

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Urging Removal of 30% Reserve Cap & Support for Full Fair School Funding Phase-In

Good afternoon Senator Hicks-Hudson,

First and foremost, I appreciate your time in reading my email regarding HB 335.

As the Treasurer/CFO of Ottawa Hills Local School District, I am writing to express my concern regarding House Bill 335 and its proposed changes related to inside millage adjustments.

While I understand the intent to provide property tax stability for residents, the removal of inside millage increases would have a significant and lasting impact on districts like ours. When reappraisals occur, any increases to inside millage represent one of the few opportunities for school districts not at the 20-mill floor to realize modest growth in local revenue. Eliminating these adjustments would reduce collections by hundreds of thousands of dollars when they occur, which are funds that directly support classroom instruction, student programming, and facility maintenance.

Unlike districts at the 20-mill floor, Ottawa Hills Local and similar districts do not see other increases in real estate collections unless we go to our voters for new levy dollars. HB 335 would effectively remove one of the only natural revenue growth mechanisms we have, placing an even greater burden on local taxpayers when new levies become necessary.

I urge you to consider the unintended consequences of this bill on Ohio's high-performing districts that rely on stable and predictable funding to meet the needs of our students and communities.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue and for your continued service to Ohio's public schools.

Sincerely,

Tom Siloy
Treasurer/CFO
Ottawa Hills Local School District

