

## RESOLUTION 2023 - 048

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO VOTE "NO" ON ISSUE 1 ON AUGUST 8, 2023, TO MAINTAIN OHIOAN'S FREEDOM TO PLACE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ON THE BALLOT, UPHOLD THE SACRED PRINCIPLE OF "ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE", AND CURTAIL THIS BLATANT POWER GRAB BY POLITITIANS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS:** Ohioans have had the right to amend their Ohio Constitution through a simple majority for 110 years; and

**WHEREAS:** Ohioans granted themselves the freedom to place Constitutional Amendments directly on the ballot in response to a legislature that had become one of the most corrupt in the country, refusing to heed to the will of the people; and

**WHEREAS:** the Ohio General Assembly all but outlawed special elections in August during Lame Duck session in December 2022 with the passage of HB 458; and

**WHEREAS:** the legislature has called for an illegal special election for special interests known as Issue 1 on August 8 that will waste millions of precious tax dollars and put unnecessary strain on Boards of Elections; and

**WHEREAS:** Issue 1 would end majority rule by raising the threshold for passage to 60%, thus giving 40% of the voters the ability to block the will of the majority; and

**WHEREAS:** Issue 1 would undermine the sacred principle of one person one vote; and

**WHEREAS:** the process to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot is already extremely difficult, requiring the collection of hundreds of thousands of valid signatures from 44 of Ohio's 88 counties; and

**WHEREAS:** by including the need to collect a certain threshold of signatures from all 88 counties almost guarantees that only super wealthy out of state interests will be able to afford to try to amend our constitution; and

**WHEREAS:** Issue 1 would eliminate the grace period where signature campaigns can submit more signatures if necessary; and

**WHEREAS:** some of the best policies in Ohio have been passed for and by the people through Constitutional Initiatives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio:

**SECTION 1.** That Kent City Council opposes the legislatures attempt to create an August special election for special interests;

**SECTION 2.** That Kent City Council will do everything in our power to make our citizens aware of the August 8th special election for special interests;

**SECTION 3.** That Kent City Council believes that citizens should vote NO on Issue 1 to maintain Ohioans freedom to place constitutional amendments on the ballot, uphold the sacred principle of "one person, one vote", and curtail this blatant power grab by politicians and special interests.

**SECTION 4.** 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 5.** 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: August 2, 2023  
Date

EFFECTIVE: August 2, 2023  
Date

ATTEST: Amy Wilkens  
Amy Wilkens, CMC  
Clerk of Council

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

I, AMY WILKENS, 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 RESOLUTION No. 2023-048, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON August 2, 2023.

(SEAL)

Amy Wilkens  
AMY WILKENS, CMC  
CLERK OF COUNCIL