

Redbook

LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal

Ohio House of Representatives

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Quick look.....	1
Overview.....	1
Analysis of FY 2020-FY 2021 budget proposal.....	1
Operating Expenses (ALI 025321).....	2
House of Representatives Reimbursement (ALI 025601).....	2
Miscellaneous Sales (ALI 025602).....	3

LBO Redbook

Ohio House of Representatives

Quick look...

- The 99-member Ohio House of Representatives, in conjunction with the Ohio Senate, enacts laws to provide for the operation of government and promote the peace, health, safety, and welfare of the public. Members are assisted by 161 administrative employees and 75 pages.
- The budget proposal submitted by the House of Representatives provides \$27.4 million in funding each fiscal year over the FY 2020-FY 2021 biennium.
 - 94.6% of the House of Representatives' budget over the biennium comes from the GRF.
 - Payroll for 99 members, 161 staff, and 75 pages accounts for 90.5% of the budget, or \$24.8 million each fiscal year.

Fund Group	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Estimate	FY 2020 Introduced	FY 2021 Introduced
General Revenue	\$21,595,856	\$25,917,274	\$25,917,274	\$25,917,274
Internal Service Activity	\$132,069	\$1,471,513	\$1,483,664	\$1,483,664
Total	\$21,727,925	\$27,388,787	\$27,400,938	\$27,400,938
% change	--	26.1%	<0.5%	0.0%
<i>GRF % change</i>	--	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Overview

The legislative branch of the state of Ohio includes the General Assembly, which is composed of two chambers: the 99-member House of Representatives and the 33-member Senate. Based on Article II of the Ohio Constitution, the General Assembly has three fundamental legislative powers: (1) the power to enact laws providing for the establishment, organization, and operation of government in Ohio, (2) the power to enact all manner of laws that promote the public peace, health, safety, and welfare, and (3) the power to levy and collect taxes for certain purposes. The 99 members of the House of Representatives are elected every even-numbered year and cannot hold office for longer than four successive two-year terms. In addition to the members, the House of Representatives employs an administrative staff numbering 161 and a cohort of 75 pages. These numbers tend to remain stable from year to year and are not expected to change over the upcoming biennium relative to FY 2019 levels.

Analysis of FY 2020-FY 2021 budget proposal

R.C. 107.03(B) states that “no alterations shall be made in the [budget] requests for the legislative and judicial branches of the state filed with the director of budget and management” Therefore, the Governor has made no alterations to the budget request submitted by the House.

Of the budget proposal prepared by the House of Representatives, 94.6% of all appropriations to the House are supported by the GRF. Broken down by category of expense, approximately 90.5%, or \$49.6 million of the total for the biennium, is budgeted for payroll costs. Supplies, maintenance, and equipment make up about 6.6% of budgeted expenses, or about \$3.6 million. The remaining 2.9%, approximately \$1.6 million, is budgeted for purchased personal services and goods and services for resale. Below is a detailed discussion of the proposed budget for the House of Representatives on a line item-by-line item basis.

Operating Expenses (ALI 025321)

FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Estimate	FY 2020 Introduced	FY 2021 Introduced
GRF ALI 025321, Operating Expenses					
\$20,718,730	\$20,676,938	\$21,595,856	\$25,917,274	\$25,917,274	\$25,917,274
% change	-0.2%	4.4%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%

This line item is used mainly to cover the payroll costs and obligations associated with 99 House members, 161 full-time administrative staff, and 75 part-time pages. The budget also contains a temporary law provision, continued from previous budgets, requiring the Director of Budget and Management, at the direction of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House, to transfer all, or a portion, of the House's unexpended, unencumbered GRF appropriation from FY 2019 to FY 2020, and similarly, from FY 2020 to FY 2021.

House of Representatives Reimbursement (ALI 025601)

FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Estimate	FY 2020 Introduced	FY 2021 Introduced
Fund 1030 ALI 025601, House of Representatives Reimbursement					
\$287,678	\$631,505	\$97,391	\$1,433,664	\$1,433,664	\$1,433,664
% change	119.5%	-84.6%	1,372.1%	0.0%	0.0%

This line item is funded through miscellaneous reimbursements, such as refunds from the Department of Administrative Services for overpayments of medical insurance premiums for representatives; amounts received for the salvage and recycling of equipment, materials, and supplies; and payments from members and staff for the operating expenses of the House. The budget for the FY 2020-FY 2021 biennium contains a temporary law provision, as it has done in previous biennia, increasing the line item's appropriation if the Chief Administrative Officer of the House determines that additional amounts are necessary.

Miscellaneous Sales (ALI 025602)

FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Estimate	FY 2020 Introduced	FY 2021 Introduced
Fund 4A40 ALI 025602, Miscellaneous Sales					
\$25,267	\$33,890	\$34,678	\$37,849	\$50,000	\$50,000
% change	34.1%	2.3%	9.1%	32.1%	0.0%

This line item is funded by money collected from the sale of flags, insignia, seals, frames for resolutions, and similar items. This money is used to pay the costs of procuring these items for resale.