

Amendment to abolish property taxes in Ohio moves forward

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COLUMBUS, Ohio -- A constitutional amendment to ban property taxes in Ohio just took another step forward.

Attorney General Dave Yost on Friday [approved summary petition language for the amendment](#) and sent it onto the Ohio Ballot Board.

If the board decides it's a single issue, Citizens for Property Tax Reform could start gathering signatures this summer.

They'll need more than 413,000 valid signatures from registered Ohio voters to make the ballot, possibly in 2025 or 2026.

Supporters say property tax reform is long overdue.

Homeowner bills have skyrocketed in recent years, driven by rising home values and inflation, and they argue it's time to rethink how Ohio funds local government.

"We're being taxed on money that we have not realized," [Citizens for Property Tax Reform](#) spokesperson Beth Blackmarr told Cleveland.com earlier this month. "We're being taxed on windfalls that we haven't seen."

But opponents warn eliminating property taxes could create bigger tax burdens elsewhere.

Property taxes fund schools, police, fire departments and other local services.

Without them, the tax burden could shift to higher sales or income taxes--which could end up costing everyday Ohioans more.

"If you take the main source of revenue away, you need some sort of credible plan for what comes next," said state Sen. Bill Blessing, a Hamilton County Republican.

The full petition and certification letter from the attorney general's office are [available here](#).