

**RESOLUTION NO. 45- 2001**

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**RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND EXPRESSING CONCERNS ABOUT POSSIBLE CUTS IN THE STATE BIENNIAL BUDGET THAT WOULD IMPACT TOWNSHIPS AND REQUESTING THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE TAFT ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS TO SOLVE THE STATE BUDGET PROBLEM AND DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND READING**

**WHEREAS**, on November 13, 2001, at a regular West Chester Township Board of Trustees meeting, Resolution 45-2001 was presented as a 1<sup>st</sup> Reading; however, after discussion the Board of Trustees determined the necessity and importance of expediting the approval of said resolution, it was motioned and unanimously agreed to declare Resolution 45-2001 an emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that the General Assembly and the Administration of Governor Bob Taft is considering cuts to the current FY 2002/2003 State Budget as a result of the third ruling in the DeRolph school funding court case and because state revenue projections have been revised downward by \$1 Billion; and

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

**WHEREAS**, this township understands that one of the options under consideration is 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; and

**WHEREAS**, various methods to enhance state revenues are under consideration including the utilization of Ohio's "rainy day fund", the elimination of certain current state tax exemptions, and selected tax increases.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Chester Township Trustees do 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 this 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 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.

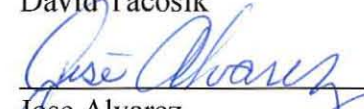
**Section 5.** also urge the General Assembly and the Taft Administration to enact various legislative proposals that will give townships additional options to raise revenue locally and to allow townships additional flexibility to make programs more efficient and cost effective as has been proposed by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


**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the West Chester Township Board of Trustees direct the Township Administrator to send copies of this resolution to Governor Bob Taft; Office of Budget and Management Director, Tom Johnson; Senate President Richard Finan; Senate Minority Leader, Leigh Herrington; Speaker Larry Householder; House Minority Leader Dean DePiero; Representative Gary Cates; Senator Scott Nein; and to the County Commissioners Association of Ohio.

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

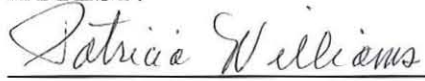
Adopted the 13th day of November, 2001

  
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David Tacosik

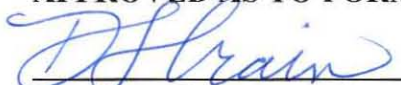
  
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Jose Alvarez

  
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Catherine Stoker

**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	
November 13, 2001	
<hr/>	Emergency Reading
Date	
<hr/>	Second Reading
Date	
November 26, 2001 Journal News	First Publication
Date and Newspaper	(After Approval)
November 28, 2001 Pulse Journal	
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December 3, 2001 Journal News	Second Publication
Date and Newspaper	(After Approval)
December 5, 2001 Pulse Journal	
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<i>Patricia Williams, 1/4/02</i>	Certificate of Publication
Clerk Signature & Date	