

The Honorable John Bocchieri
Ohio Senate Statehouse
Ground Floor, Room 50
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Boardman Township

Dear Senator Bocchieri,

As a resident of Boardman Township, I am writing to you today to express my deep concern with the Taft Administration's economic policy that has left many local governments scrambling for resources that have been taken away by the state.

Boardman Township, the 10th largest township in the state with a population of over 42,500, is facing many economic challenges. In Boardman, we serve over 100,000 shoppers and visitors who consume our Police, Fire, and Road safety services every day yet these visitors do not contribute to their cost. In addition, Boardman generates over 60% of the total sales tax in Mahoning County -- yet our citizens only enjoy a small fraction of that back to fund Township services.

But, we can solve our challenges with your help. To help us fund our vital services and to spread the cost of these services more equitably, ***I am asking you to introduce legislation to allow large urban townships, like Boardman, the ability to add up to a 1/4% sales tax to help provide for our Police, Fire, and Road services.*** This sales and use tax would allow all of us to benefit from the services that the Township provides without putting an undue burden on our residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,