

**RESOLUTION NO. 04- 2003**

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**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE CUTS IN THE  
STATE BIENNIAL BUDGET THAT WOULD IMPACT TOWNSHIPS AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND  
READING**

**WHEREAS**, due to the current economic climate and the General Assembly and the Administration of Governor Bob Taft's desire to be fiscally responsible, cuts to the current FY 2003/2004 State Budget are being considered; and,

**WHEREAS**, townships are dependent on the state budget for the provision of many necessary services to the residents of their townships; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the West Chester Township Board of Trustees understanding that one of the options under consideration may be the elimination or reduction of Ohio's Local Government Funds which are a major source of revenue to the township and other local units of government in the county; and,

**WHEREAS**, also under consideration are line item cuts in the state budget that will significantly affect the ability of townships to provide services and administer mandated state programs in such areas as human services, children's services, child support enforcement, juvenile justice, adult corrections, legal services for indigent defendants, and other areas.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Chester Township Board of Trustees does hereby agree to:

**Section 1.** Oppose any additional reductions to Ohio's Local Government Funds, a primary source of revenue to the township and many other local governments in Butler County. Any discussions about the elimination of such funding for local governments is irresponsible and will result in the reduction of vital township services or the increase of local taxes, or both.

**Section 2.** Oppose a general across the board line item cut to the state budget. Such across the board cuts to each line item will have a negative impact on various subsidy accounts that are distributed to townships and will have significant negative consequences to programs administered by townships that are mandated by the state including public defender services, juvenile justice programs, adult corrections programs, TANF, child welfare services, child care programs, child support enforcement, and others. Such cuts will have the net result of reduced services or local tax increases, or both.

**Section 3.** Urge the Taft Administration and the Ohio General Assembly to prudently tap Ohio's rainy day fund and enhance revenues to solve the state budget problem without transferring the burden to local units of government. The Board of Trustees, in particular, supports the elimination of certain current exemptions from the state sales and use tax to assist in permanently making up the long-term revenue shortfall being experienced by the state. The elimination of certain

sales tax exemptions will also have the effect of enhancing township revenue from the permissive sales and use tax, as township receipts from this source of township revenue are also on the decline.

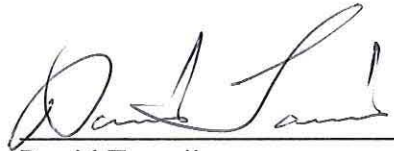
**Section 4.** Urge the General Assembly and the Taft Administration to take great care in the enactment of new legislation that will mandate new costs on township government.


**Section 5.** Urge the General Assembly and the Taft Administration to enact various legislative proposals that will give townships additional options to raise revenue locally and to allow townships additional flexibility to make programs more efficient and cost effective as has been proposed by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio.

**Section 6.** Direct the Township Administrator to distribute this resolution to all applicable individuals and agencies whose decisions may be affected by this resolution.

**This resolution shall be adopted as an emergency necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or welfare of the community.**


Adopted the 28th day of January, 2003

  
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David Tacosik


  
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Catherine Stoker

  
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Jose Alvarez

**ATTEST:**

  
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Patricia Williams, Township Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
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Donald L. Crain, Law Director

## CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

<hr/>	First Reading
Date	
<u>January 28, 2003</u>	
<hr/>	Emergency Reading
Date	
<hr/>	Second Reading
Date	
<u>February 4, 2003 Journal News</u>	First Publication
Date and Newspaper	(After Approval)
<u>February 6, 2003 Pulse Journal</u>	
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<u>February 10, 2003 Journal News</u>	Second Publication
Date and Newspaper	(After Approval)
<u>February 13, 2003 Pulse Journal</u>	
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<u>Patricia Williams 2/12/03</u>	Certificate of Publication
Clerk Signature & Date	