

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 154, WHICH WOULD  
ABOLISH ALL MAYOR'S COURTS IN OHIO, INCLUDING IN MINERVA PARK, AND TO  
DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, House Bill 154 proposes to abolish all Mayor's Courts in Ohio by December 31, 2007; and,

WHEREAS, under House Bill 154, Mayor's Courts in communities with populations less than 1,600, such as Minerva Park, would cease to exist, eliminating 142 Mayor's Courts across Ohio; and,

WHEREAS, without Mayor's Court or with the establishment of a Community Court, all pending cases would go directly to the appropriate municipal or county court and further tax an already overloaded court system, costing taxpayers more money and substantially reducing the prompt and efficient enforcement of local laws; and,

WHEREAS, the elimination of Mayor's Courts could also mean a decrease in police protection in those communities, as the dollars generated by Mayor's Court would be paid to the county with 50% of it returned to the city or village at a later time; and,

WHEREAS, here in Minerva Park, Mayor's Court has provided an efficient, cost-effective and convenient system for dealing with most misdemeanor offenses; and,

WHEREAS, with Mayor's Court, citizens can plead their case locally and maintain a right to plead a new trial in municipal court, a right which would no longer be available with the elimination of Mayor's Court under House Bill 154.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council of the Village of Minerva Park, Franklin County, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1. The Council of the Village of Minerva Park does hereby oppose the passage of House Bill 154 and wishes to retain Mayor's Courts in Ohio and Minerva Park.

Section 2. The Clerk-Treasurer be and hereby is directed to record this Resolution in the appropriate record book and forward a copy to the Ohio House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, which is presently holding hearings on the matter, the Ohio Municipal League and Ohio Representatives representing Minerva Park.

Section 3. All prior resolution(s) or any part thereof, which is(are) inconsistent with this resolution is(are) hereby repealed as to the inconsistent part(s) thereof and the remainder of said resolution(s) not inconsistent with this resolution shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. This resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Village of Minerva Park, such emergency arising out of the necessity of declaring our opposition as soon as possible.

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Lynn Eisentrout, Mayor, Village of Minerva Park

First Reading: Waived June 11, 2007  
Second Reading: Waived June 11, 2007  
Third Reading: Waived June 11, 2007  
Passed: Passed as an Emergency June 11, 2007

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Attest Suzanne Coulter, Clerk-Treasurer,  
Village of Minerva Park

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Reviewed by Counsel