



OHIO PROVIDER RESOURCE ASSOCIATION

# Ohio's Operating Budget

A GUIDE FOR OPRA MEMBERS

State Fiscal Year '26-'27

# Budget Lingo

## **APPROPRIATION:**

The assignment of funding to each line item in the budget.

## **BALANCED BUDGET RULE:**

A budget-writing rule that prohibits the state from passing a budget that spends more money than is available.

## **CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:**

A small, bicameral committee that meets after the House and Senate pass the budget bill to resolve differences between the passed versions.

## **GENERAL REVENUE FUND (GRF):**

A state fund from which most state agencies receive financing. Money in the GRF is available for expenditures on any lawful public purpose specified by the General Assembly. GRF comes from sales and use tax, income tax, business taxes, other taxes, and lottery profits. GRF is one of six funding sources used to pay for state government operations.

## **LINE ITEM:**

The budget is presented as a line item budget. Line items are divided up by state funding source, state department, department division, and purpose. May also be referred to as appropriations line item (ALI). A line item can pay for a specific program or a grouping of programs. Each line item can be vetoed by the Governor.

## **STATE FISCAL YEAR:**

The State of Ohio's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30th. Each operating budget covers two fiscal years.

# The Budget Process

There are **five** different state budgets reviewed and passed by the Ohio General Assembly. Funding for services paid for by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, the Ohio Department of Medicaid, and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities are appropriated through the main operating budget.

## THE FIVE BUDGETS

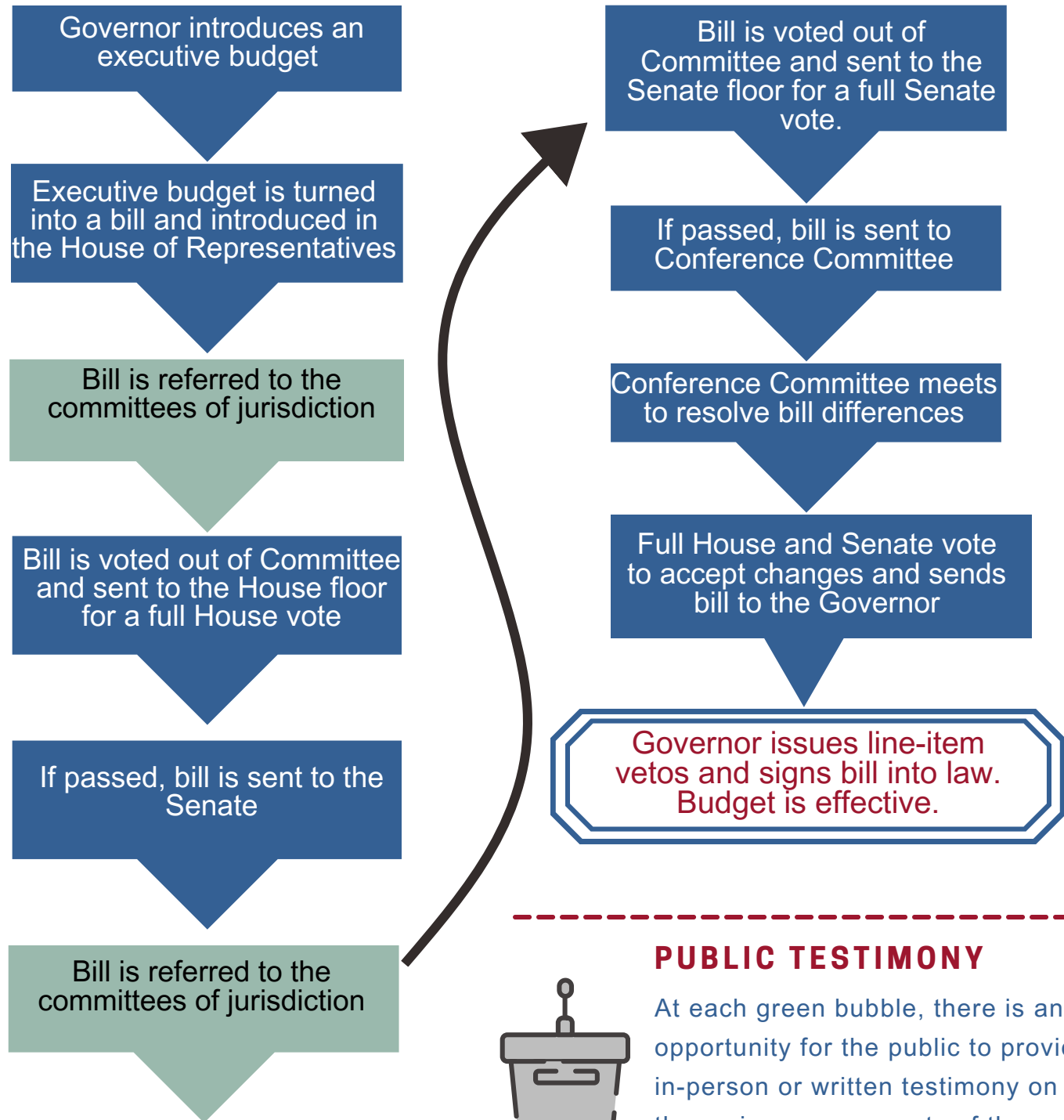
1. **Main Operating**
2. Transportation
3. BWC Appropriations
4. Capital Appropriations
5. Capital Reappropriations

---

To begin the budget process, the Governor introduces an executive budget with funding requests from most state departments. This document is turned into a bill and is introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives. The budget is typically introduced in February in odd-numbered years, but must be introduced no later than **March 15th**. After the bill's introduction, various committees and subcommittees in both chambers of the General Assembly host public hearings on all the bill's provisions. Once both Chambers pass the bill, the bill is sent to a Conference Committee to resolve any differences.

After the conference committee approves the bill, the bill returns to each chamber for a last vote. Finally, the bill goes to the Governor for review and signature. During this review, the Governor can veto specific appropriations or language included in the bill. The General Assembly has the power to override the Governor's veto. The Governor has until **June 30th** to sign the bill into law. Per the Ohio Constitution, the budget must go into effect on July 1st.

# The Budget Process



## PUBLIC TESTIMONY

At each green bubble, there is an opportunity for the public to provide in-person or written testimony on the various components of the budget. Typically, OPRA will send a notice when public testimony will be accepted with instructions on how to participate.



# Committees of Jurisdiction

There are a few important Committees that oversee the budget line items for DODD and OOD services. Those Committees and their members are listed below. Members listed in red have leadership roles in the committee.

*OPRA Members who deliver services in these committee members' districts should prioritize advocacy efforts with these offices.*

## House

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Republican Members:* Reps. Stewart (Chair), Dovilla (Vice Chair), Abrams, Bird, Callender, Hall, T., Hoops, John, Johnson, Jones, Manning, Plummer, Ray, Ritter, Roemer, Schmidt, Thomas, J., White, A., Williams, Willis, Young

*Democratic Members:* Reps. Sweeney (Ranking Member), Grim, Troy, Baker, Sims, Robinson, Isaacsohn, Brown Piccolantonio, Glassburn, Jarrells

### MEDICAID COMMITTEE

*Republican Members:* Reps. Gross (Chair), Barhorst (Vice-Chair), Craig, Ferguson, Lampton, Mullins, Oelslager, Roemer, Stephens

*Democratic Members:* Reps. Baker (Ranking Member), Lett, Somani, Hall

## Senate

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Republican Members:* Sens. Cirino (Chair), Chavez (Vice-Chair), Blessing, Brenner, Lang, Manchester, O'Brien, Patton, Romanchuk, Wilkin

*Democratic Members:* Sens. Hicks-Hudson (Ranking Member), Craig, Ingram

### MEDICAID COMMITTEE

*Republican Members:* Sens. Romanchuk (Chair), Huffman (Vice-Chair), Johnson, Wilson

*Democratic Members:* Sens. Liston (Ranking Member), Ingram

# Budget Advocacy

Legislators are humans and are moved by personal stories. Framing the advocacy "ask" by explaining how the budget could impact your employees and the people you support is a highly effective way to have your message heard. To further your effectiveness, empower your staff and the people you support to explain how the ask will impact their lives.

Where to focus your advocacy:



The elected officials who represent **where you live**



The elected officials who represent **your main office**



The elected officials who represent your **service delivery area**



The elected officials of the **relevant committees**

## Do's and Don'ts of Budget Advocacy

**DO** make sure to spell out any acronyms specific to services for Ohioans with developmental disabilities

**DO** send a thank you to the legislator or staff for their time

**DO** leave a message with your contact information if you get a voicemail

**DO** get your staff, people served and their families involved!

**DO** be as clear and concise as possible in delivering your message.

**DON'T** assume your legislator is an expert in DD or Medicaid services. Most legislators have a basic understanding of DD services but are unfamiliar with the in-depth details of service delivery.

**DON'T** be offended if you are making a legislative appointment and only speak to a legislative aide. Aides have just as much influence on the legislative process as the legislator does.

# Meet Your Legislator

Before meeting with your legislator, it is helpful to research who they are and their passion areas. You can use this information to tailor your message to your legislator’s specific interest.

Use this link to find your legislator and their bio: <https://legislature.ohio.gov/>

Representative | Senator

Review their Bio. What past experience may be relevant to your services?

-----  
Name

Democrat | Republican

Committee Membership

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
Is this legislator on a committee of jurisdiction?

YES

NO

What bill topics has your legislator previously sponsored?

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
Using the other tabs, what aspects of your narrative might you focus on more to appeal to your legislator?

# The Ohio Senate

**District 1:** McColley, Rob (R)

**Senate President**

mccolley@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8150

**District 2:** Gavarone, Theresa (R)

**Majority Floor Lead**

gavarone@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8060

**District 3:** Reynolds, Michele (R)

reynolds@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8064

**District 4:** Lang, George (R)

**Majority Whip**

lang@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8072

**District 5:** Huffman, Steve (R)

shuffman@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-6247

**\*\*District 6:** Blackshear, Willis (D)

blackshear@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-4538

**District 7:** Wilson, Steve (R)

wilson@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-9737

**District 8:** Blessing, Louis (R)

blessing@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8068

**District 9:** Ingram, Catherine (D)

ingram@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-5980

**\*\*District 10:** Koehler, Kyle (R)

koehler@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-3780

**District 11:** Hicks-Hudson, Paula (D)

hicks-hudson@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-5204

**\*\*District 12:** Manchester, Susan (R)

Manchester@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-7584

**District 13:** Manning, Nathan (R)

manning@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 644-7613

**District 14:** Johnson, Terry (R)

johnson@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8082

**District 15:** Craig, Hearcel (D)

**Assistant Minority Leader**

craig@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-5131

**\*\*District 16:** Liston, Beth (D)

**Assistant Minority Whip**

liston@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-5981

**District 17:** Wilkin, Shane (R)

wilkin@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8156

**District 18:** Cirino, Jerry (R)

Cirino@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 644-7718

**District 19:** Brenner, Andy (R)

brenner@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8086

**District 20:** Schaffer, Tim (R)

schaffer@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8076

**District 21:** Smith, Kent (D)

**Minority Whip**

smith@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-4857

**District 22:** Romanchuk, Mark (R)

romanchuk@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-7505

**District 23:** Antonio, Nickie (D)

**Minority Leader**

antonio@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-5123

**\*\*District 24:** Patton, Tom (R)

patton@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8056

**District 25:** DeMora, Bill (D)

demora@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-4583

**District 26:** Reineke, Bill (R)

**President Pro Tempore**

reineke@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8049

**District 27:** Roegner, Kristina (R)

roegner@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-4823

**\*\*District 28:** Weinstein, Casey (D)

weinstein@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-7041

**District 29:** Jane Timken

timken@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-0626

**District 30:** Chavez, Brian (R)

chavez@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-6508

**District 31:** Landis, Al (R)

landis@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-5838

**District 32:** O'Brien, Sandra (R)

o'brien@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-7182

**District 33:** Cutrona, Al (R)

cutrona@ohiosenate.gov  
(614) 466-8285

**\*\*Freshman Legislators**



# The Ohio House of Representatives

**District 1:** Jarrells, Dontavius (D)  
**Assistant Minority Leader**  
(614) 466-5343  
Rep01@ohiohouse.gov

**District 2:** Humphrey, Latyna (D)  
(614) 466-8010  
rep02@ohiohouse.gov

**District 3:** Mohamed, Ismail (D)  
(614) 466-1896  
rep03@ohiohouse.gov

**District 4:** Brown Piccolantonio, Beryl (D)  
(614) 466-4847  
rep04@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 5:** Lawson-Rowe, Meredith (D)  
(614) 466-8022  
Rep05@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 6:** Cockley, Christine (D)  
(614) 644-6005  
Rep06@ohiohouse.gov

**District 7:** Russo, Allison (D)  
**Minority Leader**  
(614) 466-8012  
rep07@ohiohouse.gov

**District 8:** Somani, Anita (D)  
(614) 466-6030  
rep08@ohiohouse.gov

**District 9:** Abdullahi, Munira (D)  
(614) 644-2473  
Rep09@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 10:** Sigrist, Mark (D)  
(614) 466-9690  
rep10@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 11:** Lett, Crystal (D)  
(614) 466-5358  
rep11@ohiohouse.gov

**District 12:** Stewart, Brian (R)  
(614) 466-1464  
Rep12@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 13:** Rader, Tristan (D)  
(614) 466-5921  
Rep13@ohiohouse.gov

**District 14:** Brennan, Sean (D)  
(614) 466-3485  
rep14@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 15:** Glassburn, Chris (D)  
(614) 466-3100  
rep15@ohiohouse.gov

**District 16:** Sweeney, Bride Rose (D)  
(614) 466-3350  
Rep16@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 17:** Dovilla, Mike (R)  
(614) 644-4895  
rep17@ohiohouse.gov

**District 18:** Brent, Juanita (D)  
(614) 466-1414  
rep18@ohiohouse.gov

**District 19:** Robinson, Phillip Jr. (D)  
(614) 466-6041  
rep19@ohiohouse.gov

**District 20:** Upchurch, Terrence (D)  
(614) 644-7954  
rep20@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 21:** Synenberg, Eric (D)  
(614) 644-5079  
rep21@ohiohouse.gov

**District 22:** Brewer, Darnell (D)  
**Minority Whip**  
(614) 466-1408  
rep22@ohiohouse.gov

**District 23:** Troy, Dan (D)  
(614) 466-7251  
rep23@ohiohouse.gov

**District 24:** Isaacsohn, Dani (D)  
(614) 466-5786  
rep24@ohiohouse.gov

**District 25:** Thomas, Cecil  
(614) 466-1645  
Rep25@ohiohouse.gov

**District 26:** Denson, Sedrick (D)  
(614) 466-1308  
rep26@ohiohouse.gov

**District 27:** Baker, Rachel (D)  
(614) 644-6886  
rep27@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 28:** Brownlee, Karen (D)  
(614) 466-8120  
rep28@ohiohouse.gov

**District 29:** Abrams, Cindy (R)  
(614) 466-9091  
Rep29@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 30:** Odioso, Mike (R)  
(614) 466-8258  
rep30@ohiohouse.gov

**District 31:** Roemer, Bill (R)  
(614) 466-5085  
rep31@ohiohouse.gov

**District 32:** Daniels, Jack (R)  
(614) 466-1790  
rep32@ohiohouse.gov

**District 33:** Sims, Veronica (D)  
(614) 466-6037  
rep33@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 34:** Hall, Derrick (D)  
(614) 466-1177  
rep34@ohiohouse.gov

**District 35:** Demetriou, Steve (R)  
(614) 644-5088  
rep35@ohiohouse.gov

**District 36:** White, Andrea (R)  
**Majority Whip**  
(614) 466-6008  
rep36@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*Freshman Legislators**

# The Ohio House of Representatives

**District 37:** Young, Tom (R)  
(614) 466-6504  
rep37@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 38:** Tims, Desiree (D)  
(614) 644-1607  
rep38@ohiohouse.gov

**District 39:** Plummer, Phil (R)  
**Majority Floor Leader**  
(614) 466-8051  
rep39@ohiohouse.gov

**District 40:** Creech, Rodney (R)  
(614) 644-2960  
rep40@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 41:** White, Erika (D)  
(614) 644-1418  
rep41@ohiohouse.gov

**District 42:** Rogers, Elgin (D)  
(614) 466-1731  
Rep42@ohiohouse.gov

**District 43:** Grim, Michele (D)  
**Assistant Minority Whip**  
(614) 466-6017  
rep43@ohiohouse.gov

**District 44:** Williams, Josh (R)  
**Majority Whip**  
(614) 466-1401  
Rep44@ohiohouse.gov

**District 45:** Gross, Jennifer (R)  
(614) 644-8550  
rep45@ohiohouse.gov

**District 46:** Hall, Thomas (D)  
(614) 466-5094  
rep46@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 47:** Mullins, Dlane (R)  
(614) 466-6721  
rep47@ohiohouse.gov

**District 48:** Oelslager, Scott (R)  
(614) 752-2438  
rep48@ohiohouse.gov

**District 49:** Thomas, Jim (R)  
(614) 466-8030  
rep49@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 50:** Kishman, Matthew (R)  
(614) 466-9078  
rep50@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 51:** Salvo, Jodi (R)  
(614) 644-8035  
rep51@ohiohouse.gov

**District 52:** Manning, Gayle (R)  
**Speaker Pro Tempore**  
(614) 466-5076  
rep52@ohiohouse.gov

**District 53:** Miller, Joe (D)  
(614) 644-5141  
rep53@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 54:** Deeter, Kellie (R)  
(614) 644-9628  
Rep54@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 55:** Teska, Michelle (R)  
(614) 644-6023  
rep55@ohiohouse.gov

**District 56:** Mathews, Adam (R)  
(614) 466-6027  
rep56@ohiohouse.gov

**District 57:** Callender, Jamie (R)  
(614) 466-6074  
Rep57@ohiohouse.gov

**District 58:** McNally, Lauren (D)  
(614) 466-6107  
rep58@ohiohouse.gov

**District 59:** Fischer, Tex (R)  
(614) 466-9435  
rep59@ohiohouse.gov

**District 60:** Lorenz, Brian (D)  
(614) 466-6711  
rep60@ohiohouse.gov

**District 61:** Lear, Beth (R)  
(614) 644-1431  
rep61@ohiohouse.gov

**District 62:** Schmidt, Jean (R)  
(614) 644-8134  
rep62@ohiohouse.gov

**District 63:** Bird, Adam (R)  
**Assistant Majority Floor Leader**  
(614) 466-6034  
rep63@ohiohouse.gov

**District 64:** Santucci, Nick (R)  
**Majority Whip**  
(614) 466-5441  
rep64@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 65:** Thomas, David (R)  
(614) 466-8134  
Rep65@ohiohouse.gov

**District 66:** Ray, Sharon (R)  
(614) 644-8140  
rep66@ohiohouse.gov

**District 67:** Miller, Melanie (R)  
(614) 644-0961  
Rep67@ohiohouse.gov

**District 68:** Claggett, Thad (R)  
(614) 466-1482  
rep68@ohiohouse.gov

**District 69:** Miller, Kevin (R)  
(614) 466-2500  
Rep69@ohiohouse.gov

**District 70:** Lampton, Brian (R)  
(614) 466-6020  
rep70@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 71:** Dean, Levi (R)  
(614) 466-1470  
rep71@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 72:** Workman, Heidi (R)  
(614) 466-2500  
rep72@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*Freshman Legislators**

# The Ohio House of Representatives Directory

**District 73:** LaRe, Jeffrey (R)  
(614) 644-8100  
rep73@ohiohouse.gov

**District 74:** Willis, Bernard (R)  
(614) 466-2038  
rep74@ohiohouse.gov

**District 75:** Ghanbari, Haraz (R)  
(614) 466-8104  
rep75@ohiohouse.gov

**District 76:** John, Marilyn (R)  
(614) 644-5802  
rep76@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 77:** Craig, Meredith (R)  
(614) 466-8100  
rep77@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 78:** Huffman, Matt (R)  
**Speaker of the House**  
(614) 466-1464  
rep78@ohiohouse.gov

**District 79:** Robb Blasdel, Monica (R)  
(614) 466-8022  
rep79@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 80:** Newman, Johnathan (R)  
(614) 466-8114  
Rep80@ohiohouse.gov

**District 81:** Hoops, James (R)  
(614) 466-3760  
rep81@ohiohouse.gov

**District 82:** Klopfenstein, Roy (R)  
(614) 644-5091  
rep82@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 83:** Mathews, Ty (R)  
(614) 466-3819  
rep83@ohiohouse.gov

**District 84:** King, Angela (R)  
(614) 466-9624  
Rep84@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 85:** Barhost, Tim (R)  
(614) 466-1507  
Rep85@ohiohouse.gov

**District 86:** Richardson, Tracy (R)  
(614) 466-8147  
rep86@ohiohouse.gov

**District 87:** McClain, Riordan (R)  
**Majority Whip**  
(614) 644-6265  
rep87@ohiohouse.gov

**District 88:** Click, Gary (R)  
(614) 466-1374  
rep88@ohiohouse.gov

**District 89:** Swearingen, D.J. (R)  
(614) 644-6011  
rep89@ohiohouse.gov

**District 90:** Pizzulli, Justin (R)  
(614) 466-2124  
rep90@ohiohouse.gov

**District 91:** Bob Peterson (R)  
(614) 466-3506  
rep91@ohiohouse.gov

**District 92:** Johnson, Mark (R)  
(614) 644-7928  
rep92@ohiohouse.gov

**District 93:** Stephens, Jason (R)  
(614) 466-1366  
rep93@ohiohouse.gov

**\*\*District 94:** Ritter, Kevin (R)  
(614) 466-2158  
rep94@ohiohouse.gov

**District 95:** Jones, Don (R)  
(614) 644-8728  
rep95@ohiohouse.gov

**District 96:** Ferguson, Ron (R)  
(614) 466-3735  
rep96@ohiohouse.gov

**District 97:** Holmes, Adam (R)  
(614) 644-6014  
rep97@ohiohouse.gov

**District 98:** Hiner, Mark (R)  
(614) 466-2994  
rep98@ohiohouse.gov

**District 99:** Fowler Arthur, Sarah (R)  
(614) 466-1405  
rep99@ohiohouse.gov

# Additional Resources

## **Find your Ohio legislators:**

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislators/district-maps>

## **Legislative Service Commission "Budget Central".**

Suggested resources: Red Book, Green Book, and Comparison Documents (to be published at a later date)

<https://www.lsc.ohio.gov/index.aspx>

## **Office of Budget and Management Budget Website:**

<https://budget.ohio.gov/download.aspx>

## **Statehouse Map:**

<http://www.ohiostatehouse.org/Assets/Files/1000075.pdf>

If your legislator or aide asks you a question and you aren't sure of the answer, tell them you will follow up with their office after the meeting or call. For questions, you can reach out to OPRA's Director of Advocacy Christine Touvelle (Ctouvelle@opra.org) for assistance.

Information in this booklet was pulled from:

- Center for Community Solutions, *Budget Training Academy*, November 6th, 2021 Presentation. <https://www.communitysolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/110320-Budget-Training-Event.pdf>
- Legislative Service Commission, *Guidebook for Ohio Legislators*, Chapter 8: The Ohio Budget Process. 2023.  
<https://www.lsc.ohio.gov/assets/organizations/legislative-service-commission/files/chapter-8-the-ohio-budget-process.pdf>