

**BUDGET TESTIMONY FOR THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BY CRAIG FLECK, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
BEFORE THE SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
April 30, 2019**

MS. CHAIRWOMAN, RANKING MEMBER WILLIAMS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE,

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2020 AND 2021.

OUR BUDGET IS COMPRISED OF THREE LINE ITEMS. THE FIRST LINE ITEM IS THE 321 GRF ACCOUNT, WHICH IS USED FOR GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES. THE HOUSE IS REQUESTING \$25.92 MILLION IN THIS ACCOUNT FOR BOTH FYS 2020 AND 2021. THIS REPRESENTS A 0% INCREASE IN THE APPROPRIATION FOR THIS BIENNIUM.

THE SECOND LINE ITEM IS THE 601 REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED TO RECEIVE REFUNDS FROM DAS FOR OVERPAYMENTS OF MEDICAL INSURANCE PREMIUMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 101.272 OF THE REVISED CODE. THIS ACCOUNT MAY BE USED FOR GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES.

THE THIRD LINE ITEM IS THE 602 SALES ROTARY ACCOUNT. THIS IS THE ACCOUNT THAT HOUSE MEMBERS USE TO PURCHASE ITEMS SUCH AS FLAGS, FRAMES, PRESENTATION FOLDERS AND SEALS. PAYMENTS FOR THESE ITEMS ARE DEPOSITED BACK INTO THIS ACCOUNT. WE ARE RESPECTIVELY ASKING TO INCREASE OUR APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY FROM 38k TO 50k.

OVER 90% OF OUR SPENDING GOES TOWARD PERSONNEL EXPENSES. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF NON-PAYROLL-RELATED SPENDING GOES TOWARD THE FOLLOWING FOUR ITEMS:

- ⊙ TECHNOLOGY EXPENDITURES;
- ⊙ MILEAGE;
- ⊙ POSTAGE; AND
- ⊙ PRINTING EXPENSES.

ALSO, THE COST OF HEALTH CARE FOR OUR MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES INCREASED BY 7% THIS FISCAL YEAR. WE ANTICIPATE ANOTHER RATE INCREASE IN THE UPCOMING BIENNIUM NEAR THE SAME AMOUNT OR GREATER.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST STUDY DONE BY NCSL, OHIO IS RANKED 48TH OUT OF 50 IN STATE LEGISLATIVE SPENDING PER CAPITA. WE HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLORE WAYS TO MANAGE OUR LIMITED RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY AND MAXIMIZE THE DOLLARS AVAILABLE TO US. I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND WILL BE HAPPY TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.