

RESOLUTION NO.: 13 -2012

INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Ursu and All of Council

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE STATE OF OHIO FROM SEEKING TO
TAKE CONTROL OF MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS, AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Ohio Governor and his staff are actively studying the feasibility and viability of consolidating and centralizing the collection of municipal income taxes and have suggested that the State take over the collection of municipal income taxes;

WHEREAS, with recent reductions in the Local Government Fund and changes to the Estate Tax laws, municipalities are suffering severe losses in revenue;

WHEREAS, local income tax is the largest source of revenue for the City of Richmond Heights and likely for all municipalities in Ohio;

WHEREAS, the timing and distribution of State-collected revenues to municipalities could very well negatively impact the City's cash flow;

WHEREAS, any disruption or interference with the current collection process will be harmful to financial operations of the City;

WHEREAS, the current system of municipal tax collections has proven to be efficient and economical and tax collection agencies contracting with municipalities, such as the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) in Northeast Ohio, provide much needed and appreciated services such as collection services and legal services associated with collections.

WHEREAS, this Council desires to declare its strong opposition to the State of Ohio taking over collection of municipal income taxes from the City of Richmond Heights, Ohio, for the reasons set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Richmond Heights, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council does hereby declare its opposition to any action by the State of Ohio to take over the collection of municipal income taxes and urges state legislators to reject and oppose any legislation that proposes collection and/or control of municipal income taxes to the State of Ohio.

SECTION 2. The Clerk is directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the attention of Governor John R. Kasich, Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor, the Tax Commissioner of

the State of Ohio, Joseph W. Testa, State Senator Nina Turner and State Representative Kenny Yuko.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare, such necessity existing by reason of the fact that the immediate passage is necessary to advise the City's elected state officials of the City's opposition to any action by the State to collect or control municipal income tax; wherefore, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: _____

Daniel J. Ursu, Mayor

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____

Betsy Traben
Clerk of Council

David H. Roche
President of Council