Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

125 th General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: Sub. S.B. 189 DATE: March 16, 2004

STATUS: As Passed by the House SPONSOR: Sen. Harris

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} LOCAL \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} MPACT \end{tabular} STATEMENT \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} REQUIRED: & No --- & Not \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} No --- & Not \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} Required \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} No --- & Not \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} Required \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} Req$

CONTENTS: To make capital reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2006, to make certain

supplemental and capital appropriations, and to provide authorization and conditions for

the operation of state programs

State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 2004	FY 2005-06 BIENNIUM		
<u>Capital Re</u>	appropriations			
General Revenue Fund	- 0 -	\$3,387,769 increase		
Wildlife Fund	- 0 -	\$7,541,073 increase		
Public School Building Fund	- 0 -	\$43,439,172 increase		
Highway Safety Fund	- 0 -	\$2,551,180 increase		
Waterways Safety Fund	- 0 -	\$10,538,229 increase		
Underground Parking Garage Operating Fund	- 0 -	\$1,442,864 increase		
Army National Guard Service Contract Fund	- 0 -	\$16,200,000 increase		
Special Administrative Fund	- 0 -	\$16,000,000 increase		
Capital Donations Fund	- 0 -	\$254,557 increase		
Community Match Armories Fund	- 0 -	\$8,600,000 increase		
State Fire Marshal Fund	- 0 -	\$1,900,000 increase		
Veterans' Home Improvement Fund	- 0 -	\$1,181,453 increase		
Education Facilities Trust Fund	- 0 -	\$17,534,131 increase		
Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund	- 0 -	\$17,008,475 increase		
Highway Safety Building Fund	- 0 -	\$8,925,995 increase		
Administrative Building Fund	- 0 -	\$163,084,591 increase		
Adult Correctional Building Fund	- 0 -	\$176,403,594 increase		
Juvenile Correctional Building Fund	- 0 -	\$27,209,649 increase		
Transportation Building Fund	- 0 -	\$35,000 increase		
Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund	- 0 -	\$43,970,114 increase		
Ohio Parks and Natural Resources Fund	- 0 -	\$59,071,321 increase		
School Building Program Assistance Fund	- 0 -	\$11,921,717 increase		
Mental Health Facilities Improvement Fund	- 0 -	\$36,992,670 increase		
Higher Education Improvement Fund	- 0 -	\$576,230,916 increase		
Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund	- 0 -	\$30,102,675 increase		
State Capital Improvements Fund	- 0 -	\$290,546,575 increase		
State Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund	- 0 -	\$62,653,099 increase		
Clean Ohio Conservation Fund	- 0 -	\$46,531,065 increase		
Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Fund	- 0 -	\$6,256,886 increase		
Clean Ohio Trail Fund	- 0 -	\$6,250,000 increase		
Capital A	ppropriations			
School Building Program Assistance Fund	- 0 -	\$522,600,000 increase		
State Capital Improvements Fund	- 0 -	\$120,000,000 increase		
State Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund	-0-	\$16,750,000 increase		
Higher Education Improvement Fund	- 0 -	\$50,000,000 increase		
Budget Adjustments and Transfers (revenues and expenditures)				
General Revenue Fund (GRF)				
Revenues	\$1.5 million gain	\$5.7 million gain		
	<i>5</i>			
	Gain of \$889,196 in federal	Gain of \$30,010,723 in		

STATE FUND	reim SY's 2004 tof Medicaid costs	FE/2005-06/BEE/INITION Medicaid costs
	D. (11.1)	D. C.
	Potential indeterminate loss as	Potential indeterminate loss
	a result of making transfers	as a result of making
	from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund permissive	transfers from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund permissive
	Fund permissive	Fiscai Reliei Fund permissive
	Potential loss of approximately	Potential indeterminate loss
	\$1.6 million due to transfers to	due to transfers to the School
	the School District Solvency	District Solvency Assistance
	Assistance Fund	Fund
Expenditures	Increase of \$4,724,074	Increase of \$200,000
		due to over-earmarked OHS line item
	20000 406	20000000
	Increase of \$889,196	Increase of \$30,010,723
	in federal share of	in federal share of
Central Service Agency Fund (Fund 115)	Medicaid costs	Medicaid costs
Revenues	\$1,210 gain	\$1,340 gain
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
Motor Vehicle Collision Repair Registration Fund (-	<u> </u>
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures Expenditures	\$1,210 increase	\$1,340 increase
	\$1,210 Militado	ψ1,0 10 11010
Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024)		
Revenues	Loss due to fund elimination	- 0 -
Expenditures	Decrease due to fund	- 0 -
	elimination	- 0 -
Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030)		
Revenues	Gain equal to amount from	_
	Sports Facilities Building Fund	- 0 -
- "	(Fund 024)	
Expenditures	Increase equal to amount from	
	Sports Facilities Building Fund	- 0 -
Farm Service Electronic Filing (Fund 5Y7)	(Fund 024)	
Revenues	Loss of \$60,000	Loss of \$60,000
Expenditures Expenditures	Minimal decrease	Minimal decrease
Cooperative Contracts (Fund 382)	TVIII III decrease	TVIII III III GCCICASC
Revenues	Gain of \$60,000	Gain of \$60,000
Expenditures	Minimal increase	Minimal increase
Auctioneers (Fund 5B8)	1. IIIII IIII IIII	1.11.1111111111111111111111111111111111
Revenues	Potential minimal gain	Potential minimal gain
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
	· ·	l
•		
•	Potential minimal loss	Potential minimal loss
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues	Potential minimal loss	Potential minimal loss
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures		
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures		
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556)	- 0 -	- 0 -
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 -	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 -
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 -	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of up to approximately \$30\\$35 million as a	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in FY 2004 to the
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - Increase of up to approximately \$30\\$35 million as a result of transfers to the	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in FY 2004 to the Interagency Reimbursement
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of up to approximately \$30 l \$35 million as a result of transfers to the Interagency Reimbursement	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in FY 2004 to the
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - Increase of up to approximately \$30\\$35 million as a result of transfers to the	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in FY 2004 to the Interagency Reimbursement
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of up to approximately \$30 l \$35 million as a result of transfers to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in FY 2004 to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund
Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) Revenues Expenditures Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556) Revenues Expenditures Federal Fiscal Relief Fund Revenues	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of up to approximately \$30 l \$35 million as a result of transfers to the Interagency Reimbursement	- 0 - \$75,000 gain in fees to file an appeal - 0 - - 0 - Increase of any amount not transferred in FY 2004 to the Interagency Reimbursement

STATE FUND	the amount FY 12004 insferred to	FY2005406 BRENING UM
	the Medicaid Reserve Fund an	transferred to the Medicaid
	"up to" amount	Reserve Fund an "up to"
	1	amount
	Potential indeterminate	
	decrease as a result of making	Potential indeterminate
	the transfers to the General	decrease as a result of
	Revenue Fund permissive	making the transfers to the
		General Revenue Fund
		permissive
Medicaid Reserve Fund		
Revenues	Potential indeterminate	Potential indeterminate loss
	loss as a result of making	as a result of making the
	the amount to be	amount to be transferred
	transferred from the	from the Federal Fiscal Relie
	Federal Fiscal Relief Fund an	Fund an "up to" amount
	"up to" amount	
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
Interagency Reimbursement Fund		
Revenues	Gain of up to approximately	Potential gain of any amount
	\$30 1 \$35 million as a result of	not transferred in FY 2004
	transfers from the Federal	from the Federal Fiscal Relie
	Fiscal Relief Fund	Fund
Expenditures	Increase of up to	Potential increase in
	approximately \$30 \$35 million	enhanced federal
	as a	reimbursement to local
	result of passing enhanced	entities if not all
	federal reimbursement	disbursed in FY 2004
	on to local entities	
State Racing Commission Operating F		
Revenues	- 0 -	Increase of \$950,000
		in FY 2005 only
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
	ate (Fund 4A3) – Public Utilities Commission	
Revenues	- 0 -	Potential Gain
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
School District Solvency Assistance Fu		
Revenues	Gain of approximately \$1.6	Potential gain
7	million	B
Expenditures	Increase of approximately \$1.6	Potential increase
C4-4- E4 E 1/E 1/500	million	
State Forest Fund (Fund 509)	N7	NT / '
Revenues	Net gain	Net gain
Expenditures	No net effect	No net effect
Forestry Holding Account Redistribution		
Revenues	No net effect	No net effect
Expenditures	No net effect	No net effect

Note: The state fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. For example, FY 2004 is July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004.

- Capital Reappropriations. The total amount of capital moneys reappropriated is estimated at approximately \$1.7 billion (\$1,693,764,770).
- <u>Capital Appropriations</u>. New capital appropriations contained in the bill are for the School Facilities Commission and the Public Works Commission. Of the \$709.4 million in new appropriations, \$522.6 million is for the School Building Program Assistance Fund (Fund 032), \$120.0 million is for the State Capital Improvements Fund (Fund 038), \$16.8 million is for the State Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund (Fund 040), and \$50.0 million is for the Higher Education Improvement Fund (Fund 034). These moneys will be provided to school districts and local governments to support new or ongoing capital improvement projects.
- Central Services Agency. This bill provides for the transfer of up to \$1,210 in FY 2004 and up to \$1,340 in FY 2005 from the Motor Vehicle Collision Repair Registration Fund (Fund 5H9) to the Central Service Agency Fund (Fund 115).
- <u>Arts and Sports Facilities Commission</u>. The Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) is being eliminated in the state treasury and merged into the former Arts Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030), which is renamed in the bill as the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030). All revenues and expenditures previously made to and from the Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) are transferred to the

Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030).

- **Department of Agriculture.** The Farm Service Electronic Filing Fund (Fund 5Y7) is eliminated. The \$60,000 appropriation is transferred to the Cooperative Contracts Fund (Fund 382) in both FYs 2004 and 2005. There is no net effect on the Department's appropriation total.
- <u>Department of Agriculture</u>. Currently, if the Auctioneers Fund (Fund 5B8) has a balance of greater than \$300,000, 25% of that balance must be transferred to the Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1) at the request of the Director of Agriculture. The bill limits the transfer to 25% of the balance that is in excess of \$300,000. As a result, Fund 5B8 could retain greater revenues, while Fund 5U1 could lose revenues.
- **Board of Regents.** Descriptive language is updated to reflect the current formula for the allocation of State Share of Instruction subsidy funds among the campuses.
- **Board of Regents.** Language is added to describe the use of Capital Scholarship Program funds for undergraduate participants in the Washington Center Internship Program Scholarship amounts are to be \$1,800 for a student enrolled at a quarter-system institution and \$2,300 for a student enrolled at a semester-system institution.
- <u>Department of Commerce</u>. This bill increases the maximum amount of the fee that the Department of Commerce's Board of Building Appeals may charge for the cost of filing and processing an appeal from \$100 to \$200, resulting in a \$75,000 revenue gain each year in the Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 556).
- <u>Department of Development</u>. Requires the Department to spend no more than 5% of the current appropriation authority on administrative expenses. Current law requires that no more than 5% of the money in the fund can be spent on administrative expenses. This change has no net fiscal effect.
- <u>Department of Education</u>. The bill modifies the transportation requirement for nonpublic and community school students, which could possibly increase the state's share of school district transportation expenditures.
- <u>Department of Education</u>. The bill allows the Ohio Department of Education to use up to \$100,000 in FY 2005 of GRF appropriation item 200-449, Head Start/Head Start Plus Start Up, to provide program support and technical assistance to Head Start and Head Start Plus agencies.
- Ethics Commission. Removes the requirement that members of Congress file a \$40 annual financial disclosure filing fee with the Ohio Ethics Commission. The Ohio Ethics Commission will not experience any reductions in revenue because it does not collect filing fees from members of Congress despite the statutory requirement. The Federal Ethics in Government Act supercedes the application of any state financial disclosure filing requirements to the members of Congress.
- *Ohio Historical Society.* Increases the appropriation by \$200,000 and various earmarks in GRF appropriation item 360-508, Historical Grants, in each fiscal year.
- **Department of Job and Family Services.** For FY 2004, there is a \$4,524,074 increase in appropriation authority for GRF appropriation line item 600-523, Children and Family Subsidy. The Department will use the additional funds to pay for foster parent training that occurred in a prior fiscal year.
- Department of Job and Family Services. The bill increases the federal share of the appropriation authority in GRF appropriation item 600-525, Health Care/Medicaid, by \$889,196 in FY 2004 and by \$30,010,723 in FY 2005.
- <u>Medicaid Reserve Fund</u>. The bill changes the total amount that the Director of OBM is to transfer to the Medicaid Reserve Fund from \$18,611,156 in FY 2004 and \$90,851,972 in FY 2005 to **up to** \$18,611,156 in FY 2004 and **up to** \$90,851,972 in FY 2005. Thus, the bill will result in a potential decrease in the expenditures in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund and a potential loss of revenue transferred to the Medicaid Reserve Fund.
- Transfer from Federal Fiscal Relief Fund. The bill requires the Director of OBM to transfer a certain amount from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund. According to a spokesperson from OBM, the majority of the transfer is likely to occur in FY 2004. Any amount that is not transferred in FY 2004 will be transferred in FY 2005. Thus, for FY 2004, the bill will result in an increase of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in the expenditures of the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund and a gain of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in revenue to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund. For FY 2005, the bill could result in an increase in the expenditures from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund of any amount that is not transferred in FY 2004 and a gain of that amount in revenue to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund.
- Interagency Reimbursement Fund. The bill also requires, if necessary, OBM to seek Controlling Board approval for an increase in the appropriation in federal line items used by certain state departments to pass on the federal share to certain local entities. Thus, the bill will result in an increase of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in the expenditures from the Interagency Reimbursement Fund and a gain of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in the revenue for county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities; boards of mental health; boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services; boards of alcohol and drug addiction services; and any other entity that qualifies under the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.
- <u>Department of Job and Family Services</u>. The bill makes it permissive for the Director of OBM to transfer the remaining cash in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund to the GRF. It is estimated that up to \$241.6 million will be remaining in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund. Thus, the bill will result in a potential indeterminate decrease in expenditures from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund and a potential indeterminate loss in revenue to the GRF.

- <u>Department of Health</u>. The bill would decrease the time a person can be employed by home health and hospice agencies without the results of a background check from 60 days to 30 days. This provision would not impact the number of background checks being performed, therefore, LSC estimates that it would have no direct fiscal impact on state or local government entities.
- *Estate Taxes.* State estate tax revenue is estimated to increase by \$4.2 million while the local subdivisions estate tax revenue will decrease by \$4.2 million due to the changes in the payment proportion of the estate tax administrative costs and local expenses.
- <u>Tuition Trust Authority</u>. The bill directs the Tuition Trust Authority, when calculating the weighted average tuition of state universities for purposes of its Guaranteed Savings Program, to exclude any tuition reductions that vary among individual students.
- State Racing Commission. An additional 1/4% tax on exotic wagers at racetracks during FY 2005 would raise an estimated \$0.95 million for the State Racing Commission Operating Fund.
- <u>Case Western Reserve University</u>. Provides eighteen reappropriation items totaling \$5,471,399 to fund the purchases of facilities and equipment.
- *Third Frontier Project.* Makes a new capital appropriation of \$50,000,000 in the Higher Education Improvement Fund (Fund 34) for the Board of Regents in order to provide additional funding for the Third Frontier Project.
- <u>Cleveland Botanical Gardens</u>. Moves the Cleveland Botanical Gardens project, along with the \$2.5 million capital reappropriation, from the Arts and Sports Facilities Commission (under the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund) to the Ohio State University (under the Higher Education Improvement Fund).
- <u>Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad</u>. Reduces the capital reappropriation for the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad project from \$3,716,666 to \$1,000,000 (under the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund), in order to provide \$1,634,666 to the Akron Art Museum (under the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund), and \$1,082,000 to the University of Akron to fund four separate projects (under the Higher Education Improvement Fund).
- <u>Department of Job and Family Services</u>. The bill includes a provision that would allow the Commission to Reform Medicaid to reimburse
 members for all actual and necessary expenses. This would cause a minimal increase in the Commission's expenses. The Department of Job
 and Family Services is currently trying to acquire federal funds for this purpose, which may be used to offset some of the reimbursement
 expenses.
- <u>Department of Transportation</u>. Appropriation item 870-614, Grade Crossing Protection Devices-State, may experience a revenue gain from the transfer of a FY 2002 encumbrance from discontinued Department of Transportation line item 776-665, Railroad Crossing Safety Devices. The Office of Budget and Management estimate the remaining encumbrance to be approximately \$645,600.
- Adjutant General. The bill grants permission to the Adjutant General, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Budget and
 Management, to request that the Controlling Board release funds from GRF appropriation item 911-401, Emergency Purposes/Contingencies,
 for the purchase of outer tactical vests with ceramic inserts for all members of the Ohio National Guard entering Operation Iraqi Freedom,
 Operation Enduring Freedom, or any other combat zone.
- **Board of Regents.** The bill increases the appropriation of GRF appropriation item 235-599, National Guard Scholarship Program, by \$1.5 million in each fiscal year.
- <u>Department of Job and Family Services</u>. The bill would require the Department to release information about public welfare recipients to an entity administering a program assisting needy individuals with the costs of public utility services. This provision would not require the collection of new information; therefore, LSC estimates that it would have no direct fiscal impact on the state.
- Environmental Protection Agency. The bill clarifies that hazardous waste facilities that currently pay a fee for deep well disposal of hazardous wastes are exempt from having to also pay a fee for a hazardous waste facility operating permit. The provision reflects Ohio EPA's current practice and has no fiscal effect on either the Underground Injection Control Fund (Fund 4J0), or the Hazardous Waste Facility Management Fund (Fund 503).
- The 3.9% additional tuition increase. The bill amends the Board of Regents' current operating budget language to clarify the purpose of the allowed 3.9% additional tuition increase.
- <u>Department of Education.</u> The bill permits the Director of Budget and Management to transfer cash to the School District Solvency Fund (Fund 5H3) from the GRF and any fund administered by the Department of Education. The Office of Budget and Management estimates approximately \$1.6 million will be transferred in FY 2004.
- Lottery Commission. The bill extends the deadline from 180 days to 540 days for a lottery prize winner on active military duty to claim a lottery prize.
- <u>Department of Natural Resources.</u> Moneys from the sale of standing timber are placed into the Forestry Holding Account Redistribution Fund instead of the State Forest Fund as under current law. The redistribution of these revenues will also come from the Forestry Holding

Account Redistribution Fund. Overall, there could be a net gain in revenues in the State Forest Fund since the fund will now receive moneys for the direct costs involved with the sale of standing timber, as well as 25% of the net value. The GRF could realize a potential loss in revenues due to the change in the redistribution process. According to DNR, this change was made in H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly; this language clarifies the actual flow of moneys.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 2004	FY 2005-06 BIENNIUM
Local Governments (Counties, Municipalities ar	nd Townships)	
Revenues	Potential minimal gain	\$4.2 million loss
Expenditures	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase
Certain School Districts		
Revenues	Potential gain	Potential gain
Expenditures	Potential increase	Potential increase
County boards of mental retardation and develo	pmental disabilities; boards of r	nental health; boards of
alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health servic	es; boards of alcohol and drug a	
Revenues	Gain of up to approximately \$30 \$35 million in enhanced federal reimbursement	Potential indeterminate gain in enhanced federal reimbursement if not all received in FY 2004
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
Local Governments (Grade Crossing Profile and	Safety Improvement Program	grant recipients)
Revenues	- 0 -	Potential gain up to \$5,000 and up to \$25,000 from PUCO grants
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
County departments of job and family services;	county boards of workforce dev	elopment; county workforce
development agencies; municipal corporations fo		
Revenues	Potential indeterminate	Potential indeterminate decrease
	decrease as a result of making	as a result of
	Workforce Investment Act	making Workforce
	fund transfers to local area	Investment Act fund
	"workforce development	transfers to local area
	funds" rather than to previously designated funds	"workforce development funds" rather than to previously designated funds
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
Local areas' workforce development funds		
Revenues	Potential indeterminate increase	Potential indeterminate increase
	as a result of making	as a result of
	Workforce Investment Act	making Workforce
	fund transfers to local area	Investment Act fund
	"workforce development	transfers to local area
	funds" rather than to previously	"workforce development funds"
	designated funds	rather than to previously designated funds
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -
Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calen		. 1 1 1 1 1 1 20

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- <u>Public Works Commission capital appropriations</u>. The bill appropriates \$136.8 million in new capital moneys for the Public Works Commission through the State Capital Improvements Fund (Fund 038) and the State Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund (Fund 040). These moneys will be provided to local governments in the form of grants and loans to support new or ongoing capital improvements projects.
- <u>Department of Education</u>. The bill modifies the transportation requirement for nonpublic and community school students, which could possibly increase school districts' transportation expenditures.
- <u>Estate taxes</u>. State estate tax revenue is estimated to increase by \$4.2 million while the local subdivisions estate tax revenue will decrease by \$4.2 million due to the changes in the payment proportion of the estate tax administrative costs and local expenses.
- <u>Federal Share</u>. The bill also requires, if necessary, OBM to seek Controlling Board approval for an increase in the appropriation in federal line items used by certain state departments to pass on the federal share to certain local entities. Thus, the bill will result in an increase of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in the expenditures from the Interagency Reimbursement Fund and a gain of up to approximately \$30

million to \$35 million in the revenue for county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities; boards of mental health; boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services; boards of alcohol and drug addiction services; and any other entity that qualifies under the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.

- <u>Department of Natural Resources</u>. The requirement that the County Commissioners of Ashtabula County use the design-build construction method in the construction of a lodge and conference center at Geneva State Park is removed. It is possible that the design-build method could result in lower costs due to the fact that one contractor is responsible for both the design and the construction. As such, if Ashtabula County chooses to forego the design-build method, expenditures for the project could increase.
- Rail Improvements. Certain political subdivisions may experience a revenue gain if they are recipients of matching grants up to \$5,000 for nonprofile rail improvements and up to \$25,000 for profile rail improvements. Grants will be available through the Grade Crossing Profile and Safety Improvement Program.
- County departments of job and family services; county boards of workforce development; county workforce development agencies; municipal corporations for workforce development. Currently, allocations under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) are transferred to a variety of local funds in accordance with existing law. The bill would require the creation of a Workforce Development Fund in each local area and requires the Director of Job and Family Services to transfer allocations under WIA to the Workforce Development Fund of each local recipient. The total amount of funds transferred to the local area recipients would not change; therefore, LSC estimates that it would have no direct fiscal impact on these affected agencies.
- <u>County Departments of Job and Family Services</u>. The bill would require county departments of job and family services to release information about public welfare recipients to an entity administering a program assisting needy individuals with the costs of public utility services. This provision would not require the collection of new information; therefore, LSC estimates that it would have no direct fiscal impact on counties.
- <u>Department of Education.</u> The bill permits the Director of Budget and Management to transfer cash to the School District Solvency Fund
 (Fund 5H3). These transfers will enable the state to advance funds to certain school districts to enable them to remain solvent. The Office of
 Budget and Management estimates approximately \$1.6 million will be transferred in FY 2004.
- <u>Department of Natural Resources.</u> Due to the change in the redistribution process, it is possible that local governments involved in standing timber sales, could realize a minimal increase in revenues. The revenue gain will allow for an increase in expenditures.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

I. Capital Reappropriations

TOTAL REAPPROPRIATIONS ¹ BY FUND BY AGENCY			
Fiscal Years 2005-2006			
	Departments		
GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
Department of Administrative Services	\$1,510,077		
Arts and Sports Facilities Commission	\$350,000		
Ohio Historical Society	\$30,721		
Department of Natural Resources	<u>\$1,496,971</u>		
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$3,387,769		
WLDLIFE FUND			
Department of Natural Resources	\$7,541,073		
PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING FUND			
School Facilities Commission	\$43,439,172		
HIGHWAY SAFETY FUND			
Department of Public Safety	\$2,551,180		
 WATERWAYS SAFETY FUND			
Department of Natural Resources	\$10,538,304		
UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE OPERATING FUND			
Capital Square Review and Advisory Board	\$1,442,864		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD SERVICE CONTRACT FUND			
Adjutant General	\$16,200,000		

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE FUND	
Department of Job and Family Services Years 2005-2006	\$16,000,000
	Departments
CAPITAL DONATIONS FUND	
Arts and Sports Facilities Commission	\$254,557
COMMUNITY MATCH ARMORIES FUND	
Adjutant General	\$8,600,000
Adjutant Gonoral	φο,σσσ,σσσ
STATE FIRE MARSHAL FUND	
Department of Commerce	\$1,900,000
VETERANS' HOME IMPROVEMENT FUND	
Ohio Veterans' Home	\$1,181,453
EDUCATION FACILITIES TRUST FUND	
School Facilities Commission	¢17 50/ 101
School Facilities Commission	\$17,534,131
CLEAN OHIO REVITALIZATION FUND	
Department of Development	\$17,008,475
HIGHWAY SAFETY BUILDING FUND	
Department of Public Safety	\$8,925,995
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING FUND	
Adjutant General	\$12,883,504
Department of Administrative Services	\$118,516,627
Department of Aging	\$10,013
Department of Agriculture	\$1,669,973
Attorney General	\$1,788,188
Capital Square Review and Advisory Board	\$1,034,316
Department of Commerce	\$26,500
Expositions Commission	\$7,761,864
Department of Health	\$800,000
Judiciary/Supreme Court	\$1,381,580
Department of Natural Resources	\$5,250,919
Department of Public Safety	\$1,782,360
School for the Blind	\$1,506,291
School for the Deaf	\$2,232,610
Ohio Veterans' Home	\$600,000
Secretary of State	\$5,800,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING FUND	\$163,084,591
	,,
ADULT CORRECTIONAL BUILDING FUND	
Department of Rehabilitation and Correction	
Statewide and Central Office Projects	\$101,465,217
Allen Correctional Institution	\$189,546
Belmont Correctional Institution	\$2,613,468
Chillicothe Correctional Institution	\$3,502,116
Correctional Reception Center	\$268,280
Correctional Medical Center	\$129,045
Corrections Training Academy	\$991,518
Dayton Correctional Institution	\$770,700
Franklin Pre-Release Center	\$41,672
Grafton Correctional Institution	\$420,856
Hocking Correctional Institution	\$73,774

ADULT CORRECTIONAL BUILDING FUND continued	
Lake Erie Correctional Institution	\$142,435
Lebanon Correctional Institution	\$2,439,640
London Correctional Institution	\$1,937,363
Lorain Correctional Institution	\$500
Madison Correctional Institution	\$819,220
Mansfield Correctional Institution	\$1,227,941
Marion Correctional Institution	\$1,718,789
North Coast Correctional Treatment Facility	\$73,163
Northeast Pre-Release Center	\$117,462
Oakwood Correctional Facility	\$96,945
Ohio Reformatory for Women	\$13,106,187
Ohio State Penitentiary	\$4,250,337

Pickaway Correctional Institution	\$18,289,165
Pickaway Correctional Institution Pickaway Correctional Institution Richland Correctional Institution	\$70,634
Richland Correctional Institution Ross Correctional Institution Ross Correctional Institution	\$7,230,805
Southeastern Correctional Institution	Departments
Southern Ohio Correctional Facility	\$4,925,698
Toledo Correctional Institution	\$1,118,383
Trumbull Correctional Institution	\$700,306
Warren Correctional Institution	\$292,131
TOTAL Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections	\$176,403,594
TOTAL ADULT CORRECTIONAL BUILDING FUND	\$176,403,594
JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL BUILDING FUND	
Department of Youth Services	\$27,209,649
TRANSPORTATION BUILDING FUND	
Department of Transportation	\$35,000
ARTS AND SPORTS FACILITIES BUILDING FUND	
Arts and Sports Facilities Commission	\$43,970,114
OHIO PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES FUND	
Department of Natural Resources	
Statewide and Local Projects	\$35,513,663
Civilian Conservation	\$1,849,283
Forestry	\$1,505,143
Mineral Resources Management	\$19,500
Natural Areas and Preserves	\$812,055
Parks and Recreation	\$14,513,075
Soil and Water Conservation	\$500
Water	<u>\$4,858,102</u>
TOTAL Department of Natural Resources	\$59,071,321
TOTAL OHIO PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES FUND	\$59,071,321

SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM ASSISTANCE FUND	
School Facilities Commission	\$11,921,717
MENTAL LIE ALTIL FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT FUND	
MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT FUND	40,000,054
Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services	\$3,608,654
Department of Mental Health	\$7,125,973
Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities	#00.400.050
Statewide Projects	\$22,120,358
Apple Creek Developmental Center	\$850,708
Cambridge Developmental Center	\$191,712
Columbus Developmental Center	\$284,663
Gallipolis Developmental Center	\$160,000
Montgomery Developmental Center	\$91,172
Mt. Vernon Developmental Center	\$543,789 \$450,400
Northwest Ohio Developmental Center	\$459,409 \$335,073
Southwest Ohio Developmental Center Springview Developmental Center	\$335,072 \$327,905
Tiffin Developmental Center	\$570,841
Warrensville Developmental Center	\$370,641 \$322,414
TOTAL Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities	\$26,258,043
TOTAL MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$36,992,670
	Ψ30,332,070
HIGHER EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT FUND	
Educational Telecommunications Network Commission	\$1,702,365
Board of Regents	\$69,559,331
University of Akron	\$20,706,309
Bowling Green State University	\$26,597,729
Central State University	\$14,050,737
University of Cincinnati	\$30,208,640
Cleveland State University	\$25,417,813
Kent State University	\$21,095,892
Miami University	\$20,031,513
Ohio State University	\$163,205,353
Ohio University	\$15,442,606
Shawnee State University	\$4,926,235
University of Toledo	\$27,453,693
Wright State University	\$16,781,509
Youngstown State University	\$12,668,969
Medical College of Ohio	\$3,997,721

Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine By FUND BY AGENCY	\$3,730,138
Case Western Reserve University Cincinnati State Technical and Cofficiality Case 2005-2006	\$5,471,399 \$5,443,485
Clark State Community College	Departie Res
Columbus State Community College	\$26,609,957
Cuyahoga Community College	\$20,946,564
Edison State Community College	\$470,944
HIGHER EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT FUND continued	
Jefferson Community College	\$1,712,961
Lakeland Community College	\$5,342,236
Lorain Community College	\$1,471,167
Northwest State Community College	\$597,364
Owens Community College	\$12,575,562
Rio Grande Community College	\$840,853
Sinclair Community College	\$2,957,794
Southern State Community College	\$1,362,181
Terra State Community College	\$495,591
Washington State Community College	\$150,548
Belmont Technical College	\$797,906
Central Ohio Technical College	\$154,332
Hocking Technical College	\$1,059,651
Lima Technical College	\$5,102,569
Muskingum Area Technical College	\$1,089,481
Marion Technical College	\$289,367
North Central Technical College	\$427,579
Stark Technical College	\$2,376,819
TOTAL HIGHER EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$576,230,916
PARKS AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENT FUND	
Department of Natural Resources	\$30,102,675
Department of Natural Nesources	φ30, 102,073
STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	
Public Works Commission	\$290,546,575
T done worke commission	Ψ200,010,070
STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS REVOLVING LOAN FUND	
Public Works Commission	\$62,653,099
CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND	
Public Works Commission	\$46,531,065
CLEAN OUIO ACDICUI TUDAL EACEMENT FUND	
CLEAN OHIO AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT FUND	40.050.000
Department of Agriculture	\$6,256,886
CLEAN OHIO TRAIL FUND	
Department of Natural Resources	¢ ፎ ንፎስ ስስሳ
Department of Natural Nesources	\$6,250,000
TOTAL REAPPROPRIATIONS, ALL FUNDS	\$1,693,764,770

¹ Amounts are estimates of what will be reappropriated effective July 1, 2004.

Arts and Sports Facilities Commission

Akron Art Museum

Increases the capital reappropriation under the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund to the Akron Art Museum by \$1,634,666, from \$5,000,000 to \$6,634,666, using a portion of the funds that were reduced from the capital reappropriation for the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

Cleveland Botanical Gardens

Moves the Cleveland Botanical Gardens project, along with the \$2.5 million capital reappropriation, from the Arts and Sports Facilities Commission (under the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund) to The Ohio State University (under the Higher Education Improvement Fund).

Board of Regents

Case Western Reserve University

The bill provides a list of capital reappropriation items for the Case Western Reserve University. The funds are chiefly for the University to purchase research facilities and equipment both for its own research efforts and for research by consortiums of several universities. The total amount of the 18 capital appropriation items is \$5,471,399.

University of Akron

Increases the capital reappropriation under the Higher Education Improvement Fund to the University of Akron by \$1,082,000, from \$19,624,309 to \$20,706,309, using a portion of the funds that were reduced from the capital reappropriation for the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. This increase will be used to fund four separate projects: \$500,000 for the Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens project (in addition to the \$250,000 capital reappropriation under the Arts and Sports Facilities Commission), \$100,000 for the Weathervane Theatre, Akron project, \$100,000 for the Case Barlow Farm, Hudson project, and \$382,000 for the Springfield High School/University of Akron Distance Learning project.

The Ohio State University/Cleveland Botanical Gardens

Moves the Cleveland Botanical Gardens project, along with the \$2.5 million capital reappropriation, from the Arts and Sports Facilities Commission (under the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund) to The Ohio State University (under the Higher Education Improvement Fund).

II. Capital Appropriations

Public Works Commission

The bill appropriates a total of \$136.8 million in new capital moneys for the Public Works Commission through the State Capital Improvements Fund (Fund 038) and the State Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund (Fund 040). These moneys include: (1) \$120 million appropriated from Fund 038 to CAP-150, Local Public Infrastructure, and (2) \$16.8 million appropriated from Fund 040 to CAP-151, Revolving Loan. These appropriations support the State Capital Improvement Program, which provides low interest loans and grants to local governments for projects involving roads and bridges, fresh water supply treatment and distribution systems, wastewater collection and treatment facilities, storm sewer systems, and solid waste disposal facilities. Grant funding comes from \$120 million in bonds issued each year with the GRF used as debt support. All repayments of loans, investment earnings, and moneys from federal or private grants are deposited into the revolving loan fund.

School Facilities Commission

Under the bill, \$522,600,000 is appropriated to the School Building Program Assistance Fund (Fund 032) for the FY 2005-2006 biennium. These moneys are generated from the sale of general obligation bonds and provide the state share of basic project costs pursuant to Chapter 3318. of the Revised Code. These funds will be applied to projects approved under the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program, the Accelerated Urban Program, the Exceptional Needs Program, and the Expedited Local Partnership Program.

The Classroom Facilities Assistance Program (CFAP) is the largest of the School Facilities Commission's (SFC) building programs. Through FY 2004, SFC will have provided funding for replacement and renovation projects in 124 school districts in Ohio with over \$3.4 billion in state funding committed. The local share of these projects totals \$650 million. Currently, the SFC's largest CFAP project is the Lorain City School District where the state is paying \$175 million of a \$216 million project. The next ten districts to be serviced under this program are: Steubenville City (Jefferson County), Hardin Northern Local (Hardin County), Millcreek West Unity Local (Williams County), Licking Valley Local (Licking County), Indian Valley Local (Tuscarawas County), Galion City (Crawford County), Clear Fork Valley Local (Richland County), Martins Ferry City (Belmont County), Wheelersburg Local (Scioto County), and Mansfield City (Richland County).

The Accelerated Urban Program accelerates projects for the six largest urban districts (Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Toledo) due to the size and complexity of their problems. All six districts have acquired their local spending. The total projected cost for the six plans is \$5.74 billion, of which \$2.95 billion will be state supported.

The Exceptional Needs Program (ENP), developed in 1999, was designed to address the health and safety needs of districts with below average wealth. In order for a school district to be eligible for benefits under this program, the building involved must need replacement rather than expansion or renovation. The School Facilities Commission is allowed to use up to 25% of its yearly appropriations for CFAP to fund ENP projects. A total of 26 school districts have been served under this program with total costs of \$465.9 million.

Along with ENP, the Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP) was also founded in 1999. This program allows school districts to fund a distinct portion of their Facilities Master Plan through local moneys prior to the time their state funding becomes available through CFAP. Once a district enters CFAP, it receives credit against its local contribution for the work already completed under ELPP. Since its inception, over 250 districts have applied for ELPP. Currently, 95 districts have reached agreement with the SFC on a Facility Master Plan and have been approved for participation in ELPP. Furthermore, approximately 43 ELPP districts are currently engaged in construction. Recently, Seneca East school district (Seneca County) had their ELPP Facility Master Plan accepted by SFC at a cost of approximately \$24 million.

Board of Regents

Third Frontier Project

Makes a new capital appropriation under the Higher Education Improvement Fund of \$50,000,000 to the Board of Regents in order to provide additional funding to the Third Frontier Project. The additional funds shall be used to provide grants for the acquisition, renovation, or construction of facilities, as well as the purchasing of equipment for research programs, technology development, product development, and

commercialization programs at or involving state-supported and state-assisted institutions of higher education.

III. Budget Adjustments, Fund Transfers, and Other Corrections

Department of Administrative Services

Salary Schedules for Exempt State Employees and One-Time 2% Pay Supplement

This bill eliminates the highest salary or wage step, Step 7 (reserved for exempt employees who perform at an exemplary level), from the current and future salary or wage Schedules E-1, and creates new and separate salary or wage schedules exclusively for Step 7 entitled "Schedule E-1 for Step Seven Only." According to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), less than 1,000 state employees are paid at step 7, mostly within the Department of Public Safety and Transportation. This bill also requires that certain exempt employees be paid under Schedule E-1 or E-2.

In addition, this bill requires that the one-time 2% pay supplement that eligible permanent employees who are to be compensated under the new schedule will be based on the annualization of Step 6 of the employee's corresponding pay range in Schedule E-1. It is likely that these provisions will result in payroll savings to the state. Approximately 50% of payroll is paid out of the General Revenue Fund and the other 50% is paid out of other agency operating funds, therefore, the largest savings will be realized by the GRF. However, this bill also makes exempt permanent employees of state boards and commissions eligible for the one-time 2% pay supplement, thus increasing payroll expenses in December 2004 for these boards and commissions. This rectifies an apparent omission.

Administrative Building Fund

This bill specifies that the Director of Budget and Management may transfer specified amounts of investment earnings, instead of a certain percentage as stated in current law, from the Administrative Building Fund to the State Architect's Fund. These specified amounts must be in excess of the amounts required to meet federal requirements. In addition, this bill requires the Director to approve and provide a voucher for rebates and payments made from the Administrative Building Fund to meet federal arbitrage requirements under the Internal Revenue Code. These changes will not have any effect on the actual transferred amount of money from the Administrative Building Fund to the State Architect's Fund. The first transfer of funds, from the 4th quarter of FY 2003, totaled \$172,881 and the second transfer of funds, from the 1st quarter of FY 2004, totaled \$97,660.

State Architect's Office Duties

This bill authorizes, rather than requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to periodically do all the following: (1) require each state agency to categorize the use of space allotted to the agency between office space, common areas, storage space, and other uses and report its findings to DAS, (2) create and update a master space utilitization plan for all space allotted to state agencies, (3) conduct a cost-benefit analysis to determine the effectiveness of state-owned buildings, and (4) assess periodically the alternatives associated with consolidating the commercial leases for buildings located in Columbus. By authorizing and not requiring DAS to fulfill these duties the State Architect's Office may experience some savings. This office is funded by the GRF and the State Architect Fund (Fund 131).

Central Services Agency

This bill provides for the transfer of up to \$1,210 in FY 2004 and up to \$1,340 in FY 2005 from the Motor Vehicle Collision Repair Registration Fund (Fund 5H9) in the Department of Transportation to the Central Service Agency Fund (Fund 115) in the Department of Administrative Services. This transfer will allow the Motor Vehicle Collision Repair Board to participate in the development of a web-based licensing system that will be used by other licensing boards and commissions. This system is expected to be provided by the Central Services Agency by June 30, 2004.

Adjutant General

The bill grants permission to the Adjutant General, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Budget and Management, to request that the Controlling Board release funds from GRF appropriation item 911-401, Emergency Purposes/Contingencies, for the purchase of outer tactical vests with ceramic inserts for all members of the Ohio National Guard entering Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, or any other combat zone.

Arts and Sports Facilities Commission

Fund Elimination

Under the bill, the Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) is being eliminated as a separate fund in the state treasury and is being merged into the former Arts Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030), which is being renamed in the bill as the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030). This change results in no net fiscal effect. Revenues and expenditures that were previously credited to the Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) will be shifted to the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030). All expenditures previously made from the Sports

Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) will be made from the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030). In addition, any unencumbered and unalloted appropriations made in H.B. 675 and Am. Sub. H.B. 524 to the credit of the Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) are transferred to the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030). Any encumbrances made on the Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 024) are cancelled and re-established in the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund (Fund 030).

Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Electronic Filing Fund Eliminated

Under the bill, the Farm Service Electronic Filing Fund (Fund 5Y7) is eliminated within the Department of Agriculture. The \$60,000 appropriation is transferred to the Cooperative Contracts Fund (Fund 382) for both fiscal years. The definition of Fund 382 is expanded to include revenue from the United States Farm Service Agency. The use of the money is hereby expanded to include fees charged in advance by the Secretary of State for electronic filing related to Farm Service Agency agricultural loans. This will have no net effect on the Department's appropriation total.

Auctioneer's Fund Transfer

Under the bill, the Director of Budget and Management, upon request from the Director of Agriculture, must transfer 25% of the balance that is in excess of \$300,000 of the Auctioneer's Fund (Fund 5B8) to the Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1). Currently, if the balance of the Auctioneer's Fund at the end of each fiscal year is greater than \$300,000, the Director of Budget and Management, upon request from the Director of Agriculture, must transfer 25% of the balance to the Auction Recovery Fund (Fund 5U1). As a result, Fund 5B8 could retain greater revenues, while Fund 5U1 could lose revenues. In FY 2003, Fund 5B8 had a balance of \$606,775; of this \$151,693 was transferred to Fund 5U1. This bill limits the transfer to 25% of the balance that is in excess of \$300,000. Only \$76,693 would have been transferred in FY 2003 if this limit was in place in FY 2003.

Board of Regents

State Share of Instruction

The bill revises descriptive language in Section 89.04 of H.B. 95 in order to update the description of the current formula for the allocation of appropriation item 235-501, State Share of Instruction, among the public-assisted college and university campuses. The appropriation and the allocation formula remain unchanged.

Capital Scholarship Program

The bill adds language to Section 89.08 of H.B. 95 to describe the use of appropriation item 235-518, Capital Scholarship Program. The funds are to be used by the Board of Regents to provide scholarships to undergraduates of Ohio's four-year public and private colleges and universities that participate in the Washington Center Internship Program. The scholarship amounts will be \$1,800 for a student enrolled at a quarter-system institution and \$2,300 for a student enrolled at a semester-system institution. The number of scholarships is to be limited by the amounts appropriated in FYs 2004 and 2005. The Washington Center must provide matching funds: \$1,200 for each student enrolled at a quarter-system institution and \$1,700 for each student enrolled at a semester-system institution.

National Guard Scholarship Program

The bill increases the appropriation of GRF appropriation item 235-599, National Guard Scholarship Program, by \$1.5 million in each fiscal year. It also allows for the transfer of any unused or unencumbered funds at the end of FY 2004 to the same line item for use in FY 2005.

The 3.9% additional tuition increase

The bill amends the Board of Regents' current operating budget by adding language to section 89.05 of Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly. The one-word addition clarifies the purpose of the allowed 3.9% additional increase in in-state undergraduate instructional and general fees. The current language states that this additional tuition increase "shall only be used for providing scholarships to low-income students, to be known as Access Scholarship Grants, to provide additional or improved technology services to students." This could be construed to mean that there is only one purpose for the additional tuition, that is, scholarships; and that, in turn, these scholarship moneys would be used just for technology services.

The added language is the word "or," inserted to make the phrase read, "shall only be used for providing scholarships to low-income students, to be known as Access Scholarship Grants, or to provide additional or improved technology services to students." This way, the phrase clearly means that the additional tuition increase is to be used for either scholarships or technology services. There is no fiscal effect from the change.

Department of Commerce Board of Building Appeals Filing Fee

This bill increases the maximum amount of the fee that the Department of Commerce's Board of Building Appeals may charge for the cost of filing and processing an appeal from \$100 to \$200. This provision will result in a \$75,000 revenue gain each year in the Industrial Compliance

Department of Development

Administrative Expenses of the Housing Trust Fund

Current law states that the Department of Development may not use more than 5% of all the *moneys* in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Trust Fund (Fund 646) for administrative expenses. The bill changes the requirement to allow the Department to use no more than 5% of the *current year appropriation authority* for the fund for administrative expenses. The Department currently calculates its administrative expenses (of no more than 5%) based on the current year appropriation. This provision changes the law to reflect current practices. There is no net fiscal effect for this provision.

Shovel Ready Sites

The provision amends temporary language for GRF appropriation item 195-516, Shovel Ready Sites, that was enacted in Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly. The provision changes existing law to require the Department of Development to make grants with three port authorities instead of contracting with them. The provision also adds development entities approved by the Director of Development as eligible for the grants. In addition, the provision adds that FY 2004 funds are available for immediate use on the pilot project, and that after July 1, 2004, and upon the expenditure of at least 90% of the FY 2004 funds, the FY 2005 funds are available for immediate use on the pilot projects. Finally, the provision expands the eligible uses of the moneys to include land acquisition, site preparation, construction activities, and professional fees, but limits professional fees to 20% of the grant amount. These changes have no direct fiscal impact. GRF appropriation item 195-516, Shovel Ready Sites, received appropriations of \$2.5 million in each fiscal year in Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly.

Department of Education

Transportation of nonpublic and community school students

Generally, school districts are required to provide transportation to and from school for all pupils in grades kindergarten through eight who reside in their district and live more than two miles from their school. This requirement includes pupils who attend community and nonpublic schools, except where this transportation requires more than 30 minutes of travel time by school bus from a certain point defined in statute. The bill changes this point from "the collection point designated by the district of residence" to "the public school building to which the pupils would be assigned if attending the public school designated by the district of residence." The bill would thus clarify the point from where this 30 minutes is measured. To the extent this change increases the amount of transportation districts may be required to offer to nonpublic and community school students, it may result in higher costs for districts and the state.

Transfer of a local school district to another educational service center

The bill reduces the requirements that must be met for a local school district to transfer to a different educational service center (ESC). In addition to services provided and paid for through contracts, an ESC receives state funding equal to \$37.00 or \$40.52 per pupil, depending on the number of counties the ESC serves, and \$6.50 per pupil deducted from the member districts' state foundation payment. A transfer of a district to a different ESC would result in the transfer of this per pupil funding for each of the pupils in the transferring district.

Head Start/Head Start Plus Start Up

The bill allows the Ohio Department of Education to use up to \$100,000 in FY 2005 of GRF appropriation item 200-449, Head Start/Head Start Plus Start Up, to provide program support and technical assistance to Head Start and Head Start Plus agencies. The total FY 2005 appropriation for this item is \$5,000,000, which is unchanged by the bill. These funds are to be used to provide start up grants to Head Start and Head Start Plus agencies whose expenditures will then be reimbursed with federal Title IV-A (TANF) funds. Currently, the Department may use up to \$1,963,697 in FY 2005 of state special revenue fund appropriation item 200-663, Head Start Plus/Head Start (Fund 5W2), for program support and technical assistance. Fund 5W2 consists of federal Title IV-A (TANF) funds that are used primarily to reimburse Head Start and Head Start Plus agencies for program expenditures. The bill does not change the set aside from item 200-663. Am Sub. S.B. 2 as passed by the General Assembly, however, would increase this set aside by \$36,303 to \$2,000,000.

Transfers to the School District Solvency Assistance Fund (Fund 5H3)

The bill permits the Director of Budget and Management to transfer cash from the GRF and any fund administered by the Department of Education to the School District Solvency Assistance Fund (Fund 5H3). These transfers are to be made at the request of the Superintendent of Public Instruction when the balance in the fund is not sufficient to meet the needs of school districts for assistance. Fund 5H3 consists of two accounts: the shared resource account, which is used to make advances to districts to enable them to remain solvent and to pay unforeseen expenses of a temporary or emergency nature; and the catastrophic expenditures account, which is used to make grants to districts for unforeseen catastrophic events. Advances from the shared resource account must be paid back within two fiscal years. All funds are allocated to districts subject to the approval of the Controlling Board.

The fund was first appropriated \$30.0 million in FY 1998, since then it has been funded by repayments of advances from the shared

resource account. The following table shows the history of disbursements from the fund, including approved advances in FY 2004 as of March 8, 2004:

Disbursements from Fund 5H3

Fiscal Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Disbursements	\$12,063,000	\$8,657,000	\$3,846,000	\$1,989,988	\$8,742,000

In FY 2004, the following advances from the shared resource account have been approved by the Controlling Board:

•	Bristol Local (Trumbull)		\$785,000
•	Barnesville Exempted Village (Belmont)		\$1,551,000
•	East Liverpool City (Columbiana)		\$2,606,000
•	Mentor Exempted Village (Lake)		\$20,138,000
		Total	\$25,080,000

The Controlling Board has also approved increasing the appropriation from \$18,000,000 to \$25,080,000. The bill will allow the Director of Budget and Management to transfer cash, as needed, to cover these advances. According to a representative of the Office of Budget and Management, approximately \$1.6 million will need to be transferred in FY 2004.

Environmental Protection Agency

Under the bill, hazardous waste facilities that currently pay an annual deep well injection permit fee for deep well disposal of hazardous wastes are exempt from having to also pay an annual fee for a hazardous waste facility operating permit. Ohio EPA's current practice with regard to permitting hazardous waste disposal already requires a facility to pay only one type of permit, not both. Therefore, the provision in the bill serves merely to codify the agency's existing process. It has no fiscal effect on either the Underground Injection Control Fund (Fund 4J0), or the Hazardous Waste Facility Management Fund (Fund 503).

Ohio Historical Society

During the Am. Sub. H.B. 95 Conference Committee, an amendment was adopted that increased the earmark for the Western Reserve Historical Society from \$600,000 to \$800,000 in each fiscal year; the amendment also decreased an earmark with the Department of Education's GRF appropriation item, 200-540, Special Education Enhancements, for the Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau from \$800,000 to \$600,000. The amendment had no net fiscal effect; however, when the amendment was adopted, no corresponding increase in the appropriation amount was made to the OHS line item, which was already fully earmarked. Because there was no money left in the line item for the \$200,000 increase, all of the earmarks, including the \$800,000 earmark for the Western Reserve Historical Society, were reduced proportionately to ensure that the line item was no longer over-earmarked.

This provision increases the appropriation in GRF appropriation item 360-508, Historical Society, by \$200,000 in each fiscal year. The \$200,000 increase is distributed among the following earmarks to increase them to the noted amounts: \$100,000 in each fiscal year for the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati for the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, \$150,000 in FY 2004 to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, \$250,000 in each fiscal year to the Great Lakes Historical Society in Vermilion, \$800,000 in each fiscal year to the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, \$500,000 in FY 2004 to the Village of Dennison for the Historical Center Street District, \$100,000 in each fiscal year to the Harbor Heritage Society Steamship Mather in Cleveland, and \$500,000 in each fiscal year to the Cincinnati Museum Center.

Job and Family Services

Children and Family Subsidy

For FY 2004, there is a proposed \$4,524,074 increase in appropriation authority for appropriation item 600-523, Children and Family Subsidy. The Department of Job and Family Services will use the additional funds to pay for foster care training that occurred in a prior fiscal year. This additional funding is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund.

Health Care/Medicaid

The bill increases the federal share in appropriation authority in GRF appropriation item 600-525, Health Care/Medicaid, by \$889,196 in FY 2004 and by \$30,010,723 in FY 2005.

The appropriation of the federal share of GRF appropriation item 600-525, Health Care/Medicaid, included in Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly (the budget act) did not accurately reflect the estimated blended Medicaid match rate. The federal financial share of Ohio's Medicaid program changes every federal fiscal year. In accordance with federal law, the federal government shares in the cost of Medicaid at a matching rate known as the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP). The FMAP is calculated based upon each state's per capita income in recent years relative to the entire nation. The general description of how this cost-sharing mechanism works has traditionally

been as follows: for every one dollar Ohio spends on Medicaid, the federal government gives Ohio approximately 60 cents. However, while the majority of the spending in appropriation item 600-525, Health Care/Medicaid, is matched at the FMAP rate, a few items, primarily contracts, are matched at 50%, and all family planning services receive a 90% match. In addition, about 15% of Medicare buy-in premiums receive no federal match. The State Children's Health Insurance Program is matched at an enhanced FMAP of about 70%. Lastly, the Disability Assistance Medical program is a state funded only program and receives no federal reimbursement. The appropriation in appropriation item 600-525 reflects a blending of these various match rates.

The state pays 100% of Medicaid costs up front out of appropriation item 600-525 and the federal government reimburses a portion of those costs. The federal Medicaid reimbursement is deposited into the GRF. Without this increase in the federal share of the 600-525 appropriation, the state would not be able to pay the federal share of the upfront costs of the program in FYs 2004 and 2005. The federal government reimburses state expenditures of the federal share after the Medicaid costs have been incurred.

Federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003

Background

The federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 (H.R. 2), passed by Congress in May 2003, temporarily increases the share of Medicaid expenditures that the federal government will pay. The federal government is providing temporary fiscal relief to the states in the amount of \$20 billion. The states are to receive \$10 billion in flexible assistance for essential government services or federal mandates, and \$10 billion in the form of a 2.95% increase in the Federal Matching Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate for Medicaid services. Ohio's share of these funds is \$384.0 million in flexible assistance and \$386.1 million in estimated increased federal Medicaid reimbursements.

During the quarters that the enhanced FMAP is authorized, Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly requires the Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to deposit the amount of federal revenue attributable to the enhanced FMAP that is being made available into the newly created Federal Fiscal Relief Fund. The disposition of cash from this new fund is to occur as follows:

- (1) On a schedule to be determined by the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), the Director of OBM is to make cash transfers to the newly created Medicaid Reserve Fund. The total amount transferred shall be \$18,611,156 in FY 2004 and \$90,851,972 in FY 2005. The Director of ODJFS is required to make requests to the Director of OBM as necessary to increase the appropriation in appropriation item 600-525, Health Care/Medicaid. The Director of OBM is required to transfer the state share of such amounts from the Medicaid Reserve Fund to the GRF. The transferred amount plus the federal share associated with this amount is appropriated. The Department of Job and Family Services is required to use this appropriation authority to pay claims for Medicaid services.
- (2) After the amounts have been transferred, the Director of OBM is required to transfer the remainder of cash in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund to the GRF on a schedule to be determined by OBM.

In addition, Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly requires that for the third and fourth calendar quarters of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2003 and the first, second, and third calendar quarters of FFY 2004, the reimbursement rate for all Medicaid service expenditures paid by state or local entities shall be at the nonenhanced FMAP rate.

However, federal interpretation, issued after the Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly was passed, specifically indicates that states cannot keep the enhanced federal reimbursement rate generated as a result of local expenditures.

As a result of this federal interpretation, the state must pass on the enhanced federal reimbursement to certain local entities during the course of the biennium. If the amounts designated for the local entities are not passed through, the federal government could withhold all Medicaid reimbursement.

Provisions of the Bill and the related Fiscal Impact

The bill makes several changes related to the provision of the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 under Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly. The changes and the related fiscal impacts are the following:

- (1) The bill changes the total amount that the Director of OBM is to transfer to the Medicaid Reserve Fund from \$18,611,156 in FY 2004 and \$90,851,972 in FY 2005 to **up to** \$18,611,156 in FY 2004 and **up to** \$90,851,972 in FY 2005. Thus, the bill will result in a potential decrease in expenditures in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund and a potential loss of revenue transferred to the Medicaid Reserve Fund.
- (2) The bill requires the Director of OBM to determine the amount of enhanced reimbursement related to Medicaid expenditures for which the state share was paid by one of the following entities: county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities; boards of mental health; boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services; boards of alcohol and drug addiction services; and any other entity that qualifies under the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services estimates that this amount of the enhanced reimbursement is approximately \$30 million to \$35 million.
 - (3) The bill requires the Director of OBM to transfer the above amount from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund. According to a spokesperson from OBM, the majority of the transfer is likely to occur in FY 2004. Any amount that is not transferred in FY 2004 will be transferred in FY 2005. Thus, for FY 2004, the bill will result in an increase of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in expenditures from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund and a gain of up to approximately \$30

million to \$35 million in revenue to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund. For FY 2005, the bill could result in an increase in the expenditures from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund of any amount that is not transferred in FY 2004 and a gain of that amount in revenue to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund.

- (4) The bill also requires, if necessary, OBM to seek Controlling Board approval for an increase in the appropriation in federal line items used by certain state departments to pass on the federal share to the aforementioned local entities. Thus, the bill will result in an increase of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in expenditures from the Interagency Reimbursement Fund and a gain of up to approximately \$30 million to \$35 million in the revenue for county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities; boards of mental health; boards of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services; boards of alcohol and drug addiction services; and any other entity that qualifies under the federal Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.
- As stated earlier, Ohio's share of estimated increased federal Medicaid reimbursement is \$386.1 million. This revenue is to be deposited in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund (Fund FY9). As of January 12, 2004, Ohio has received \$216.9 million in additional revenue because of the increased FMAP, which is about 56% of the estimated \$386.1 million, and these funds have been deposited into Fund FY9. Out of Fund FY9, the Director of Budget and Management will transfer up to \$18,611,156 toward the end of FY 2004 and \$90,851,972 in FY 2005 to the Medicaid Reserve Fund (Fund FY8). In addition, approximately \$30 million to \$35 million will be transferred from Fund FY9 to the Interagency Reimbursement Fund to pay the enhanced federal reimbursement to local boards. The remainder, up to an estimated \$241.6 million, would be available for transfer to the GRF. The bill makes it permissive for the Director of OBM to transfer the remaining cash in the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund to the GRF. Thus, the bill will result in a potential indeterminate decrease in expenditures from the Federal Fiscal Relief Fund and a potential indeterminate loss in revenue to the GRF.

Commission to Reform Medicaid

The bill includes a provision that would allow the Commission to Reform Medicaid to reimburse members for all actual and necessary expenses. This provision will cause a minimal increase in the Commission's expenses. The Commission currently has an annual budget of \$125,000, or \$250,000 for the biennium. Expenses for the Commission are paid from GRF line item 600-439, Commission to Reform Medicaid. Current law allows the Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to seek federal funds to help pay for the administrative costs of the Commission. ODJFS is currently trying to acquire federal funds for this purpose, which may be used to offset some of the reimbursement expenses.

Allocation of WIA funds to local areas

Under the bill, each local area workforce development agency is required to create a Workforce Development Fund. Currently, allocations under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) are transferred into a variety of local funds in accordance with existing law. The bill eliminates the current procedures and requires the Director of Job and Family Services to transfer allocations under WIA to the Workforce Development Fund of each local recipient.

Releasing public assistance records to utility program

Under the bill, the Department of Job and Family Services and county departments of job and family services are required to release information about public welfare recipients to an entity administering a program assisting needy individuals with the costs of public utility services.

Autism and Early Intervention-Related Medicaid Waivers

Current law allows the Director of Job and Family Services to apply to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) for Medicaid waivers that operate for three to four years each and under which home and community-based services are provided in the form of either or both of the following:

- 1. Early intervention services for children under three years of age that are provided or arranged by county boards of mental retardation and developmental disabilities; and
- 2. Therapeutic services for children who have autism and are under six years old at the time of enrollment.

The current law also provides that:

- 1. An individual may not receive services under an autism-related home and community-based services Medicaid waiver for more than three years; and
- 2. An individual who receives intensive therapeutic services under such a waiver is forever ineligible to receive intensive therapeutic services under any other component of the Medicaid program.

These restrictions on the time services may be provided are not permissible under federal Medicaid law. Federal Medicaid law allows limiting eligibility based on an individual's income, but not the number of years that services can be provided. The bill removes these provisions that are not in compliance with the federal Medicaid law. Thus, the possibility that HHS will approve of a waiver for autism and early intervention-related home and community-based services would increase. If the waiver application were submitted and approved and a county board of mental retardation and developmental disabilities were to choose to provide the waiver services, the county board would be responsible for paying the non-federal share of the Medicaid waiver costs.

Department of Health

The bill would decrease the time a person can be employed by home health and hospice agencies without the results of a background check from 60 days to 30 days. The Bureau of Criminal Investigations estimates that a background check that includes a Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) background check can take 60 days or longer. FBI data is required if the applicant has not lived in Ohio for five years, and may also be requested by the hiring agency. This provision would not impact the number of background checks being performed, therefore, LSC estimates that it would have no direct fiscal impact on state or local government entities.

Lottery Commission

The bill extends the deadline for a lottery prize winner on active military duty to claim a lottery prize. Under current law, the holder of a winning lottery ticket must be claimed within 180 days after the date on which such prize award was announced (on-line games) or the game closed (instant tickets). The bill increases to 540 days this requirement for persons on active military duty. The prizewinner must notify the Ohio Lottery Commission of a delayed claim of a lottery prize award. This provision has no fiscal effect, although the timing of certain payments might potentially be affected.

Department of Mental Health

Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly created language that would allow the Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to develop "statewide access and acuity standards for partial hospitalization" and also included a service-matching tool developed by ODJFS. This language was to allow the departments to develop tools to assure that partial hospitalization is available as appropriate for children and youth in the child welfare system and that these children are placed in the most appropriate setting based on their needs. Since then, it has become clear that the service-matching tool cannot be developed within the time frame originally established. Because Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Intensive Home and Community Based Services (IHCBS) were tied to partial hospitalization in the language, both ODJFS and ODMH are now concerned that ACT and IHCBS could be jeopardized because of the delay. The ODMH and ODJFS Child Welfare believe their first priority should be getting federal approval for Medicaid to cover ACT and IHCBS while continuing to work on the partial hospitalization and service matching tool. As a result, the parties have requested that language in the budget appropriation act relative to partial hospitalization services be removed from the ODJFS Revised Code section 5111.022. Instead, this bill proposes a provision be added in section 5119.611 of the Revised Code to require ODMH to revise its certification standards for partial hospitalization. According to the departments, this change will facilitate a quick and collaborative implementation of the language. This provision will most likely result in a one-time minimal increase in administrative costs for ODMH.

Estate Tax Revenue and Payment of Sheriff Fees and County Auditor Expenses

The bill specifies that the sheriff fees and county auditor expenses related to the administration of the estate tax will be paid out of the state and local estate tax revenues, in proportion to their shares of estate tax revenue. Currently, all of the local expenses are paid out of the state 20% share. State estate tax revenue is estimated to increase by \$4.2 million while estate tax revenue to the local subdivisions will decrease by \$4.2 million per fiscal year. This revenue decrease from estate tax will vary by the local subdivisions.

In FY 2002, total fees and expenses related to the estate tax administration was \$5.2 million and total estate tax revenue collected was \$375.4 million (GRF received \$116.3 million and local governments received \$259.2 million).

For deaths after January 1, 2002, the state GRF receives 20% of the estate tax revenues and the municipality or township of an estate's origin receives the remaining 80% of estate tax revenues. An Estate Tax return is filed within nine months of a person's death.

Department of Natural Resources

Geneva State Park

Under the bill, the County Commissioners of Ashtabula County are no longer required to use the design-build construction method in the construction of a lodge and conference center at Geneva State Park. The design-build method means that a person is responsible contractually as a contractor for both the design and construction of the improvement. If this is not required, the County Commissioners of Ashtabula County may choose a different contractor for the design and for the construction of the project. It is possible that the design-build method could result in lower costs due to the fact that one contractor is responsible for both the design and the construction. As such, if Ashtabula County chooses to forego the design-build method, expenditures for the project could increase.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

Reduces the capital reappropriation under the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund for the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad project from \$3,716,666 to \$1,000,000, in order to provide an additional \$1,634,666 under the Arts and Sports Facilities Building Fund to the Akron Art Museum; and an additional \$1,082,000 under the Higher Education Improvement Fund to the University of Akron to fund four separate projects.

Timber Sales

Currently, moneys from the sale of forest products, other than standing timber, and from the sale of minerals taken from state forest lands and nurseries are deposited into the State Forest Fund and are used for the maintenance and administration of state forests and nurseries. Money from sales on standing timber is currently divided as follows: 25% goes to the State Forest Fund and 75% goes to the GRF. The net value of the GRF portion is determined and 65% of the net value goes to appropriate local governments.

Under the bill, the State Forest Fund will still receive moneys from the sale of forest products, other than standing timber, and from the sale of minerals taken from state forest lands and nurseries. However, some changes are made regarding the standing timber revenues. Moneys received from the sale of standing timber shall be deposited into the Forestry Holding Account Redistribution Fund, which is created in law under the bill. The fund currently exists, however it has never been codified. At least once a year, a redistribution of funds shall occur. To begin the redistribution, the Chief of the Division of Forestry shall determine the amount of all standing timber sold in each county and school district. The Chief of the Division of Forestry shall also determine the amount of the direct costs that the Division of Forestry incurred. The amount of the direct costs shall be subtracted from the amount of the total sale proceeds and placed into the State Forest Fund. The remaining amount is the net value and shall be distributed as follows: 25% to the State Forest Fund, 10% to the GRF, and 65% to the appropriate county treasurer. According to DNR, this change was made in H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly. The change made in H.B. 95 needed correction to clarify the actual flow of moneys through the existing fund structure and to clarify the direct cost of timber sales. The potential loss to the GRF was the same in H.B. 95.

State Racing Commission

Horse racing permit holders are required under section 3769.087(B) of the Revised Code to retain ½% of money wagered on exotic pools—defined as all pools other than win, place, or show—and to pay ¼% to the Tax Commissioner for payment into the State Racing Commission Operating Fund. This amount is in addition to other amounts required to be withheld from wagers under other provisions of the code. Am. Sub. H.B. 95 modified this requirement, specifying that from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004, the full ½% is to be paid to the Tax Commission for payment into the State Racing Commission Operating Fund. This payment of an additional ¼% was estimated to raise \$1.05 million for the Racing Commission. The bill under current consideration would extend the period during which the full ½%, rather than ¼%, is to be paid to the Tax Commissioner by permit holders for another year until June 30, 2005. Exotic wagering at Ohio tracks declined in calendar year 2002, the latest year for which data have been published. Extending the ¼% tax for an additional year would raise an estimated \$0.95 million.

Department of Transportation

Grade Crossing Profile and Safety Improvement Program

The Public Utilities Commission and the Ohio Department of Transportation may experience minimal expenditure increases to notify certain counties of the grant program and the program's requirements. The Public Utilities Commission may also experience minimal expenditure increases to issue a report on the program's performance by June 30, 2005. Any costs to either agency are likely to be paid with current operating expenses.

A political subdivision may experience a revenue gain if it is a recipient of a matching grant provided by the Grade Crossing Profile and Safety Improvement Program. Matching grants will be awarded in amounts of \$5,000 for nonprofile improvements and \$25,000 for profile improvements. It is unknown which political subdivisions will receive the grants and how much the grants may be. The bill modifies one of the grant award criteria by requiring eligible crossings be ranked in the bottom two-thirds, rather than the bottom third, of the hazard index as determined by the PUCO Accident Prediction Formula. Modifying the ranking to two-thirds will presumably increase the availability of grants to political subdivisions.

Grant moneys will be available from the transfer of a FY 2002 encumbrance from discontinued line item 776-665, Railroad Crossing Safety Devices. The Office of Budget and Management estimates the remaining encumbrance to be approximately \$645,600.

Tuition Trust Authority-Calculation of Weighted Average Tuition

The bill directs the Tuition Trust Authority, when calculating the weighted average tuition of state universities for purposes of its Guaranteed Savings Program, to exclude any tuition reductions that vary among individual students. This codifies a portion of an August 2003 opinion by the Ohio Attorney General that the Tuition Trust Authority had requested in order to clarify its procedures in response to the pilot tuition restructuring plan at Miami University.

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