



OHIO FARMERS UNITED AGAINST UNFAIR TAXATION

WHEREAS, Ohio farmers are experiencing an unprecedented and unfair increase in real estate property taxes due to higher levels of the Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV), with increases of 110%-185%; and

WHEREAS this is coming at a time when crop prices are decreasing and costs are still increasing; and

WHEREAS, the repeal of the 10% rollback, 2.5% residential reduction, and changes in the homestead exemption will all have a negative impact on farmers and homeowners; and

WHEREAS, the recent state budget enacted by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor amounts to a “broken promise”, wherein during the 1970s the state income tax was enacted with the promise of lower local real estate taxes with the advent of the 10% rollback, the 2.5% residential reduction, the CAUV, and a broader application of the homestead exemption; and

THEREFORE, we, the undersigned, hereby petition the Governor of the State of Ohio and the Ohio State General Assembly to alleviate this unfair tax burden switch and to keep the promise that was made to the farmers and homeowners in the 1970s by doing the following:

1. We call on the Governor to immediately take administrative action on the CAUV to modify the formula by adopting a “Rule of Three”, 3-year averaging on any increases (or decreases) in the CAUV values, as they are implemented in the respective counties and that any increase (or decrease) be capped at no more than 50%.
2. We call on the Ohio General Assembly to reverse the action taken in the recent state budget and to restore the 10% rollback, the 2.5% residential reduction, and the homestead exemption as it was before.
3. As the least measure, we call for enactment of legislation that would allow real estate taxpayers that have at least a 50% increase in their real estate taxes to have a delayed payment plan option with no interest or penalty, to pay said taxes on a monthly basis to the time the next installment is due (6 months).

We have indicated our support by signing our names to this petition below.

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