



Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships
CLOUT
Legislative Priorities for the 129th General Assembly

PRIORITIES

Permit townships to set their own speed limits.

Revise annexation laws (use of roads in annexation process, exclude township owned land from property that can be included in petition, and detachment by township of annexed land).

Repeal prevailing wage law or increase the threshold to \$250,000 per project.

Tax Abatements - give townships the same standing as schools in incorporated areas if township and city are still connected.

Protection of all revenue streams. Any changes to state tax policy must be done with full consideration of the impact that such changes will have on township resources.

Permit home rule townships to approve or reject all subdivision regulations within their jurisdiction. Townships should be able to adopt their own subdivision regulations or, at the very least, propose changes to plat and subdivision regulations. A clear voice in the process is needed.

Permit a home rule township enforcement authority of building codes.

Clarify existing JEDD laws to make it easier for communities to join together and permit all political subdivisions, not just those in charter counties, to use all types of JEDDs that are currently in the R.C.

Permit townships to regulate the placement of all cellular towers within their respective jurisdictions. At the very least, notice should be given to all surrounding property owners and to the township officials prior to the erection of a cellular tower, regardless of zoning classification.

Permissive authority allowing townships to handle drainage issues.

Permit a township to have their own court system or remove the language in the ORC that details which court a township must use.

Permit townships to have true general welfare zoning, just like municipalities. In the 125th General Assembly, the legislature gave and then took away broad authority for townships to pass zoning resolutions for the general welfare of the community, specifically in residential areas. Litigation has muddled the precise state of the law on this question.

Permit townships that meet certain density requirements to place restrictions on the discharge of firearms in the densely populated areas.

Eliminate the bidding requirement for lighting districts where only one company can service the district.

Require ODOT to place the name of a township with a population greater than 5,000 on Exit signs from state and interstate routes, as a means of defining them as a place.