

## ALTERNATIVE TAX BUDGET INFORMATION

Name of School District: Big Walnut Local School District

For the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2023

Fiscal Officer Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: February 16, 2022

# COUNTY OF: DELAWARE

### **Background**

Substitute House Bill No. 129 (HB129) effective June 3, 2002, was enacted by the 124th General Assembly in part to allow a county budget commission to waive the requirement that a taxing authority adopt a tax budget for a political subdivision or other taxing unit, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 5705.281.

Under the tax law in effect prior to June 3, 2002, the budget commission could only waive the tax budget for a subdivision or other taxing unit that was receiving a share of the county undivided local government fund or the county undivided local government revenue assistance fund under an alternative method or formula pursuant to ORC Sections 5747.53 and 5747.63. Thus, tax budgets could be waived only for counties, municipalities, townships, and park districts. This restriction is now removed.

### **Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.281**

Under the amended version of this section pursuant to HB 129, a county budget commission, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the commission, including an affirmative vote by the county auditor, may waive the tax budget for any subdivision of other taxing unit.

However, the commission may require the taxing authority to provide any information needed by the commission to perform its duties, including the division of the tax rates as provided under ORC Section 5705.04.

### **County Budget Commission Duties**

The county budget commission must still certify tax rates to each subdivision or other taxing unit, by March 1 for school districts and by September 1 for all other taxing authorities under ORC Section 5705.35, even when a tax budget is waived. Also, the commission is still required to issue an official certificate of estimated resources under ORC Section 5705.35 and amended official certificates of estimated resources under ORC Section 5705.36.

Therefore, when a budget commission is setting tax rates based on a taxing unit's need, for purposes of ORC Sections 5705.32, 5705.34, and 5705.341, its determination must be based on that other information the commission asked the taxing authority to provide under ORC Section 5705.281, when the tax budget was waived. Also, an official certificate must be based on that other information the commission asked the taxing authority to provide.

### **Alternative Tax Budget Information Filing Deadline**

The fiscal officer for each school district must file one copy of this document with the County Auditor on or before March 1st. (Note: The traditional deadline for submission of the tax budget has been January 20. There is the potential for flexibility on this date as a result of HB 129 depending on the needs of the Budget Commission, but in order for them to be on track with the certificate of available resources, the date may need to be very close to January 20).