to support these offices during this difficult financial period.
4. **Port Authority and Freight Infrastructure Corridor Improvements:**
 - (A.) Support all aspects of the three-pronged mission of the reformed Port Development Authority around 1) operation of an inland seaport intermodal facility; and 2) bond funded development program; and 3) brownfield redevelopment; and
 - (B.) Pursuit of all available state funding to eliminate congestion in the Mill Creek Corridor; address infrastructure limitations, including highway to rail access and warehouse space at the Queensgate Yard; and better access into and egress from the Sharonville Rail Yard.
5. **Transportation Improvement District Budget Requests:** Budgets for TIDs no longer provide for a blanket funding authorization for Districts but instead will provide for a maximum of \$250,000.00 per TID project. The Hamilton County TID, one of the more active TIDs in Ohio, has presented to ODOT a TID Budget request for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013 to support the Eastern Corridor Project, The Freight Infrastructure Corridor Improvements; the MLK Interchange; The Columbia Roundabout project; and the Brent Spence Bridge.

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County Commissioners Association of Ohio - Areas of Legislative Interest

All subject page references cited from "2011-2012 County Commissioners Association of Ohio Legislative Program."

○ **General Government & Operations (p.7)**

- A. COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. OFFICE SPACE:** Health Department office space should be treated as part of operating costs, and thus be funded by the voted health levies or member jurisdiction assessments instead of the County general fund.
- B. COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE:** County authority to enable commissioners to share, combine or reorganize, in a larger district, the duties of the county coroner and duties of dog warden. Similar to a number of recommendations generated by the Hamilton County Government Reform Task Force, Hamilton County supports legislative authority to pursue opportunities to share services and create efficiencies to generate cost savings.

○ **Health & Human Services (p. 13)**

- C. COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION LAW:**
- Enhanced ability for Commissioner to review and revise budget of VSC, especially as it pertains to administrative and operation expenses.
 - Additional checks and balances to assure service delivery and cost efficiency.
 - Federal Dept. of Veterans Services should fund any mandated training, rather than County VSC.
 - Commissioners should appoint veterans to VSC instead of judges.
- D. MANDATED SHARE OF HUMAN SERVICES:** Eliminate mandate that general fund pay a formula share to JFS; if cannot eliminate mandate share, limit the maximum increase to not more than the previous year's increase in the consumer price index.

○ **Jobs, Economic Development & Infrastructure (p. 17)**

- E. TAX ABATEMENT/COMMISSIONER APPROVAL:** Require notification and consent of each board of commissioners affected by property tax abatement or TIF that a township or municipal corporation grants within a county.

○ **Public Safety & Criminal Justice (p. 25)**

- F. PROBATION REFORM:**
- Develop statewide probation supervision standards and data collection.
 - Consolidation of various courts' probation departments into a single, county-wide probation department.
- G. DISTRIBUTIONS OF FINES AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PROSECUTION:** State law change to distribute all fine revenues to the jurisdiction that operates the police agency that made the arrest - with stipulation that the jurisdiction also enter into intergovernmental agreements with the County to share the local costs of prosecution, indigent defense, and incarceration.
- H. INDIGENT DEFENSE:** Supporting CCAO's efforts at maintaining minimum levels of state funded indigent criminal defense at no less than 50% of the total cost of the public defender's office in addition to efforts to relieve all or most of the local funding requirement.

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Additional CCAO Legislative Priorities Of Interest to Hamilton County (cont'd)

○ **Taxation and Finance (p. 29)**

- I. **ADVERTISEMENT OF DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES:** Legislation to establish a dollar threshold below which the listing of delinquent property taxes would not have to be advertised in news papers. Allow full delinquent property tax list to be published on Internet.

- J. **ALLOCATION OF LODGING TAX REVENUES TO COUNTY GENERAL FUND:** At least 2/3 of 3% lodging tax must be placed in special fund to benefit CVB. Under existing law, none of the revenue collected by County from lodging tax may be placed in general fund. Amend the law to permit a board of commissioners to reduce the percentage earmarked for the CVB and divert to general fund.