

**BUDGET TESTIMONY FOR THE
OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BY KIMBERLY M. FLASHER,
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BEFORE THE HOUSE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2015**

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE,
THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE PROPOSED BUDGET
FOR THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2016 AND
2017.

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
\$23.3 MILLION IN THIS ACCOUNT FOR BOTH FYS 2016 AND 2017. THIS
REPRESENTS A 7% DECREASE IN THE APPROPRIATION FOR FY16 AND A 0%
CHANGE FOR FY17 WHICH RESULTS IN THE 7% DECREASE CARRYING OVER
INTO THE SECOND YEAR OF THE 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.

APPROXIMATELY 97% 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.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST STUDY DONE BY NCSL, OHIO IS RANKED
49TH 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.