State Budget & New General Assembly
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Overview

- New General Assembly (135th)
- State Budget Process
- FY 2024-2025 Executive Budget Proposal
- OLC Messaging
- OLC Tools
- Next Steps
- Questions
135th General Assembly

- New General Assembly
- New Legislation - New Leaders
- House Representation
  - 67 Republicans and 32 Democrats
- Senate Representation
  - 26 Republicans and 7 Democrats
135th General Assembly

• House Majority Leadership
  • Speaker Jason Stephens (Kitts Hill)
  • Speaker Pro Tempore Scott Oelslager (Canton)
  • Majority Floor Leader Bill Seitz (Cincinnati)
  • Asst. Maj. Floor Leader Jon Cross (Kenton)
  • Majority Whip Jim Hoops (Napoleon)
  • Asst. Majority Whip Sharon Ray (Wadsworth)

• House Minority Leadership
  • Minority Leader Allison Russo (Upper Arlington)
  • Asst. Minority Leader Dontavius Jarrells (Columbus)
  • Minority Whip Jessica Miranda (Forest Park)
  • Asst. Minority Whip Tavia Galonski (Akron)
135th General Assembly

- **Senate Majority Leadership**
  - Senate President Matt Huffman (Lima)
  - President Pro Tempore Kirk Schuring (Canton)
  - Majority Floor Leader Robert McColley (Napoleon)
  - Majority Whip Theresa Gavarone (Bowling Green)

- **Senate Minority Leadership**
  - Minority Leader Nickie Antonio (Lakewood)
  - Asst. Minority Leader Hearcel Craig (Columbus)
  - Minority Whip Kent Smith (Euclid)
  - Asst. Minority Whip Paula Hicks-Hudson (Toledo)
State Budget Timeline

1. **JANUARY 31**
   - Governor's Executive Budget is submitted to the General Assembly - "Blue Book" unveiled

2. **EARLY-MID FEBRUARY**
   - Budget Bill introduced, OBM budget testimony in House Finance

3. **FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL**
   - House budget hearings occur, and directors testify in subcommittee hearings

4. **APRIL, MAY, JUNE**
   - Senate budget hearings

5. **MID-JUNE**
   - Conference Committee

6. **JULY 1**
   - Happy Fiscal New Year!
FY 2024-2025 Executive Budget

- Ohio’s Time - Invests in Ohioans, in our communities, and in our thriving economy
- Supports children & families, mental health, clean water, economic development, workforce development, and higher education
- Public Library Fund (PLF)
- Governor's Imagination Library
Public Library Fund (PLF) - Commitment to Ohio’s public libraries
  • Funding at new statutory levels in FY 2024 and FY 2025
    • 1.70% (permanent law)
  • OBM PLF distribution estimates from Blue Book:
    • FY 2023: $492 million
    • FY 2024: $505 million (2.6% increase)
    • FY 2025: $530 million (5.0% increase)
Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Ohio

- $16 million to continue the Governor’s Imagination Library ($8 million each fiscal year)
OLC Resources and Tools

http://libraryfunding.olc.org/

• Advocacy Tools and Templates
• White Paper and Talking Points
• Statehouse Directory
• Webinar Recordings
• Testimony & News Updates
• ROI Calculator
• Fact Sheets
Message to Lawmakers and Next Steps

- Make public libraries a priority in the state budget
- Maintain PLF funding and set the permanent law language at 1.70% of the State’s General Revenue Fund (GRF)
- Hold public libraries harmless from any additional reductions in state funding
- Invite legislators into your libraries and show them the “good” and the “bad”
Questions?

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