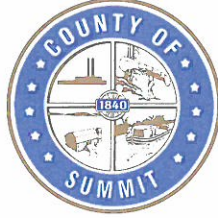


SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF SUMMIT, OHIO



September 1, 2015

M0162015

EXHIBIT A

Timothy Gorbach, Chairman
Wayne Jones, Member
Alex Arshinkoff, Member
Bryan Williams, Member
Summit County Board of Elections
470 Grant St.
Akron, OH 44311

Re: Ballot Language Related to Summit County Council Resolution 2015-331

Gentlemen:

I am in receipt of the correspondence sent on your behalf by Director Masich and Deputy Director Sauter regarding the ballot language for a proposed amendment to the Summit County Charter that was filed by the Clerk of Summit County Council with the your office on August 18, 2015. It is my understanding that at the meeting held on August 28, 2015 concerns were raised regarding the second use of the word "fair" as part of the phrase "...apportion Council into fair legislative districts...". It is further my understanding that, at that meeting, the Board chose to request that Council reconsider the use of the word "fair" in that context, and only in that context.

Upon considering the Board's request, and to avoid any further controversy, I, on behalf of Council, am requesting that the Board proceed to place on the ballot the previously submitted language but exclude therefrom the use of the word "fair" in the phrase identified above. Accordingly, the ballot language would read as follows:

Shall the Charter of the County of Summit be amended to create a Nonpartisan Independent Council Fair Districting Commission to apportion Council into legislative districts commencing with the Federal decennial census of 2020, to establish principles for said apportionment and to maintain current Council legislative districts within their current boundaries until the Federal decennial census of 2020?

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Additionally, the Board will soon be in receipt of a certified copy of Resolution No. 2015-388, which will place a similar citizen-initiated proposed amendment on the ballot. As you will see when you receive Resolution 2015-388, Council has chosen to also exclude the use of the word "fair" in the ballot language associated with that proposed amendment. We have done so in order to maintain proper balance and fairness on these two ballot issues. I trust that the Board in approving/finalizing the ballot language for each issue will approach the matter with this same objective approach.

Finally, attached hereto is Motion No. M-016-2015 which Council adopted on Monday, August 31, 2015, to authorize me to send this letter to the Board on the Council's behalf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ilene Shapiro". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Ilene Shapiro, President
Summit County Council