Ohio School Boards Association

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Primary election school tax issue results reflect economic concerns

COLUMBUS — Voters across Ohio approved 48% of the school tax issues on the primary election ballot.

The passage of 36 of 75 issues marked a decrease from the 2022 primary election, when voters approved 49 of 75 school tax issues for a passage rate of 65%.

While renewal school tax proposals continue to enjoy majority support from the public, with 21 of the 29 issues passing for a 72% passage rate, this represents a decrease from last year's 88% passage rate for similar measures in the primary.

Thirty-three percent of new school tax requests were approved Tuesday, May 2, with 15 of 46 issues passing. This is the lowest passage rate for these types of issues in a May election since 2007, with several levies receiving less than 20% yes votes.

"A high number of levies were defeated yesterday. This reflects the current concerns many voters have about the impact of inflation," Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Director of Legislative Services Jennifer Hogue said. "Those districts that were unsuccessful will face challenges in meeting the educational needs of their students."

While election results are complete, they have not been officially certified by the Ohio secretary of state. For district-by-district details on current and past elections, visit OSBA's online database of school tax issues at http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/19699.

Founded in 1955, OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.