



# City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk  
90 West Broad Street  
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columbuscitycouncil.org

## Legislation Text

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**File #: 0035X-2008, Version: 1**

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**To endorse the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Levy and to encourage the Columbus community to vote for Issue 29 on March 4, 2008.**

**WHEREAS**, the Franklin County Board of Mental Retardation and Development Disabilities has a responsibility to provide community based services for children and adults with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board provides quality, life-long services to individuals and their families in infant and pre-school classes, schools serving children with multiple handicaps, sheltered workshops, living skills centers serving multiple handicapped adults, and in other support services including the Special Olympics, therapies, service coordination, supported living programs, transportation, and services for senior citizens who have developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, many parents, particularly aging parents in their 60s, 70s, or 80s, can no longer independently care for their sons or daughters who have mental retardation or other developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has been responsive to the Columbus community by balancing needs against realistic financial resources and through long term planning; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has not been on the ballot for seven years and has fulfilled all previous levy commitments to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, enrollment is expected to continue to increase at a rate of approximately three percent per year due to factors such as improved medical technology, greater longevity, increased awareness and need, and population growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board also provides funding to many organizations including Children's Hospital, Goodwill Columbus, Nisonger Center at The Ohio State University, Easter Seals, Catholic Social Services, Columbus Jewish Center, Childhood League, and others; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board proposes to replace two existing levies totaling 3.97 voted mills with a single continuous levy totaling 3.50 mills, and

**WHEREAS**, a 2.32 mill levy will expire without renewal if this levy passes. The additional cost of this levy to the owner of a \$100,000 home is less than one dollar per week; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:** That this Council does hereby endorse the levy of the Board of Mental Retardation and Development Disabilities and encourages the Columbus community to vote for Issue 29 on March 4, 2008.