

RESOLUTION NO. 1, 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARK HILLS, KENTUCKY OPPOSING KENTUCKY LEGISLATIVE SENATE BILL 50 AND HOUSE BILL 50 RELATING TO PARTISAN LOCAL ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, the Kentucky General Assembly has proposed two bills, one in the Senate (SB 50) and one in House of Representatives (HB 50), both requiring partisan local elections to include the offices of Mayor and members of City Council in cities within the Commonwealth of Kentucky; and,

WHEREAS, it has been the collective experience of the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Park Hills, Kentucky that the question of party affiliation is an infrequent concern during an election campaign , suggesting voters do not consider such as a significant concern; and,

WHEREAS, Kentucky statutory authority permits local legislative bodies and boards to opt for partisan elections, giving those with the best insight into the will of their constituents the ability to make a change if so desired by the voters; and,

WHEREAS, this appears to represent a substantial increase in election cost and organizational efforts within the City's jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and members of City Council recognize an increased challenge in finding qualified people to serve in local elected positions and see the addition of a primary election, as well as the potential for partisan acrimony, a further hurdle in attracting qualified people to run for elected office; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and members of City Council ultimately see no significant benefit to requiring partisan elections that would warrant the additional cost and challenges presented by the proposed requirement; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and members of City Council have determined that it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to support a Resolution in opposition to the adoption of SB 50 and HB 50 by the Kentucky General Assembly,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARK HILLS, KENTUCKY, as follows:

That the City of Park Hills, Kentucky strongly opposes the adoption and passage of both SB 50 and HB 50 into law by the Kentucky General Assembly; that it urges the members of the Senate to vote against SB 50; that it urges the House of Representatives to vote against HB 50; that it opposes any other future attempts at legislation to require partisan elections on a local level; and, that it shall present this Resolution to the Kentucky General Assembly for consideration along therewith.

ADOPTED: February 13, 2023

KATHY ZEMBRODT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JULIE ALIG, CITY CLERK