Resolution

**Whereas** the Ohio Republican Party has distributed funds in excess of $750,000 to the Gubernatorial Campaign of Mike DeWine before winning the primary election and without being endorsed.

**Whereas** the [Ohio Revised Code 3517.102](https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3517.102)(B)(6)(b)(i) specifically states *“No state candidate fund of a* ***state*** *or county political party shall make a transfer or a contribution or transfers or contributions of cash or cash equivalents* ***to a designated state campaign committee in a primary election period*** *or in a general election period* ***aggregating more than****: ...(I) Five hundred thousand dollars to the campaign committee of any one statewide candidate.”*

**Whereas** the Ohio Republican Party has distributed funds to the Gubernatorial Campaign of Mike DeWine without a properly adopted resolution from the State Central Committee and without being officially endorsed.

**Whereas** a misappropriation of funds is an unlawful act of knowingly and intentionally using funds or property for a use other than an authorized purpose.

**Whereas** the Ohio Revised Code [2913.02](https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-2913.02) states *“No person, with purpose to deprive the owner of property or services, shall knowingly obtain or exert control over either the property or services…...Without the consent of the owner or person authorized to give consent”*

**Whereas** the Ohio Revised Code 2913.02 effectively states that anyone guilty of violating 2913.02 “If the value of the property or services is seven hundred fifty thousand dollars or more and is less than one million five hundred thousand dollars, a violation of this section is aggravated theft, a felony of the second degree.”

**Whereas** article three, section seven, of the Ohio Republican Party State Central & Executive Committee bylaws state *“****No officer*** *or member of the Committee* ***shall have any power to bind this Committee by any financial contract or obligation*** *except as provided by these rules, or by resolution properly adopted by a majority of the members of the Committee present and voting and properly recorded by the Secretary in the minutes of the Committee.”*

**Whereas** article six, section two, paragraph (a) of the Ohio Republican Party State Central & Executive Committee bylaws, state *“The Committee (State Central Committee) may endorse non-incumbent statewide candidates in Republican primaries for the offices of President, United States Senator, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, Auditor of State and Attorney General provided that two-thirds (2/3) of the seated members Committee (but not including vacancies in the Committee) first votes in the affirmative to endorse. Each race shall be considered separately.”*

**Whereas** article six, section two, paragraph (b) of the Ohio Republican Party State Central & Executive Committee bylaws, state *“The Committee (State Central Committee) may endorse incumbent statewide officials, incumbent state legislators, incumbent members of Congress, incumbent members of the State Board of Education, and incumbent members of the Committee. The Committee may also endorse in each Ohio Supreme Court primary and in primaries for state legislative races and Congressional races in accordance with policy guidelines adopted by the Committee.”*

**Therefore be it resolved**, that this committee can find no evidence that authorized the expenditures made to the Gubernatorial campaign of Mike DeWine.

**Be it further resolved,** that the distributions made to the DeWine Gubernatorial campaign is believed to be criminal and this committee demands that the State Central Committee pursue this gross breach of trust with vim and vigor in association with law enforcement.

**Be it further resolved,** that this committee demands that the State Central Committee demands restitution of the funds in question from the DeWine Gubernatorial Campaign.

**Be it further resolved,** that this committee believes the distribution of funds to the DeWine Gubernatorial campaign appears to intentionally circumvent and violate Ohio’s campaign finance laws.

**Be it further resolved,** that this committee no longer has confidence in state leadership and believes the only solution to restoring trust with Ohio’s registered Republicans is with the removal of the State Central Committee’s treasurer, chairman, and managing director of the party.

**Be it further resolved,** that this committee believes that any attendance of State Central Committee members to any event hosted by the Governor or his Gubernatorial committee to celebrate the State Central Committee will convey to the public at large and registered republicans a conspiracy to award an endorsement to the Governor by ignominious and illicit means.

**Be it further resolved,** that this committee is announcing its intent to join with a majority of Republican County Central Committees to call for a State Convention in 2022. We hereby request the State State Central Committee to set a date, time, and place in March of 2022 for a convention for the purposes of adopting new bylaws for the State Central Committee, choosing a new Chairman, adopting a State Platform, and potentially endorsing or not endorsing State and Federal candidates.

**Be it further resolved,** that this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Ohio Republican State Central Committee, to the prosecutor of Franklin County Ohio, to the Ohio Attorney General, to local media outlets, and posted on social media and committee websites if they exist.