

TEMPORARY RESOLUTION NO. 71-18

PERMANENT RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO INVEST THE STATE BUDGET SURPLUS IN MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have been advised of Ohio Governor John Kasich's proposal to use the projected State of Ohio budget surplus of \$147 million at the end of the biennium to fund an income tax withholding reduction and bring the state's rainy day fund to its maximum legal limit; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Ohio General Assembly have repeatedly decreased funding and revenue sharing in recent years by way of significantly reducing the Local Government Fund, eliminating the Estate Tax, phasing out the Tangible Personal Property Tax, mandating a five year operating carryforward provision for Municipal Income Tax, and eliminating the "throwback" provision in our Municipal Income Tax code; and

WHEREAS, these reductions have resulted in an annual revenue loss of nearly \$2.6 million, representing more than 13% of Lancaster's General Fund operating budget; and

WHEREAS, this sudden revenue loss has made it increasingly difficult to provide basic services, rebuild infrastructure, and bolster public safety services to fight the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, when municipalities experience success in fostering safe communities, building sound infrastructure, and increasing economic development, the State of Ohio reaps the benefits as well;

BE IT RESOLVED BY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, STATE OF OHIO.

SECTION 1. The Ohio General Assembly should distribute the budget surplus revenue to Ohio's municipalities at the end of the biennium, ensuring that these local communities are able to provide crucial services and improvements in infrastructure and public safety.

SECTION 2. This Council does hereby declare its opposition to Governor Kasich and the Ohio General Assembly depositing the state budget surplus into the rainy day fund and an income tax withholding reduction.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: _____ after _____ reading. Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

Approved: _____

President of Council

Clerk: _____

Mayor

Offered by: _____

Second by: _____

Requested by Finance Committee