

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-65

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO TO STRONGLY URGE THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RESTORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND TO PRE-RECESSION LEVELS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**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 an average annual loss of revenue from these combined sources exceeding \$1,000,000; 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**, 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 Kent, Portage County, Ohio, at least three-fourths (3/4) of all members elected thereto concurring:

**SECTION 1.** That Council of Kent, Ohio urges the Ohio General Assembly to 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.** That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted 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 action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 3.** That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: June 19, 2019  
Date

J T Fiala  
Jerry T. Fiala  
Mayor and President of Council

EFFECTIVE: June 19, 2019  
Date

ATTEST: Dawn Bishop  
Dawn Bishop  
Interim Clerk of Council

I, DAWN BISHOP, INTERIM CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF MINUTES/ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAWN BISHOP  
INTERIM CLERK OF COUNCIL  
(SEAL)