CITY OF VANDALIA

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

RESOLUTION 12-R-44

OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF HB 601 BY THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH PROPOSES UNIFORMITY MEASURES FOR MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX IN THE FORM OF UNFUNDED MANDATES AND A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF REVENUE

WHEREAS, Cities in Ohio exist primarily as a tool of self-governance to provide high quality services to the citizens which live in them and to the constituents who visit for work, entertainment, educational and other purposes; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities agree that revenue neutral uniformity on issues that will ease compliance burdens for businesses in and potentially locating in Ohio would be of great benefit to all; and

WHEREAS, HB 601 as drafted and introduced contains language that is detrimental to the financial stability of municipalities, will reduce revenue for all municipalities in Ohio, and includes "unfunded mandates" which will limit the ability for municipalities to provide basic services to residents and resident businesses alike; and

WHEREAS, The recent reduction in the Local Government Fund, elimination of the Estate Tax, and the elimination of promised reimbursement for the loss of revenues due to the repeal of the Tangible Personal Property and Public Utilities Taxes has resulted in an annual loss of \$860,000 in revenue for the City of Vandalia; and

WHEREAS, The proposals in HB 601 will result in an additional estimated annual loss of revenue of \$800,000 for the City of Vandalia; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities have been responsive in the past to efforts to streamline the rules and regulations and create uniformity in the overwhelming majority of local tax codes creating a streamlined process for all taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, The Dayton Region has brought together thirty-two communities who have developed a plan for tax uniformity that is truly revenue neutral and passed municipal legislation in support of the plan; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities must fight to protect their single largest revenue source, which provides essential municipal services, promoting a positive quality of life that resident and businesses alike rely upon, and any forced reduction in this revenue will have a negative impact on residents and businesses, creating an environment detrimental to retaining and attracting business in Ohio; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANDALIA

SECTION I. Members of the Ohio House and Senate should engage in constructive dialogue with local officials to gain consensus on correction of the perceived issues of potential revenue-neutral commonality and uniformity in those few remaining differences in municipal income tax provisions.

SECTION II. The Ohio General Assembly should focus on restoring previous funding levels to the Ohio Business Gateway and focus on correcting its multitude of programming problems and customer service issues to make that tool less cumbersome, more useful and relevant to municipalities and businesses as a simple, generic, one-stop method of filing local business income tax returns in one location.

SECTION III. This Council urges its state legislators to reject HB 601, and to adopt the provisions of the Miami Valley Tax Uniformity Coalition.

SECTION VI. This resolution shall take effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 19th day of November, 20	12.
	APPROVED:
ATTEST:	Arlene J. Setzer, Mayor
Robert L. Anderson	
Clerk of Council	