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March 26, 2020

TO: Governor Mike DeWine

Members of the Ohio General Assembly

FROM: County Treasurers Association of Ohio

RE: Letter of Support for the Passage of Am. Sub. HB 197

We write to express the County Treasurer Association of Ohio (CTAO)’s support for the swift passage of Am. Sub. HB 197, a critical piece of emergency legislation which provides much needed statutory guidance for continuing operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local government offices have been in a state of uncertainty in recent weeks as officials have tried to assemble best practices for remote work and continuing functionality with limited available guidance. In response, the Governor and Ohio’s Legislature have worked diligently and thoughtfully to bring local government entities to the table for input and feedback on what our offices need. Especially helpful for county treasurers was the clarity provisions of Am. Sub. HB 197 provided on Open Meetings Law given the current recommendation to stay at home.

CTAO’s members applaud the prompt and critical action taken by Governor DeWine’s Administration and the Ohio General Assembly in passing Am. Sub. HB 197. The bill provides much-needed certainty to county offices across the state during these unprecedented times.

Our association looks forward to continuing to partner with state leaders as we all weather this crisis together.

Sincerely,

Kevin Futryk, Executive Director

Julia Wynn, State Lobbyist

County Treasurer Association of Ohio