Indigent defense funding – Budget Priority

The governor’s proposed budget provided no increase for indigent defense. Reimbursement stays at 40% and the General Revenue Fund appropriation remains at $9.6 million per year.

Just $12 million in additional state GRF funding each year takes reimbursement to 50%.

Contact your legislators now and ask them to increase the Office of the Public Defender’s line item GRF 019501 “County Reimbursement” by at least $12 million to restore the State’s initial commitment to county reimbursement in ORC 120.18 and reestablish an equal partnership in funding indigent defense.

Administration presents health transformation proposals

The Kasich Administration this week presented to the Ohio House Finance Committee as well as to the CCAO Board of Directors its health transformation proposals contained in Governor Kasich’s two-year budget proposal. The next issue of the CCAO Statehouse Report will cover those proposals in more depth, and individuals with questions in the meantime, should feel free to contact CCAO Staffer Laura Abu-Absi at (614) 220-7996.

One provision in the budget (HB 64) will require boards of county commissioners to select one coordinating and fiscal agent to administer Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds and provide common assessments and coordinated case management to individuals with barriers keeping them un- and under-employed.
While many important decisions and details around the program have yet to be unveiled or determined, CCAO looks forward to continuing conversation with the Administration around identifying ways to meet the broader goal of helping get people back to work in a way that is realistically implementable, has achievable success measures, and does not inappropriately increase liability on counties.

Again, CCAO will provide a comprehensive overview in the next Statehouse Report. Below are a few highlights of provisions included in House Bill 64.

**Public Defender Reimbursement Rate** - Appears that the current reimbursement rate of 40 percent is continued through FY 16/17, although CCAO seeks reimbursement to be at 50 percent. In addition, we have a concern that some money from the Indigent Defense Support Fund will be redirected to the State Public Defender’s Office rather than be allocated for local county reimbursement.

An additional $12 million a year in state funds will get the overall reimbursement rate to 50 percent. If such funds come from the state GRF, the state’s total GRF funding commitment would still be only 80 percent of the $26.9 million GRF appropriation provided in FY 09.

**Local Government Fund (LGF)** – Appears that the LGF would increase 5.3 percent and 4.1 percent in FY 16 and FY 17, respectively, if Governor Kasich’s tax reform proposals are enacted. In addition, appears that the percentage of total state GRF tax receipts remains the same at 1.66 percent. Furthermore, appears that no change is being proposed to the county undivided allocation formula or distribution approach.

| Local Government Fund State Fiscal Years 2012 – 2017 (in millions) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2012 actual | 2013 actual | 2014 actual | 2015 estimate | 2016 forecast | % increase | 2017 forecast | % increase |
| With tax reform & CAT/kWh allocation change | $584.3 | $348.7 | $347.3 | $364.2 | $383.5 | 5.3 | $399.3 | 4.1 |
| With No tax reform & No CAT/kWh allocation change |  |  |  |  |  | 5.1 |  | 4.6 |
| With only CAT/kWh allocation change |  |  |  |  |  | 7.3 |  | 4.5 |

**Reallocation of Commercial Activity Tax (CAT)** – Commencing in SFY 2016, the state will resume the phase out of tangible personal property reimbursement payments to local
governments and schools. Such entities will experience a reduction in property tax reimbursement payments at a rate of no more than 2 percent of total resources each year. This represents a resumption, albeit with certain modifications, of the reimbursement phase down first initiated by the Kasich Administration four years ago.

Thus, the state budget proposes reducing the share of state CAT revenues devoted to reimbursing local governments and schools for lost tangible personal property (TPP) taxes from 50 percent to 25 percent of CAT receipts. Compared with existing law, the local government share will decrease from 15 percent to 5 percent of the CAT and the school share will decrease from 35 percent to 20 percent of the CAT. This means that 75 percent of the CAT will be directed to the State GRF under the proposed state budget; the amount of CAT revenues earmarked for the State GRF will increase by 80 percent or approximately $650 million from state FY 15 to FY 16.

Following is a table that shows allocation of the CAT since 2011.

| Allocation of Commercial Activity Tax Revenues since 2011 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| School Property Tax Replacement Fund | 70%             | 52.5%          | 35%            | 35%            | 35%            | 20%            | 20%            |
| Local Government Property Tax Replacement Fund | 30%             | 22.5%          | 15%            | 15%            | 15%            | 5%             | 5%             |
| State GRF        | 0%              | 25%            | 50%            | 50%            | 50%            | 75%            | 75%            |

**Reallocation of Kilowatt (kWh) Revenues to State GRF** – Beginning in SFY 2016, the budget proposes allocating 100 percent of state kilowatt hour taxes to the state GRF. Currently, 88 percent of those revenues are allocated to the state GRF, and 12 percent of such revenues are allocated to schools and local governments. Local governments have been receiving such payments since 2001 in response to the fiscal impacts on local governments of electrical deregulation.

State budget documents indicate that kWh receipts to the state GRF will increase by $55 million or 18.8% in SFY 16 as a result of this reallocation of state revenue. The following table depicts the gradual phase out of kWh reimbursements from 2008 through SFY 2016 (proposed).

| Phase-out of Kilowatt Hour Reimbursement Payments to Local Governments pursuant to Electrical Deregulation |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                  | 2008-2011       | 2012           | 2013           | 2014           | 2015           | 2016 (proposed) |
| Schools          | 25%             | 9%             | 9%             | 9%             | 9%             | 0%              |
Proposed Tax Reforms at a Glance

**Proposed Tax Cuts**
- Reduce personal income tax by 15% in TY 15 and an additional 8% (23% total) in TY 16
- Small business income tax relief via 100% deduction on gross receipts under $2 million
- Increase personal exemption for low and middle income taxpayers
- Taxpayers earning less than $40,000 exemption increases from $2,200 to $4,000
- Taxpayers earning between $40-80,000 exemption increases from $1,950 to $2,850

**Proposed Revenue Enhancements**
- Expansion of sales tax base plus permanent .5% rate increase (5.75% to 6.25%)
- CAT tax rate increase from .26 to .32%
- $1 per pack on cigarette tax and increasing taxes on other tobacco products
- Increase severance tax on horizontal wells 6.5% gross market value natural gas and 4.5% liquids
- Eliminate a small set of income tax deductions & credits for taxpayers making over $100,000

In broad terms, the reform proposal provides a net tax cut of $523 million over two years.

**Sales Tax Base Broadening** - The Governor’s proposed budget applies the sales tax to a broader array of items. Already the focus of much discussion around the Statehouse, the base broadening proposals are as follows:

- Expand sales tax to services, including lobbying, market research/opinion polling, public relations, management consulting, and debt collection services.
- Impose sales tax on cable subscriptions, parking services, and travel services.
- Reduce motor vehicle and watercraft trade-in value tax exemption to 50 percent.
- Cap vendor’s discounts for timely filing at $1,000 per month.

These sales tax base broadening activities, if enacted, would result in counties and transit authorities statewide gaining an estimated $101 million in FY 2016 and $121 million in FY 2017.

**State Sales Tax Rate Increase** - The proposed budget would provide a 0.5 percent increase in the state sales tax rate. The current rate is 5.75 percent, and the new rate would be 6.25 percent.

**Casino Revenue Estimates** - The gross casino revenue county distributions are expected to decline over the biennium. The FY 2015 estimate was $168 million. The FY 2016 estimate is $123.5 million and $114 million in 2017. Note that these amounts contain funds that the metro counties must share with the cities, so not all of it actually goes to counties.

**Water Quality update** – Governor signs executive order to block disposal of dredging material into Lake Erie & New House bill introduced

This week Governor Kasich signed an executive order to require Ohio EPA to create emergency rules that will further protect Lake Erie, its aquatic life and the fishing industry, while ensuring shipping can continue in the Cuyahoga River.
The executive order provides the Ohio EPA Director the tools needed to prohibit open lake disposal of dredge material in Lake Erie if:

- The dredge material could result in higher levels of a chemical in fish that bio-accumulates throughout the food chain, such as PCBs, or
- The disposal of dredge material would violate any international treaties or compacts.

One result of the action will be to ensure that dredge material from the Cleveland Harbor is disposed of in a confined disposal facility. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ own sampling data shows that if sediment from the harbor is disposed of in Lake Erie, it would result in an increased PCB bioaccumulation in the impacted region of Lake Erie.

Over the past four years, Ohio has made significant progress in protecting the lake, including:

- Restricting water withdrawals and prohibiting diversions from the Lake Erie watershed;
- Enacting new regulations on fertilizer application to reduce the nutrient runoff that contributes to algal blooms;
- Developing beneficial use programs that will reduce open-water dumping of Maumee River dredge material and prohibiting open-water dumping of Cuyahoga River dredge material;
- Banning oil and gas production under Lake Erie; and
- Helping combat invasive species via mutual aid agreements with the seven other Great Lakes states and two Canadian provinces.

More information the announcement can be found in this fact sheet. A copy of the executive order can be found here.

**House & Senate Agriculture Committees**

On Thursday the House Agriculture and Rural Development Committee held its second water quality hearing in Sylvania. For over 4 hours heard from research leaders and residents who were directly affected by August’s Toledo water crisis. The Hearing focused on newly introduced HB61.

State Reps Jim Buchy (R-Greenville) and Dave Hall (R-Millersburg) introduced the legislation that addresses water quality issues in Ohio and works to utilize solutions brought forth from earlier hearings from the agriculture community.

The bill touches on several factors that affect water quality and harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie and other regional bodies of water. The legislation encourages best management practices on regulating the application of fertilizer on frozen ground in the Lake Erie Basin. The Bill also establishes a phosphorus monitoring process and bans depositing dredged material into Lake Erie.

The House plans to have additional hearings next week.

The Senate will hold its final committee hearing on its bill to fight toxic algal blooms in Lake Erie Senate Bill 1. Senate Agriculture Committee will meet Tuesday, February 17th at 11:15 a.m. in the North Hearing Room, where a substitute version of SB1 will be presented. The committee plans to vote the measure out of committee that day, with a full Senate vote on Wednesday the 18th.
For additional information on water quality issues, please contact CCAO staffer Brian Mead at bmead@ccao.org or 614-220-7982.

**Business case study legislation is on the move in the House**


Rep. Koehler said the bill would allow the state auditor to allocate half the money - approximately $500,000 - from the Leverage for Efficiency, Accountability and Performance Fund to conduct feasibility or efficiency studies at the request of a single unit although other units could be impacted. He said any state agency or local office could apply for the funds with the efficiency audit conducted by the same team that conducts performance audits.

The sponsor said the legislation would encourage the sharing of resources between local governments through a shared equipment service agreement program. He reported that the ShareOhio program tracks heavy equipment that can be used by multiple units of government but those local governments are hesitant to share such equipment due to liability concerns. He said the bill clarifies that when participating in ShareOhio, any liability passes from the lender to the borrower in case of a loss.

Committee members, most coming from local government backgrounds, questioned the initiation of the efficiency audits and what responsibilities are there for other units that were drawn in but not requesting the audit. Rep. Boyd, a former Cleveland Heights City Council member, was assured that any decisions regarding implementation of any recommendations arising from an efficiency audit would remain with local government. Rep. Reece, who previously served as vice mayor of Cincinnati, suggested it could be offensive if another unit of local government initiated an efficiency study in her community. Likewise, Rep. Boose questioned how one local government entity could involve others.

To read the sponsor’s full testimony from the hearing, please follow the link for the House Local Government Committee’s website. For additional information on this legislation, please contact CCAO Staffer Cheryl Subler at csubler@ccao.org or 614-220-7980.

**Surprise, surprise, surprise - state expects casino revenue to fall in coming years**

More than $246 million was distributed to the state’s counties, schools and casino host cities in fiscal year (FY) 2014, which ended in June 2014. The FY 2014/2015 budget Kasich proposed two years ago forecast $278 million going to the top three funds in FY 2014 which fell short of this budget estimate by $32 million.

Gov. John Kasich’s executive budget for FYs 2016 and 2017 presents a gloomy revenue forecast for casino tax revenue. The estimates for the county share of the casino tax are:
$134.4M in FY 2015; $123.5M in FY 2016; and $114.1M in FY 2017. This results in the county revenues decreasing by 4.4% this FY 2015 and by 8.1% and 7.6%, respectively, in each of the next two fiscal years.

While counties receive 51% of casino tax revenue, constitutional provisions obligate the counties with the 8 largest cities to share one of their county allocation to their city. This accounts for approximately 26% of the “counties share” going to those cities.

For January 2015 the casinos totaled $64.8 million in adjusted gross revenue. That was $5 million more than they took in during January 2014 (when we had excessively cold weather), but well below last year’s monthly average. The Horseshoe Cincinnati reported $15.2 million in revenue last month, its second-worst showing since the downtown casino opened in March 2013. The Hollywood Columbus had the best January of the four casinos with $17.8 in revenue. Meanwhile, the state’s seven racinos reported a slight drop in total revenue for January at $63 million.

**Bills Introduced**

**SB 28** POSTMORTEM TESTING (Patton, T.) To require the Director of Health to survey coroners and laboratories concerning the collection, retention, and processing of blood and tissue specimens for postmortem genetic testing, to recommend legislative and fiscal policies after analyzing survey results, and to establish an advisory council to assist the Director with those responsibilities.

**SB 30** FAMILY STABILITY (Tavares, C.) To create the Ohio Family Stability Commission. Am. 5101.345

**SB 32** TELEMEDICINE (Tavares, C.) Regarding insurance and Medicaid coverage of telemedicine services. Am. 1739.23, 1751.691, 3923.235, and 5111.026

**SB 40** CONTRIBUTION TAX CREDITS (Beagle, B.) To authorize tax credits for contributions of money to economic and infrastructure development projects undertaken by local governments and non-profit corporations. Am. 5725.98, 5726.98, 5729.98, and 5747.98 and to enact sections 122.155, 122.156, 122.157, 122.158, 122.159, 5725.191, 5726.58, 5727.242, 5727.43, 5727.812, 5729.081, and 5747.052.

**SB 42** OUTPATIENT TREATMENT (Beagle, B.) Regarding minors and outpatient mental health treatment. Am. 3109.051, 3109.11, 3109.12, and 5122.04 and to enact section 5122.041

**SB 45** LAKE ERIE DISTRICT (Eklund, J., Skindell, M.) To authorize the creation of a special improvement district to facilitate Lake Erie shoreline improvement. Am. 1710.01, 1710.02, and 1710.06

**SB 46** LAKE ERIE DRILLING (Skindell, M.) To ban the taking or removal of oil or natural gas from and under the bed of Lake Erie. Am. 1505.07

**SB 47** DRILLING (Skindell, M.) To prohibit land application and deep well injection of brine, to prohibit the conversion of wells, and to eliminate the injection fee that is levied under the Oil and Gas Law. Am. 1509.01, 1509.02, 1509.03, 1509.05, 1509.06, 1509.08, 1509.21, 1509.22, 1509.222, 1509.223, 1509.224, and 1509.99, to enact section 1509.051, and to repeal section 1509.226

**SB 52** AIRCRAFT FUEL (Beagle, B.) To subject the receipt of motor fuel used to operate aircraft to the motor fuel excise taxes rather than the sales and use taxes and to require a percentage of motor fuel excise tax revenue to be used for airport improvements. Am. 5735.05, 5735.14, 5735.23, 5735.25, 5735.26, 5735.29, 5735.291, and 5735.30 and to enact section 5735.054

**HB 42** LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (Gerberry, R., Cera, J.) To require that, for fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Local Government Fund must receive the same proportion of state tax revenue that the Fund received in fiscal year 2005. Am. 131.51

**HB 43** PROPERTY TAXES (Gerberry, R.) To revise the law governing classroom facilities assistance programs and to restore the application of the 10% and 2.5% property tax rollbacks to school
district tax levies approved on or after the effective date of Am. Sub. HB 59 of the 130th General Assembly. Am. 319.302, 3318.032, and 3318.37

**HB 44 LOTTERY PROFITS** *(Gerberry, R.)* To require that a portion of lottery profits be distributed annually on a per pupil basis to public and chartered nonpublic schools. 3770.06 and to enact section 3317.54

**HB 45 HUMANE AGENTS** *(Gerberry, R.)* To require an individual to file proof of successful completion of training with the county recorder prior to being appointed as a humane society agent and to require the revocation or suspension of an appointment under certain circumstances. Am. 109.73, 317.08, 959.131, 1717.01, 1717.04, 1717.06, and 1717.09

**HB 46 GOVERNMENT SPENDING** *(Dovilla, M., Dever, J.)* To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure database. Am. 113.50, 113.51, 113.52, 113.53, 113.54, 113.55, 113.56, 113.57, 113.58, and 113.59

**HB 47 ADMINISTRATION OF COURT** *(Hackett, B.)* To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of Commission programs.

**HB 48 BWC BUDGET** *(Hackett, B.)* To make changes to the Workers’ Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs. Am. 119.12, 4121.129, 4121.37, 4121.61, 4121.65, 4121.66, 4121.67, 4121.68, 4123.01, 4123.291, 4123.34, 4123.343, 4123.35, 4123.351, 4123.411, 4123.419, 4123.512, 4123.56, and 4123.59 and to repeal section 4121.48

**HB 49 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET** *(Grossman, C.)* To generally prohibit the application of fertilizer or manure in Lake Erie’s western basin on frozen ground or saturated soil and during certain weather conditions, to require publicly owned treatment works either to monitor monthly total and dissolved phosphorous or to prepare optimization studies that evaluate their ability to reduce phosphorous, and to prohibit a person, beginning July 1, 2020, from depositing dredged material in Ohio’s portion of Lake Erie and its direct tributaries that resulted from harbor or navigation maintenance activities unless authorized to do so by the Director of Environmental Protection. Am. 6111.03 and to enact sections 905.326, 905.327, 1511.10, 1511.11, and 6111.32.

**HB 50 ADOPTION ASSISTANCE** *(Pelanda, D., Grossman, C.)* To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one, to provide a ward’s bill of rights, to require that a guardian receive the Ohio Guardianship Guide, and to make an appropriation. Am. 5101.141 and to enact sections 2111.011, 5101.1411, 5101.1412, and 5101.1413

**HB 51 INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION BUDGET** *(Hackett, B.)* To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operations of Commission programs.

**HB 52 BWC BUDGET** *(Hackett, B.)* To make changes to the Workers’ Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs. Am. 119.12, 4121.129, 4121.37, 4121.61, 4121.65, 4121.66, 4121.67, 4121.68, 4123.01, 4123.291, 4123.34, 4123.343, 4123.35, 4123.351, 4123.411, 4123.419, 4123.512, 4123.56, and 4123.59 and to repeal section 4121.48

**HB 53 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET** *(Grossman, C.)* To generally prohibit the application of fertilizer or manure in Lake Erie’s western basin on frozen ground or saturated soil and during certain weather conditions, to require publicly owned treatment works either to monitor monthly total and dissolved phosphorous or to prepare optimization studies that evaluate their ability to reduce phosphorous, and to prohibit a person, beginning July 1, 2020, from depositing dredged material in Ohio’s portion of Lake Erie and its direct tributaries that resulted from harbor or navigation maintenance activities unless authorized to do so by the Director of Environmental Protection. Am. 6111.03 and to enact sections 905.326, 905.327, 1511.10, 1511.11, and 6111.32.

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**HB 53 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET** *(Grossman, C.)* To make appropriations for programs related to transportation and public safety for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of those programs.

**HB 56 CRIMINAL RECORDS** *(Schuring, K., Slesnick, S.)* To limit the use of criminal records in the hiring and employment practices of public employers. Am. 124.11, 124.25, 124.26, 124.34, 329.021, 4121.121, 5123.08, and 5139.02 and to enact section 9.73

**HB 61 ALGAE CONTROL** *(Buchy, J., Hall, D.)* To generally prohibit the application of fertilizer or manure in Lake Erie’s western basin on frozen ground or saturated soil and during certain weather conditions, to require publicly owned treatment works either to monitor monthly total and dissolved phosphorous or to prepare optimization studies that evaluate their ability to reduce phosphorous, and to prohibit a person, beginning July 1, 2020, from depositing dredged material in Ohio’s portion of Lake Erie and its direct tributaries that resulted from harbor or navigation maintenance activities unless authorized to do so by the Director of Environmental Protection. Am. 6111.03 and to enact sections 905.326, 905.327, 1511.10, 1511.11, and 6111.32.

**HB 63 CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** *(Pelanda, D., Grossman, C.)* To require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect to notify the county public children services agency when an attorney in fact under a document that purports to grant parental rights requests services from them, to require the agency to investigate the child's placement with the attorney in fact, and to require the agency to file a dependency complaint if it determines that the placement is unsafe for the child. Am. 2151.421, 2151.99, and 3109.51 and to enact section 3109.81.

**HB 64 BIENNIAL BUDGET** *(Smith, R.)* To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.

**HB 65 TAX EXPENDITURES** *(Driehaus, D.)* To provide for the periodic appraisal of the effectiveness of tax expenditures. Am. 5703.95, 5703.951, 5703.952, 5703.953, and 5703.954
Hearing Schedule

Tuesday, February 17

House Finance & Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9:00 am
HB 53 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET (Grossman, C.) To make appropriations for programs related to transportation and public safety for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of those programs. --2nd Hearing-All testimony

Senate Insurance (Committee Record), (Chr. Hottinger, J., 466-5838), South Hearing Rm., 10:30 am
SB 11 OFFICER DEPENDENTS (Eklund, J., LaRose, F.) To enact the "Jason Gresko Act" to create the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund to provide death benefits to survivors of volunteer peace officers killed in the line of duty and disability benefits to disabled volunteer peace officers. -- 1st Hearing-Sponsor

Senate Agriculture (Committee Record), (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 11:15 am
• Confirmation hearing on governor's appointment of Cynthia Kidd, Veterinary Medical Licensing Board
SB 1 ALGAE CONTROL (Gardner, R., Peterson, B.) To transfer the administration and enforcement of the Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, to require applicants of fertilizer or manure to comply with specified requirements, to create the Office of Harmful Algae Management and Response in the Environmental Protection Agency, to establish requirements governing dredged material, nutrient loading, phosphorous testing by publicly owned treatment works, and household sewage treatment systems, and to declare an emergency. --2nd Hearing-Possible amendments & vote

Senate Finance (Committee Record), (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 pm
SJR 1 COMPENSATION COMMISSION (Faber, K.) To establish the Public Office Compensation Commission. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

House Judiciary (Committee Record), (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 115, 3:30 pm
HB 24 ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (Retherford, W., Dovilla, M.) To revise the laws governing the provision of adult protective services. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

Wednesday, February 18

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record), (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), South Hearing Rm., 8:45 am
SB 23 LAW ENFORCEMENT (Thomas, C.) To establish the Ohio Community-Police Relations Commission to investigate the condition of community-police relations and review the use of force by law enforcement officers, to set the rate of reimbursement to public appointing authorities for the cost of continuing professional training for its law enforcement officers and require training in community-focused de-escalation techniques, mental health and special condition response, and cultural sensitivity, to require law enforcement agencies to use traffic tickets and if used, investigatory stop forms that provide for the recording of the race of the traffic offender or individual stopped or questioned, and to make an appropriation. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

House Finance & Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9:00 am
HB 53 TRANSPORTATION BUDGET (Grossman, C.) To make appropriations for programs related to transportation and public safety for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of those programs. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

House Economic & Workforce Development (Committee Record), (Chr. Baker, N., 466-0961), Rm. 114, 9:00 am
HB 1 WORKFORCE GRANTS (Schuring, K., Manning, N.) To establish the Workforce Grant Program, to authorize an income tax credit equal to 25% of the student loan payments a grant recipient makes per year, and to make an appropriation. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

House Health & Aging (Committee Record), (Chr. Gonzales, A., 466-4847), Rm. 116, 9:30 am
HB 4 OVERDOSE DRUGS (Sprague, R., Rezabek, J.) Regarding authority to furnish or dispense
naloxone to a person who may be at risk of an opioid overdose or a person who may be in a position to assist a person who is at risk. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record), (Chr. Manning, G., 644-7613), North Hearing Rm., 10:15 am

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS (Patton, T., Brown, E.) To make peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury eligible for compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law. --2nd Hearing-Proponent & interested party

Senate Session, (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm

House Session, (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 pm

Thursday, February 19

Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (Committee Record), (Chr. Sears, B., 466-1731), Rm. 313, 9:00 am
- Observations on healthcare policy and delivery from J.B. Silvers, PhD, Case Western Reserve University
- Final report from JMOC Actuary on estimate of current monthly per capita spending (PMPM) and the projected medical inflation rate for the FY 2016-17 biennium