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OHIO LIBRARY
COUNCIL

State Budget Update

HB 33

(May 15, 2023)

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Overview

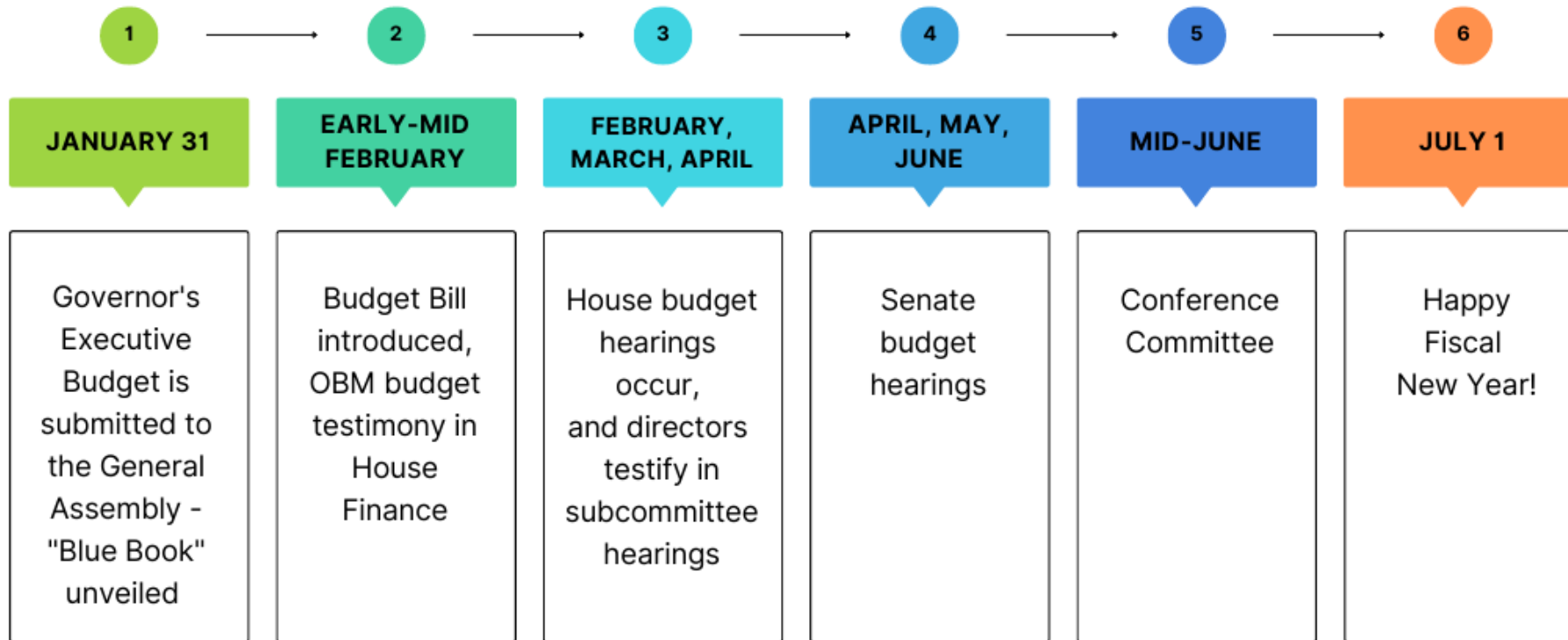
- Budget Bill - HB 33 As Passed by House
- OLC Talking Points
- Next Steps
- Questions

OLC Legislative Day at the Statehouse - Wed. April 26





State Budget Timeline



HB 33 - Budget Update

- OLC Testimony in Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee
- Upcoming Testimony in Senate Finance Committee

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)

Changes made by the House in HB 33:

- Income Tax Rate Reduction - consolidation of two lowest income tax brackets with rate set at 2.75%
- Elimination of Replacement Tax Levies beginning 2025
- Removes Seed Library language
- Increases library Competitive Bidding Threshold from \$50,000 to \$75,000 with an annual 3% increase after CY 2024
- Creates a Study Committee on Local Property Taxes

OLC Resources and Tools

<http://libraryfunding.olic.org/>

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

Maintain PLF Funding at a Minimum of 1.70% of the GRF

The House's version of HB 33 continues to recommend funding the Public Library Fund (PLF) at the same level as proposed in the Governor's proposal at 1.70% in permanent law.

Urge your state senator to support funding the PLF at a minimum of 1.70%. Please ask that they support increasing the PLF should the Senate make reductions to the state's General Revenue Fund, causing a reduction in library funding.

Support Funding for Library Facilities

The House's version of the state budget does not contain any specific funding for public library facilities.

Ask your Senator to support public libraries with funding to update critical needs such as roofs, elevators, HVAC systems, flooring and security systems. Share specific examples from your library - cost to fix elevators, roof replacement, HVAC replacement, security system updates, etc.

Support Increasing the Competitive Bidding Threshold for Public Libraries

- The House's version of HB 33 increases library competitive bidding thresholds from \$50,000 to \$75,000 and includes a provision to increase the threshold by 3% annually after calendar year 2024.
- *Urge your state senator to maintain language added by the House to increase this competitive bidding threshold for public libraries.*

Restore the Option for Replacement Levies

- The House's version of the state budget eliminates the authority of local governments to levy replacement property tax levies beginning in 2025. Local governments, including libraries, will still have the option to propose a renewal levy, renewal with an increase/decrease, or a new/additional levy. However, this may cause even further confusion for voters.
- *Ask your Senator to restore this language and give libraries and local governments the option to seek replacement levies.*

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”

Questions?

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