

**OLC**

**OHIO LIBRARY  
COUNCIL**

2023 OLC Legislative Day  
Prep Webinar

**OLC**

**OHIO LIBRARY**  
COUNCIL

Jay Smith  
Director of Government and Legal Services

## OLC Legislative Day at the Statehouse - Wed. April 26



# Preparing for Legislative Day

---

- Logistics
- Legislative Meetings
- State Budget
- HB 1 – Tax Proposal
- Messaging and Tools
- Questions



# Logistics

---

- ❑ Location – Budget Year
  - Statehouse Atrium
  - Statehouse Does NOT Open until 8:00 a.m.
- ❑ Security
  - [olc.org/legislative-day](http://olc.org/legislative-day) “Resources”
- ❑ **Wear Blue**



## OLC Legislative Day at the Statehouse - Wed., April 26

### AGENDA

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  | Registration and Refreshments   |
| 8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.   | Welcome and General Session:<br>Legislative Briefing and Talking Points<br><i>Michelle Francis, Executive Director; and<br/>Jay Smith, Director of Government and Legal Services, OLC</i> |
| 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.   | Library Showcase in Statehouse Rotunda  |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Minority Leadership Perspectives<br><i>The Honorable Allison Russo, House Minority Leader<br/>The Honorable Nickie Antonio, Senate Minority Leader</i>                                    |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Majority Leadership Perspectives<br><i>The Honorable Matt Huffman, President of the Senate<br/>The Honorable Scott Oelslager, Speaker Pro Tempore</i>                                     |
| 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. | Andrew Carnegie Award Presentation  |
| 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  | OLC Luncheon with Legislators<br><i>Keynote Address - Governor Mike DeWine</i>  |
| 1:30 p.m. & 2:00 p.m.   | Senate & House Sessions – <i>Statehouse Chambers</i>  |

# Preparing for Your Meeting

---

## □ Do Your Homework

- Legislator's Bio
- Committee Assignments
- Professional Background
- Schools Attended
- Policy Priorities/Recent Press Releases
- Community Affiliations (clubs, churches, etc.)
- Legislative Aide



# Preparing for Your Meeting

---

- ❑ **Do Your Homework**
  - **Coordinate Meeting Topics w/Other Libraries**
  - **Format of a Legislative Office Visit**  
[olc.org/legislative-day](http://olc.org/legislative-day) “Resources”
- ❑ **Know your Library – Services & Statistics**
- ❑ **Share Personal Stories – Localize the Message**
- ❑ **One Page “Leave Behind”**





# State Budget (HB 33)

---

## **HB 33: FY 24-25 Biennium Budget**

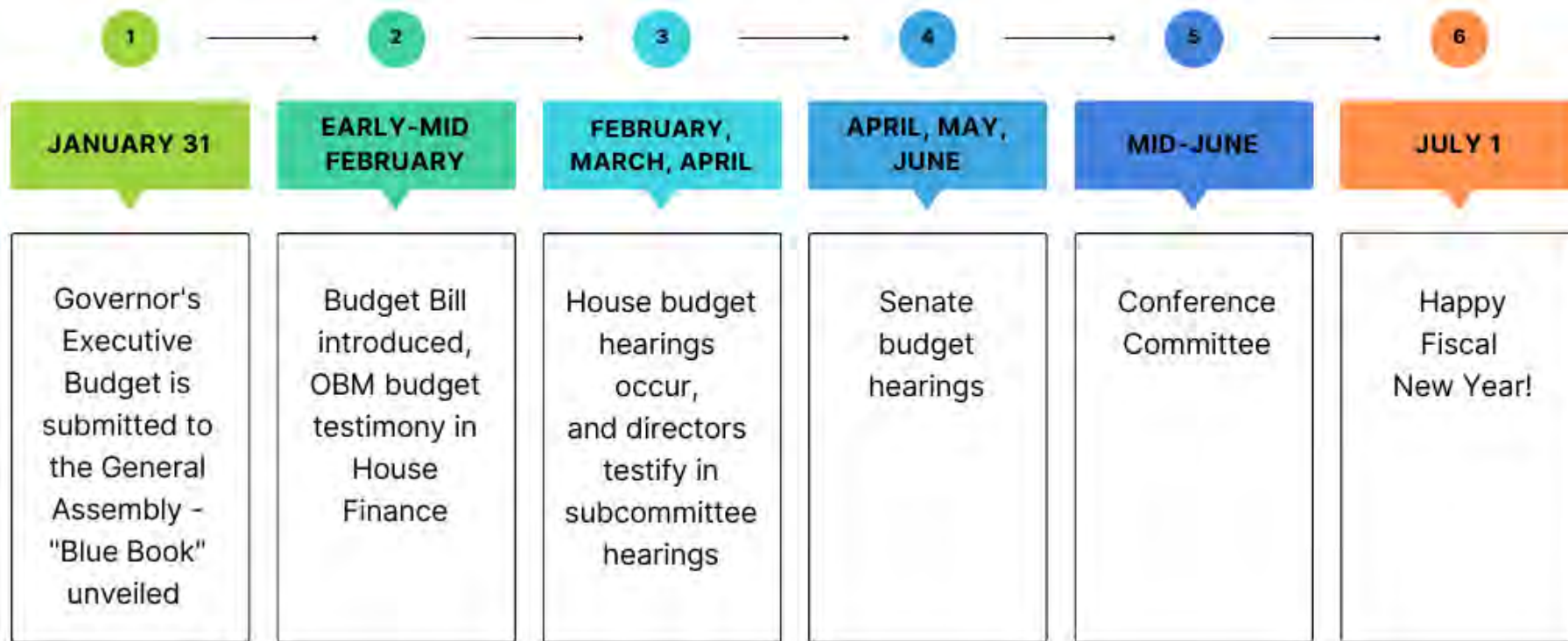
- Healthy State Revenues
- Federal Stimulus Money
- “Libraries Build Success” Campaign
- Permanent Law – PLF Set at 1.70% of State GRF Taxes for FY 24-25



## 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)

## State Budget Timeline



## HB 1 - Tax Proposal

- 2.75% Flat Tax (\$1.5 to \$2 Billion Income Tax Cut), reduces the PLF by \$25 to \$34 Million per FY
- Eliminates the 10% Rollback on Class I Property (this includes the rollback benefit to residential property owners and the reimbursement to local governments)
- Reduces the assessment rate on Class I & II Property from 35% to 31.5%
- Includes a secondary property tax reduction factor in addition to HB 920
- Impact on HB 920?

## 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 **at least** 1.70% of the State's General Revenue Fund (GRF)
- Hold public libraries harmless from any additional reductions in state funding (HB 1)
- Invite legislators into your libraries and show them the “good” and the “bad”

## OLC Resources and Tools

[olc.org/legislative-day](http://olc.org/legislative-day)

[libraryfunding.olc.org](http://libraryfunding.olc.org)

- Advocacy Tools and Templates
- White Paper and Talking Points
- Statehouse Directory
- Webinar Recordings
- Testimony & News Updates
- ROI Calculator
- Fact Sheets

# Messaging & Tools

---

- ❑ Tools
  - Personalize your Message
  - Selfies w/Legislators
- ❑ Social Media
  - #OhioLibraryDay
  - Tag Legislators
- ❑ Send a Thank You Note



# Legislative Day Sample Press Release available at [olc.org/legislative-day](http://olc.org/legislative-day)

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 26, 2023

Contact:  
[name]  
[Library Name]  
[phone]  
[e-mail]

### **[Insert Library Name] Meets with Members of the Ohio General Assembly**

[Insert your city] – On April 26, representatives from [insert Library name] traveled to Columbus for the Ohio Library Council's Library Legislative Day. They joined public library supporters from across the state to advocate for library funding and discuss the life-changing work of libraries.

[insert Library director or representatives] met with [insert legislator(s)] to discuss how the library is helping the [insert name] community with services and programs such as [insert local examples from your library (job search assistance, early literacy programs, online courses, technology tutors, etc.)]

"Libraries are a resource that Ohioans increasingly turn to for a wide variety of services," said [name and title of the spokesperson]. "From early literacy to workforce development, libraries provide programs and services to Ohioans of all ages, and they do so in a cost effective manner. State funding through the Public Library Fund is critically important because it remains a primary source of revenue for public libraries."

This event was held in conjunction with National Library week, April 23-29, 2023. With over 7.7 million registered borrowers, Ohio's public libraries have the highest use per capita in the nation. This success is dependent on the strong partnership between the State of Ohio and local library systems.

In addition to meeting with members of the Ohio General Assembly, the [insert Library name] is celebrating National Library Week by hosting [describe programs, activities here] on [insert date(s)].

For more information, visit the [name of library] at [address], or visit the library's website at [provide URL].



# olc.org/legislative-day

## Legislative Day

Library Legislative Day  
April 26, 2023  
Ohio Statehouse Atrium  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
[#OhioLibraryDay](#)



### **Legislative Day is your day at the Statehouse.**

It's an opportunity for you to come to Columbus, meet with your legislators, and advocate on behalf of Ohio's public libraries. The 2023 event will include morning briefings, displays in the Statehouse Rotunda and a luncheon with legislators in the Statehouse Atrium.

### [Resources](#)

[Register at my OLC](#) | Registration Deadline: 4/19/23

**Registration Fee:** \$60 for members only

*Individual members, trustees and administrators of OLC Institutional member libraries.*

Questions?

Jay Smith

[jsmith@olc.org](mailto:jsmith@olc.org)