

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

Dayton Legal Forms, Inc. Form No. 0004C

Resolution No. _____

Passed _____

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**CITY OF BELPRE
RESOLUTION NO. 35 (2010-11)**

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE OFFICE OF
THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL**

WHEREAS, in 1976, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel was created by the Ohio General Assembly to represent the interests of Ohio's residential utility customers in matters relating to their public utility services: electric, natural gas, water and telephone; and

WHEREAS, funded solely by assessments on utilities and not by taxes, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel's budget does not affect the State's General Revenue Fund; and

WHEREAS, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel has a current operating budget of approximately \$8.5 million per year; however, under the proposed biennial budget, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel's budget would be reduced to \$4.1 million per year; and

WHEREAS, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel staff, which includes attorneys, accountants, economists, engineers, investigators and other highly skilled professionals participate in legal proceedings, analyze utility issues, educate customers, resolve informal complaints relating to utility services through the highly effective Consumer Call Center, and advocates on behalf of Ohio's residential households; and

WHEREAS, in the current biennium, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel has saved customers \$54.8 million directly through its advocacy, and an additional \$1.9 billion in shared savings with other partners and furthermore, during the past 35 years, The Ohio Consumers' Counsel has saved utility customers \$10 billion in avoided utility costs, thus, the savings have far exceeded the costs; and

WHEREAS, any budget reduction to The Ohio Consumers' Counsel would not go back to the taxpayers, but would go to the utility companies, and the proposed budget cuts would have a detrimental impact on the residential utility customers of the State of Ohio and the ability of the Office of The Ohio Consumers' Counsel to effectively advocate on their behalf;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELPRE, OHIO, THAT:

SECTION I

The Belpre City Council hereby recognizes the vital work of The Ohio Consumers' Counsel as a strong consumer advocate and only statutory entity representing the interests of residential utility consumers.

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DeWitt Legal Book Inc., Farmington, CT 06030

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SECTION II

The Belpre City Council also recognizes that statewide, all departments must endure some level of cuts to their budget; however, we are urging the Ohio Legislature to place a more reasonable cut so as to preserve the mission of The Ohio Consumers Counsel.

SECTION III

This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City, and for the further reason that this Resolution is required to be immediately effective in order for the General Assembly to enact budget legislation by June 30, 2011. Wherefore, this Resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and immediately after its passage by Council and signing by the Mayor.

PASSED: May 23, 2011

[Signature]
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: [Signature]

PRESENTED TO MAYOR: 5/23/11

[Signature]
MAYOR

APPROVED BY MAYOR: 5/23/11

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned Clerk of the Council of the City of Belpre, Ohio, does hereby certify that on May 23, 2011, this Resolution was published by posting a copy of the same at the five public places designated by the City Council in Ordinance No. 6 (76-77).

May 23, 2011
Date

[Signature]
CLERK