



# Summers County Commission

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Charles W. Saunders  
*President*

Mike Gore  
*Commissioner*

Ted Kula  
*Commissioner*

Mary E. Merritt  
*Clerk*

## Resolution

### Opposition to Amendment No. 2

#### Property Tax Modernization Amendment

WHEREAS, in the 2022 General Election, West Virginians will be asked to vote on Amendment 2, one of the most substantial changes to West Virginia's Constitution in nearly 100 years. Because the Summers County Commission has a duty pursuant to Article IX, § 11, of the West Virginia Constitution to manage the fiscal affairs of Summers County, they therefore must inform the public of the potentially devastating and far-reaching fiscal impacts that Amendment 2 could have on public safety and local government services in Summers County.

WHEREAS, the Commission and the Assessor find that there is no consensus, no agreement and no clear plan that voters can read and consider before they cast their vote. Based on the information provided to our County Associations by the Senate and House, we find there is no legislative plan to provide revenue replacement to local governments and schools; and

WHEREAS, more than 500 million dollars in necessary county government funding and education funding in the 55 West Virginia counties is jeopardized by the passage of Amendment 2, likely resulting in the loss of employee positions in both our local government and the local school system; and,


WHEREAS, the Summers County Commission and the Summers County Assessor find that it is the citizens of West Virginia who will ultimately be required to make up the difference for lost local revenues caused by passage of Amendment 2, likely through higher sales taxes, fees, and increased property taxes; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission and Summers County Assessor find that as we approach the 2022 General Election, all voters deserve a final, agreed upon legislative plan for Amendment No. 2, not a "work-in-progress" or "trust us" proposal which if implemented could devastate county government, including all the agencies they fund, and public education in West Virginia; and,

WHEREAS, the Summers County Commission and the Summers County Assessor believe that passage of Amendment 2 will result in the loss of local government control over the ability to raise revenue for necessary local services,

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Summers County Commission and Summers County Assessor will not offer support for Amendment No. 2 because of the serious risk it poses to all county funded departments and agencies and public education.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.

  
Charles W. Saunders, President

  
Mike Gore, Commissioner

  
Ted Kula, Commissioner