

BEREA CITY COUNCIL

City of Berea, Ohio

ORDINANCE NO. 2024- __

By: _____

Sponsor: Council President Jim Maxwell &
Councilman At-Large Gene Zacharyasz

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING STATE LEGISLATION TO CONTROL INCREASES IN PROPERTY VALUES FOR TAX PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, property tax assessments play a pivotal role in the fiscal outlook of a region, shaping not only government revenues but also the economic well-being of property owners; and

WHEREAS, fluctuations in property tax assessments directly impact property owners, and high valuations lead to increased tax burdens; and

WHEREAS, these increased tax burdens directly affect Senior Citizens, families with children, those on fixed incomes, and those with mortgage tax escrow accounts; and

WHEREAS, a common trend with property taxes is that the more populated the county, the higher the property tax is likely to be, and with a population of over 1.2 million residents, Cuyahoga County stands as one of the most populous counties in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Homeowners Relief Act, or H.B. 187, is a response to historic taxable property value hikes, initially upward of 40% in some counties, expected in counties undergoing reappraisals in the wake of pandemic-induced skyrocketing property values; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 187 would have empowered local elected officials with regard to property tax assessments, and would have taken effect for Tax Year 2023, as several counties braced for sizeable property tax increases; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 187 passed out of the House of Representatives by a vote of 58-26, and was amended in the Senate to an expanded homestead exemption which passed by a vote of 31-0; and

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives chose not to take any action on H.B. 187 during the last session of 2023, and has continued to take no action in 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berea, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the City of Berea hereby supports and urges the Ohio

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Legislature to move H.B. 187 forward, making changes to the law governing real property valuation.

SECTION 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to send copies of this Resolution to State Representative Thomas Patton and State Senator Matt Dolan.

SECTION 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the approval of this Resolution were approved in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED:

President of Council

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of Council

APPROVED:

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Director of Law