



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO

Ohio's Next Chapter

Navigating Issues and Officeholders in 2027

CCAO Summer Symposium • August 2026

The Election Will Reshape Policy



Gubernatorial Election

The race between Vivek Ramaswamy and Amy Acton will shape executive-branch priorities beginning in January 2027.



Reshuffling of the General Assembly

Term limits and open seats will bring significant turnover to the House and Senate, changing committee leadership and county relationships.

SECTION 02

Ohio's Fiscal Condition

Setting the stage for the budget and policy decisions ahead

State and Local Fiscal Priorities



Property-Tax Reform

Additional reform on the table — and an open question of who ultimately pays.



Further Income-Tax Cuts

What further cuts mean for other state funding priorities going forward.



Local Government Carryovers

Continued legislative scrutiny over local government carryover budgets.

Human Services Challenges



SNAP

- FFY 2026 SNAP error rate release — timing still to be determined
- SNAP benefit cost-sharing begins October 1, 2027



Child Protection

- Growing interest on escalating placement costs

Local Government Efficiency



Continued Scrutiny

Ongoing legislative attention to the total number of local governments across Ohio.



Where Responsibility Falls

If consolidation happens, the open question is which level of government absorbs the responsibility.

What You Can Do Now

1

Build Relationships With Lawmakers

Start now, before you need something —
relationships take time to build.

2

Hone Your County's Story

Know your county budget cold: the
biggest challenges and the clearest
opportunities.

3

Remember It's a Two-Way Street

Relationships with legislators go both
directions — invest in them accordingly.



Questions & Discussion

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