

# ETHICS FIRST – YOU DECIDE OHIO

March 4, 2016

Hon. Mike DeWine  
Ohio Attorney General  
30 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215



Re: Summary Petition for Ethics First – You Decide Ohio Committee

Dear Attorney General DeWine:

In accordance with R.C. § 3519.01(A), enclosed is a petition seeking your approval of a summary of a constitutional amendment to be proposed by initiative petition. The petition includes a proposed summary and the full text of the proposed constitutional amendment, identifies the three individuals designated to represent the petitioners in all matters related to the petition and its circulation, and contains ~~51~~<sup>195</sup> signatures on 61 part-petitions. A list of the part-petitions and number of signatures, by county, is enclosed.

Kindly direct all correspondence regarding this matter to Ron Alban at [ron.alban55@gmail.com](mailto:ron.alban55@gmail.com).

Thank you.

Ron Alban

COUNTY	SECTIONS	SIGNATURES
Ashland	2	12
Crawford	1	2
Cuyahoga	40	1543
Franklin	1	10
Hamilton	4	39
Huron	2	17
Lorain	10	325
Montgomery	1	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>1954</b>

**RECEIVED**  
 MAR 04 2016  
 Ohio Attorney General  
 Constitutional Offices Section

**Petition Submitted to the Attorney General for  
Certification of Summary of Amendment to the Constitution  
to be Proposed by Initiative Petition  
as required under Ohio Revised Code 3519.01(A)**

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MAR 04 2016

Ohio Attorney General  
Constitutional Offices Section

**PROPOSED SUMMARY**

This Amendment would add a new section 43 to Article II of the Ohio Constitution, which would provide that, in Ohio:

- A. All laws that apply to the people of Ohio and its political subdivisions shall apply equally to the members and employees of the general assembly.
- B. A person who becomes a former member of the general assembly after January 2, 2017, shall not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before any member or employee of the general assembly for two years after becoming a former member of the general assembly.
- C. The annual compensation of members of the general assembly shall not exceed the annual median household income in Ohio, as periodically ascertained by the state auditor, except that members who serve as officers of the general assembly may receive additional annual compensation up to forty percent of the compensation they receive as members.
- D. Effective January 1, 2018, all records that document the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the general assembly shall be maintained for at least four years in such manner that the records are under the direct control of the State of Ohio.
- E. Taxpayers shall have standing to file a lawsuit to compel compliance with any provision of the Amendment and shall be entitled to recover their costs and reasonable attorney fees if they are successful.
- F. All provisions of the Amendment shall be self-executing and severable, and shall supersede all conflicting laws.

**COMMITTEE TO REPRESENT THE PETITIONERS**

The following persons are designated as a committee to represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the petition or its circulation:

Ronald C. Alban  
3313 Lenox Drive  
Kettering, Ohio 45429

Timothy F. Boggs  
512 Forest Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43206

John F. Boyle, Jr.  
32105 Woodsdale Lane  
Solon, Ohio 43040

## **FULL TEXT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

### **Title: The Ohio Ethics First Amendment**

Be it resolved by the people of the State of Ohio that Article II, Section 43 of the Ohio Constitution be adopted and read as follows:

#### Article II

#### § 43. Raising the Ethical Standards of the General Assembly

(A) All laws that apply to the people of this state and its political subdivisions, including laws requiring the payment of state and local taxes, shall apply equally to the members and employees of the general assembly.

(B) A former member of the general assembly, for a period of two years after becoming a former member of the general assembly, shall not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before any member or employee of the general assembly. This division shall not apply to any person who became a former member on or before January 2, 2017.

(C) The annual fixed compensation that members of the general assembly shall receive for their service as members shall not exceed the annual median household income in Ohio, which shall be ascertained by the auditor of state in January of each even-numbered year, with any adjustment to the compensation limit to take effect the following January 1. Members may receive additional annual fixed compensation for their service as officers of the general assembly, which shall not exceed forty percent of the annual fixed compensation for their service as members.

(D) All records, including electronic records, which serve to document the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the general assembly, shall be maintained in a manner such that the records are under the direct control of the State of Ohio. All such records shall be maintained for at least four years after their creation. This division shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

(E) Any taxpayer or class of taxpayers shall have standing to file a lawsuit for equitable relief to compel compliance with any provision of this section and, if successful, shall be entitled to an award of costs and reasonable attorney fees.

(F) All provisions of this section shall be self-executing and severable, and shall supersede all conflicting state and local laws.

**STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR**

I, Dennis Wolfe, declare under penalty of election falsification that I am the circulator of the foregoing petition paper containing the signatures of 3 electors, that the signatures appended hereto were made and appended in my presence on the date set opposite each respective name, and are the signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be or of attorneys in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, and that the electors signing this petition did so with knowledge of the contents of same. I am employed to circulate this petition by Electro Systems Inc  
5676 El Camino Real Ste Carlsbad Ca 92008  
(Name and address of employer). (The preceding sentence shall be completed as required by section 3501.38 of the Revised Code if the circulator is being employed to circulate the petition.)

I further declare under penalty of election falsification in accordance with section 3501.38 of the Revised Code that I witnessed the affixing of every signature to the foregoing petition paper, that all signers were to the best of my knowledge and belief qualified to sign, and that every signature is to the best of my knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code.

Dennis Wolfe  
(Signed)

(Address of circulator's permanent residence)

3764 US 234 E lot 48  
Number and Street, Road, or Rural Route

Mecanwach OH 44837  
City, State, Zip

**WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION  
IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE**