



# 5 REASONS WHY OHIO CAN'T AFFORD TEL

In November, Ohioans should DEFEAT the proposed Tax and Expenditure Limitation Amendment (TEL). For more information why this proposal is bad for Ohio, please visit [www.ohiosfuture.org](http://www.ohiosfuture.org).

*The Coalition for Ohio's Future is a non-partisan campaign organization of more than 150 groups representing thousands of doctors, firefighters, police and other public safety professionals, local government officials, teachers, business professionals, librarians, labor, faith-based groups, senior citizens advocates and many more who oppose the TEL amendment for Ohio.*

## 1. Ohio Schools Can't Afford TEL

TEL means less funding for teachers, building construction and basic programming – resulting in larger class sizes and increased costs for parents

## 2. Ohio's Health Care System Can't Afford TEL

TEL means less funding for health care and public safety – resulting in more Ohioans without health insurance and slower responses to emergencies.

## 3. Ohio's Economy Can't Afford TEL

TEL would cripple many of Ohio's economic development strategies with funding cuts in transportation, infrastructure and higher education – making it harder for our state to attract new businesses and jobs.

## 4. Ohio's Environment and Agriculture Industry Can't Afford TEL

TEL would mean less funding for hunting and fishing programs and state parks, hamper the ability of local communities to insure clean water supplies, and provide less funding for agricultural research and support.

## 5. Ohio Taxpayers Can't Afford TEL

TEL places no limit on state tax increases, but it does increase the number of costly special elections and encourages frivolous lawsuits funded by taxpayers.

[www.ohiosfuture.org](http://www.ohiosfuture.org)



“At the end of the two-hour session hosted by the Cuyahoga Mayors and City Managers Association, there was unanimous agreement about the need to wage an aggressive campaign against Blackwell's sloppily written Tax and Expenditure Limitation (TEL).”

“This whole issue sounds real sexy to voters – until you read the fine print,” Bay Village Mayor Deborah Sutherland told the group.”

Excerpt from a column by Brent Larkin, **The Plain Dealer**, March 26, 2006

“The amendment's Spandex wording would hand control of Ohio's budget to judges – something no genuine conservative would want.”

Excerpt from column by Thomas Suddes, **The Plain Dealer**, March 29, 2006

“Voters may enjoy the takeoff Blackwell has in mind. His ideas may sound soothing, even help him win a Republican primary. But the crash landing should give pause. The end result would be deep cuts that would lock Ohio into a downward spiral.”

“Artificial spending limits would starve funding for education, technology and infrastructure improvements, making the state even less attractive.”

Editorial, **Akron Beacon Journal**, April 22, 2005

## A PROVEN FAILURE IN COLORADO.

The Ohio TEL Amendment is nearly identical to Colorado's TABOR (Taxpayers Bill of Rights) Amendment in place since 1992. In the only state where such a budget formula amendment exists, it has failed.



- Funding for public schools fell to 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation;
- Graduation rates plummeted;



- Higher education has suffered;
- Transportation needs and infrastructure improvements are behind;



- In fact, TABOR problems are so severe that last November Colorado voters approved a five-year suspension of the amendment, to allow the state a chance to recover.



Why would Ohio pass a measure that hasn't worked in the only state to have tried it?

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

- Visit [www.ohiosfuture.org](http://www.ohiosfuture.org) to get more information about TEL and to sign up to oppose the amendment.
- Share this information with your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper.
- Stay engaged to learn more about TEL and the progress of this campaign.

To volunteer or request a TEL briefing, please contact:

**Coalition for Ohio's Future**

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