

6/20/23

lst

RESOLUTION NO. 104-23

BY: **MONICA WILSON, MARK CASSELBERRY, DEBORAH LIME,  
ALLAN DIVIS, LINDA KOHAR, KAMMY SHUMAN**

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE OHIO LEGISLATURE'S  
CREATION OF AN AUGUST SPECIAL ELECTION, AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Ohioans have had the right to amend their Ohio Constitution through a simple majority for over 110 years; and

WHEREAS, Ohioans voted to grant themselves with a simple majority the freedom to place Constitutional Amendments directly on the ballot in response to a legislature that had become one of the most corrupt in the country and refused to heed the will of the people; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 would end majority rule in Ohio by raising the threshold for passage of a constitutional amendment to 60 percent, thus giving 40 percent of the voters the ability to block the will of the majority; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 would undermine the sacred principle of one person one vote; and

WHEREAS, Ohioans have not abused the right to place constitutional amendments on the ballot, with just 71 citizen-initiated amendments on the ballot since 1913; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly all but outlawed August special elections during a Lamé Duck session in December 2022 with the passage of HB 458; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has called for a low-turnout special election for Issue 1 on August 8, at the behest of special interests and out-of-state donors that will waste millions of precious Ohio tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, the process to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot is already an onerous task, requiring the collection of hundreds of thousands of valid signatures from 44 of Ohio's 88 counties; and

WHEREAS, by including the need to collect a certain threshold of signatures from all 88 counties almost guarantees that only extremely wealthy out of state interests will be able to afford to try to amend our Ohio constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY OF PARMA OPPOSES THE OHIO LEGISLATURE'S CREATION OF THE AUGUST SPECIAL ELECTION.

Section 1. Be it further resolved that the City of Parma will do everything in our power to make our citizens aware of the August 8th special election.

Section 2. Be it finally resolved that City of Parma believes that citizens should vote NO on Issue 1 to maintain Ohioans' freedom to place constitutional amendments on the ballot, uphold the sacred principle of "one person, one vote", and curtail this blatant power grab by corrupt politicians.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of the Council and ay of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that measure is necessary in order to voice the City's opposition to the August Special Election, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH  
THE MAYOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO