



OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

MICHAEL H. COCHRAN, Executive Director
6500 Taylor Road, Suite A • Blacklick, Ohio 43004
(614) 863-0045 • Fax (614) 863-9751
www.OhioTownships.org

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Larry Johns
09280 Glynwood Road
Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895

1st VICE PRESIDENT
Gregory A. Hanahan
13900 State Route 725 W.
Germanstown, Ohio 45327-9710

2nd VICE PRESIDENT
Tom Willsey
3421 New London Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

SECRETARY-TREASURER
Diane Delaplane
3023 Ridge Drive
Greenville, Ohio 45331

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Donald Barzak
5799 Warner Road
Kinsman, Ohio 44428-9617

Emil P. Bolas
6345 Beach Road
Wadsworth, Ohio 44281-9748

Shirlee Bostdorff
18745 Brim Road
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Perry Brock
554 County Road 120
South Point, Ohio 45680-8770

Deana Detwiler
2209 County Road 69
Edison, Ohio 43320

Belle Everett
4376 Moravian Church Road
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Scott Fabian
126 Montgomery Lane
Mingo Junction, Ohio 43938

Connie Fink
2645 Fawn Lane
Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Ralph Jennings
8061 Love Road
Hampersville, Ohio 45130

R.J. Lumbrezer
11475 State Route 120
Lyons, Ohio 43533

Tim Lynch
7461 Township Road 70
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Janie Spade
1683 Route 45 S., P.O. Box 11
Austinburg, Ohio 44010-0011

Jackie Terwilliger
10609 Roachester-Cozaddale Rd.
Goshen, Ohio 45122

Dennis Tippie
2342 N. Wilkins Road
Swanton, Ohio 43558-9445

Richard Wallace
4979 Nickelson Road
Prospect, Ohio 43342

Marcella Wolfe
156 Clayburne Blvd.
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

May 11, 2009

The Honorable Bill Seitz
Ohio Senate
Ohio Statehouse - Senate Office Building
Columbus, OH 43215

Bill
Dear Senator Seitz:

Re: Support for SB 90

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA), I would like to offer our support for Senate Bill 90, which permits local governments to exempt homes that have been vacant for at least twelve months from property taxation for up to three years when purchased by an owner-occupant.

With the downturn in the economy, the number of abandoned and vacant homes is on the rise. It is often the case that the local governments are stuck providing the outside maintenance on these homes with the cost to provide such services charged to the tax duplicate. Townships, just like municipalities, are seeking creative ways to help revitalize communities and encourage home ownership in blighted areas. Senate Bill 90 provides townships with an incentive tool to do just that.

Senate Bill 90 is permissive in nature and the OTA is generally supportive of permissive legislation. A township may exempt property taxes if they so choose but would not be required to do so. The board of trustees in each township would make the decision that is best for their community.

The OTA appreciates that this bill would not give any other jurisdiction the right to exempt township property taxes. The single largest source of revenue for townships comes from real property taxes. Unlike cities that have the income tax and counties that have the sales tax, townships may only levy the property tax.

The Ohio Township Association supports SB 90 and we look forward to working with you to pass this measure. Should you have any questions or concerns or would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Cochran
Executive Director

MHC:hf

