

WHAT REALLY HAPPENS IF WE ABOLISH ALL OHIO PROPERTY TAXES?

- Big hikes in sales and income taxes – as high as 20%
- Massive cuts to police/fire/EMS/911 – fewer first responders, longer response times, out-of-date equipment
- Drastic cuts to local schools – bigger classes, fewer teachers, aging infrastructure
- Vital services eliminated for seniors, children, and Ohioans with disabilities

Rising property taxes are a serious concern but abolishing them abruptly means every local community will immediately face massive cuts in services.

Property taxes make up nearly two-thirds of all local tax revenue, and to eliminate them altogether with no plan for what comes next is just reckless.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PUBLIC SAFETY?

More than 10 million Ohioans rely on public safety services funded by voted property tax levies. This includes police, fire and emergency medical services, 911 call centers and more. All of this will be wiped out if the levies are eliminated. Impacts include:

- ! Estimated layoffs of more than 32,000 police officers, firefighters, paramedics, dispatchers, and other first responders
- ! Longer response times for fires, ambulance runs, accidents, and incidents
- ! Outdated life-saving equipment, increasing risks to both victims and rescuers
- ! Reduced training
- ! Police and fire station closures
- ! Fewer police cars, fire trucks, and ambulances in service



Sources:

Ohio Office of Budget and Management, "Consequences of Local Property Tax Abolishment," February 4, 2026
Tax Foundation, "There's No Good Way to Pay for Property Tax Repeal," October 2025
Policy Matters Ohio, "Ohio property tax repeal would gut school budgets & critical services," January 27, 2026
All reports available at ProtectPublicServices.org