

## **PROPOSED TAX LEVY -SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

### **Elida Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)**

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Elida Local School District for the purpose of permanent improvements that the county auditor estimates will collect \$374,00 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$26 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024.

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

### **Lima City Schools - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)**

Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Lima City School District for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the School District in the sum of \$2,278,000 per year, and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average 6.709 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$235 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value for a period of 10 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025?

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

### **Perry Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Substitute)**

Shall a tax levy substituting for an existing levy be imposed by the Perry Local School District for the purpose of providing for the necessary requirements of the school district in the initial sum of \$500,000, and a levy of taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to require 3.287 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$115 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value for the initial year of the tax, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024, with the sum of such tax to increase only if and as new land or real property improvements not previously taxed by the school district are added to its tax list?

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

### **Shawnee Local School District - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)**

Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Shawnee Local School District for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$2,150,000 and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average 3.931 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$138 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value for a period of 10 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025?

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

## PROPOSED TAX LEVY

### Bath Township - Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal)

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Bath Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefore, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of permanent, part-time or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers' contribution required under Section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company that the county auditor estimates will collect \$789,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 3 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$77 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

### Bath Township - Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)

An additional tax for the benefit of Bath Township for the purpose of for providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs that the county auditor estimates will collect \$740,000 annually, at rate not exceeding 2.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$88 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024.

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

ide of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average 6.709 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$235 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value for a period of 10 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025?

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage*

### **Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) Perry Township**

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Perry Township for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required under Section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs that the county auditor estimates will collect \$54,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$11 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

*A majority affirmative action vote is necessary for passage.*

### **Village of Elida - Proposed Tax Levy (Additional)**

An additional tax for the benefit of Village of Elida for the purpose of providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department, for the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.33 of the Revised Code, for the payment of the costs incurred by townships as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection, for the provision of ambulance or emergency medical services operated by a police department, or for the payment of other related costs that the county auditor estimates will collect \$215,000 annually, at rate not exceeding 4.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$158 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2023, first due in calendar year 2024.

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

## **PROPOSED LOCAL OPTIONS**

### **Delphos 2A - Local Liquor Option for Particular Use at Business Location (By Petition)**

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by JNW III Rustic Cafe LLC dba Rustic Cafe, an applicant for a D6 liquor permit, who is engaged in the business of bar and restaurant at 107 E Second St., 1st Floor, Delphos, Ohio 45833, in this precinct?

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

### **Lima 3B - Local Liquor Option for Particular Use at a Business Location (By Petition)**

Shall the sale of wine and mixed beverages and spirituous liquor be permitted for sale on Sunday by Hollander on Main, L.L.C., an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit, who is engaged in the business of operating a restaurant at 134-136 N. Main Street, 1st floor & patio, Lima, Ohio 45801, in this precinct?

*A majority affirmantive vote is necessary for passage.*

## **PROPOSED TAX LEVY – MENTAL HEALTH**

### **Mental Health and Recovery Services**

A renewal of a tax for the benefit of the Mental Health & Recovery Services of Allen, Auglaize and Hardin Counties for the purpose of current operating expenses, that the county auditor estimates will collect \$3,691,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 1 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$28 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years. commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025

*A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.*

## **ISSUE ONE BALLOT EXPLANATION**

### **Certified Ballot Language**

#### **Explanation:**

A "yes" vote supports amending the Ohio Constitution to:

- establish a state constitutional right to "make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions," including decisions about abortion, contraception, fertility treatment, miscarriage care, and continuing pregnancy;
- prohibit the state of Ohio from interfering with this constitutional right, except when the state demonstrates "that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care;"

- allow the state to restrict abortion after fetal viability, defined as "the point in a pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measures;" and
- prohibit the state of Ohio from banning abortion when, in the professional judgment of a physician, an abortion "is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health."

A "**no**" vote opposes amending the Ohio Constitution to establish the constitutional right to "make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions." This, then, allows the General Assembly to pass legislation banning or restricting abortion and other reproductive decisions.

**Pros:**

1. This amendment would restore the rights and protections for Ohioans that were eliminated by the U.S. Supreme Court's 2022 decision (*Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*) in which the court held that the U.S. Constitution does not confer a right to abortion.
2. The amendment would restore rights and protections for Ohioans that were guaranteed in 1973 by a U.S. Supreme Court decision (*Roe v. Wade*) that held the right to privacy under the 14th Amendment protected abortion as a fundamental right at least up until the time of fetal viability.
3. The amendment would establish that the doctor-patient relationship in Ohio ensures that individuals are empowered to make their own reproductive health decisions without interference from the government.
4. The amendment would establish that every individual in Ohio has the right to make reproductive decisions including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion. This is important for underserved populations, especially those with limited resources.
5. The amendment does not address gender affirming care issues.
6. The amendment does not address or change any laws involving parental rights over minors.

**Cons:**

1. The amendment would prohibit the Ohio General Assembly from regulating reproductive health decisions, including abortion, contraception, fertility treatment, continuation of pregnancies, and miscarriage care.
2. While the amendment says it allows a health exception for abortions after viability, it uses language that has been interpreted by the courts to include mental, financial, and social health—making it effectively impossible to enforce any protections for the fetus.
3. The amendment could only be changed by voters through a subsequent amendment. The policy on abortion should not be in the state constitution, but in state laws.
4. The amendment states that "every individual" has the right to carry out one's own reproductive decisions. This language could be interpreted by courts to mean that "every individual" includes minors, threatening parental consent laws on the medical care of minors.

5. The amendment states that reproductive decisions are "not limited to" contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion. This "not limited" language could be interpreted to include gender affirming care.
6. The State of Ohio, through the elected members of the General Assembly, should be able to enact laws that attempt to protect fetal life as much as possible.

## **ISSUE TWO BALLOT EXPLANATION**

**This is an Act (law) which could be amended or repealed by the General Assembly and is NOT an amendment to the Ohio Constitution.**

### **Explanation:**

If approved by voters, the initiated statute, titled An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis (the "Act"), would legalize and regulate the cultivation, manufacturing, and sale of marijuana in Ohio for adults who are at least 21 years old. Pursuant to the Act, Ohio residents would be permitted to cultivate up to six marijuana plants at their primary residence, with a maximum of twelve plants per residence where two or more persons who are at least 21 reside, and marijuana sales would be subject to a 10% adult-use tax, in addition to the traditional sales tax.

The Act also establishes a Division of Cannabis Control ("DCC") within the Ohio Department of Commerce. The DCC would be responsible for overseeing the adult-use market with the authority to license, regulate, investigate, and penalize licensees and those required to be licensed under the Act. This centralization is meaningful because currently, under Ohio's Medical Marijuana Control Program, dispensaries are regulated by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy while cultivators, processors, and testing laboratories are regulated by the Ohio Department of Commerce. The establishment of the DCC is expected to alleviate certain headaches resulting from the inter-agency regulatory overlap.

Another important impact of the An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis, and a result of adult-use legalization generally, is that the medical program's burdensome advertising restrictions are expected to be relieved significantly. As many Ohio licensees are aware, Ohio currently has very restrictive, burdensome, and, at times vague, advertising rules related to medical marijuana that significantly reduce the impact and effectiveness of marketing and advertising. With the legalization of adult-use marijuana, Ohioans can expect to see more creative and targeted advertising through more traditional outlets.

The Act also provides a significant boost to existing industry participants. Licensees who have either a certificate of operation or provisional license as of the effective date of the Act will be grandfathered into the adult-use program to expand into the recreational use area.

Importantly, there will be an opportunity for new operators to enter the Ohio market through a cannabis social equity and jobs program. At the outset, the DCC is to issue 40 recreational cultivator licenses and 50 adult-use dispensary licenses “with a preference” to applicants who are participants under the cannabis social equity and jobs program.

**Pros:**

1. Decriminalizes cannabis, reduces incarcerations, and encourages sentencing reform.
2. Recreational cannabis is purported to have lower risks than alcohol. Cannabis will be regulated like alcohol (21 and up).
3. Unlike alcohol, cannabis has some health and medical benefits. Medical marijuana already is legal.
4. Would create jobs in cultivation and sales. Would establish a cannabis social equity and jobs program to help employ the social and economic disadvantaged.
5. Cannabis legalization would spur more research on health benefits and risk of usage.

**Cons:**

1. Cannabis is addictive and could lead to more serious drug use. Today’s marijuana is much more potent than in the past.
2. Cannabis alters thinking and coordination, which could have dangerous consequences especially in relation to operating motor vehicles and job impairment.
3. Allowing home-grown cannabis will expose more youth to a psychoactive drug.
4. Legalization of recreational cannabis will require another state bureaucracy with increased government costs.
5. Legalization would require the Department of Mental Health and Addiction services to create a new program for cannabis addiction.