

--- American Heart Association FY 25/26 Operating Budget Requests ---

INCLUDED in sub. HB 96 (House version) –

1. Increase Funding to the Tobacco Use Prevention Fund

- Line item #440656
- **REQUEST** – Increase appropriation to the As-Introduced proposed \$10 million in each year of the biennium.
 - House appropriation -- \$6 million annually
 - Current appropriation -- \$7.5 million annually
 - Considering population size and percentage of smokers, the CDC recommends that Ohio spend \$132 million annually on tobacco prevention programs.
 - An estimated 20,200 deaths are caused by smoking each year in the state.
- In 2023, Ohio's adult smoking rate was 17.1%, and 36.7% of high school students used a tobacco product.
 - Nationally, the adult smoking prevalence was 14.0%.
 - Over 2 million smokers in Ohio.
- The AHA advocates for state tobacco control program funding consistent with best practices and funding recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC's updated Best Practices document provides a blueprint for state tobacco control programs based on the latest evidence. According to the report, new research identifies strategies for states to have more impact with less cost, making it more important than ever to meet these recommended funding levels.
- Comprehensive, well-funded tobacco control programs help prevent youth from starting to use tobacco products and support and promote cessation among current tobacco users. The AHA recommends the state dedicate a portion of tobacco tax and other tobacco-related revenue for tobacco control.

2. Reinstate the Proposed Vapor Retailer Licensing Program (Section 3701.842)

- This will assist with the enforcement of recently passed HB 258, which aims to apply Public Nuisance Law on retailers who continually make sales to underage customers.
- This includes a \$200 application fee and a \$200 annual registration fee.
 - These funds are to be deposited into the Tobacco Use Prevention Fund.

3. Appropriate Additional Funds for Produce Perks (SNAP Double Up Bucks) to Expand Services to Reach More SNAP Recipients Across the State

- **REQUEST** – Increase Produce Perks' line item to \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year within the Department of Job and Family Service's TANF Block Grant
 - Appropriation item #600689
- Produce Perks (PP) is Ohio's nutrition incentive program, doubling the purchasing power of SNAP consumers to purchase fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables from Ohio farmer's markets and grocery-retailers across the state.

- PP provides a \$1-for-\$1 match for SNAP consumers to buy healthy, local produce, Produce Perks increases affordable access to healthy foods for Ohioans.
- Since 2017, Produce Perks has generated more than \$12M in healthy food purchases here in Ohio - creating more than \$32M in local economic impact.

NOT INCLUDED in sub. HB 96 (House version) -

4. Include Additional Funding for Ohio High Schools to Ensure That All Graduating Students Meet the [CPR Training Curriculum Requirement](#)

- Ohio is expected to have [121,360 students](#) in this incoming senior class.
- **REQUEST** – Appropriate \$606,800/year to GRF 200597 (Program and Project Support) to specifically cover this additional cost of training.
 - The appropriation is determined by multiplying the number of projected regular public-school graduates by \$5.
 - The \$5 is based on an “average” per student cost to provide non-credentialed CPR training.
- Ohio's age-adjusted rate of heart disease deaths is 12th highest in the nation, at 193.9 per 100,000. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in Ohio, accounting for more than one in five deaths.
 - 2022 – [30,041](#) (6th highest in the nation)
- During cardiac arrest, immediate CPR can double or triple a person’s chance of survival.

5. Provide Funding for the Ohio [Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival](#) (Ohio CARES) Registry

- **REQUEST** – Provide a \$500,000/year appropriation via Dept. of Public Safety
- Ohio CARES currently receives only \$25,000/year from Ohio.
 - This current budget does not cover even basic operating expenses.
 - As an example, Illinois CARES receives \$500,000/year
 - Without additional funding, Ohio CARES will cease to exist in 2025
- Ohio CARES is part of a nationwide effort to improve survival from sudden cardiac arrest.
 - Immediate bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) doubles or triples the chance of survival.
 - Only 33% of cardiac arrests in Ohio receive bystander CPR.
 - Ohio is below the national average of 41% for bystander CPR and 3rd worst in the nation.
 - Other states have a bystander CPR rate as high as 75%.
- Overall, the CARES program seeks to:
 - Improve the bystander CPR rate in Ohio to save more lives from cardiac arrest
 - Strengthen collaboration between bystanders, 911 centers, first responders, emergency medical services (EMS) agencies and hospitals
 - Provide a simple, confidential process for measuring patient outcomes in compliance with HIPAA to help communities improve.