



2015 Ohio Piglet Book

By Greg R. Lawson and Tom Lampman

SPECIAL REPORT

Governor Kasich's proposed budget for FY 2016-17 increases government spending by \$5.4 billion, continuing a trend of unsustainable public-spending growth. General Revenue Fund (GRF) appropriations alone will increase by nearly 18% between FY 2015 and 2017 under the Governor's proposal.¹ State GRF appropriations will rise over 8% over the next two years. The House version of the budget wisely reduces these projected increases slightly to 16.5% and 7.8% respectively.² The Obamacare Medicaid expansion and other federal programs account for much of this spending growth, but nearly \$1.8 billion of spending added in the Governor's proposal and \$1.7 billion added in the House version will fall directly on Ohio taxpayers.³ For example, the Governor's proposal calls for more than \$700 million of new Ohio-funded spending on primary education, and the House budget calls for even more at \$800 million.

We applaud the House for cutting GRF spending, but even this effort represents a small fraction of the reforms needed to curb spending and grow the state's economy.⁴ The fact remains that government spending growth must be controlled, and three basic principles should guide Ohio's policymakers in returning to reasonable levels of public spending.

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- 1 Office of Budget and Management, *A Blueprint for a New Ohio: Gov. John R. Kasich's Fiscal Years 2016-2017 Budget*, Office of Budget and Management, February 2, 2015, http://obm.ohio.gov/Budget/operating/doc/fy-16-17/State_of_Ohio_Budget_Recommendations_FY-16-17.pdf, p. C-11.
 - 2 Legislative Service Commission, *Budget in Detail- H.B. 64 As Introduced in House Finance*, Legislative Service Commission, April 14, 2015, <http://www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/bid131/budgetindetail-hb64-h1.pdf>.
 - 3 Legislative Service Commission, *Budget in Detail- H.B. 64 As Introduced in House Finance*, Legislative Service Commission, April 14, 2015, <http://www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/bid131/budgetindetail-hb64-h1.pdf>.
 - 4 Greg R. Lawson, Tom Lampman, and Joe Nichols, *Ohio House Budget is a Big Step Forward*, The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions, April 17, 2015, http://buckeyeinstitute.org/uploads/files/Ohio_House_Budget_is_a_Big_Step_Forward.pdf.

- *Ease government growth rates.* Policymakers should proactively restrain the growth of government. Government spending reasonably can be expected to rise as inflation rises and the population grows. But increases above these rates (roughly 3%) should usually be resisted.
- *End corporate welfare.* “Crony capitalism” does not drive economic growth. It does, however, cost taxpayer dollars and increase government spending. The government should not pick winners and losers in the economy by distributing taxpayer dollars to companies that it thinks should succeed.
- *End government advocacy and philanthropy.* Arts, culture, and advocacy groups are valuable to society but should not be an arm of the government. Philanthropists and private charities are better positioned to direct citizens’ money to programs they want to support. Furthermore, government spending actually crowds out private spending.

Applying these fundamental principles to an illustrative list of government programs could save Ohio’s taxpayers close to \$2.6 billion in the 2016-2017 budget.

Ease Government Growth Rates

Controlling government spending requires discipline, allowing budget expansion only when truly necessary. It is reasonable, of course, to expect agency budgets to rise along with prices and a growing population, which makes inflation rates and population-growth good guides for tracking public spending growth.

Avoid Spending Growth Over 3% - \$1.9 billion

Keeping pace with recent levels of inflation and population growth would suggest that agency budgets should increase, for the most part, by not more than 3% per year.⁵ This has not been the norm, as state GRF spending has grown by more than 3% every year since 2011.

⁵ Tom Lampman, *Containing State Spending is Key for Tax Reform*, The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions, February 10, 2015, <http://buckeyeinstitute.org/the-liberty-wall/2015/02/10/containing-state-spending-is-key-for-tax-reform/>.

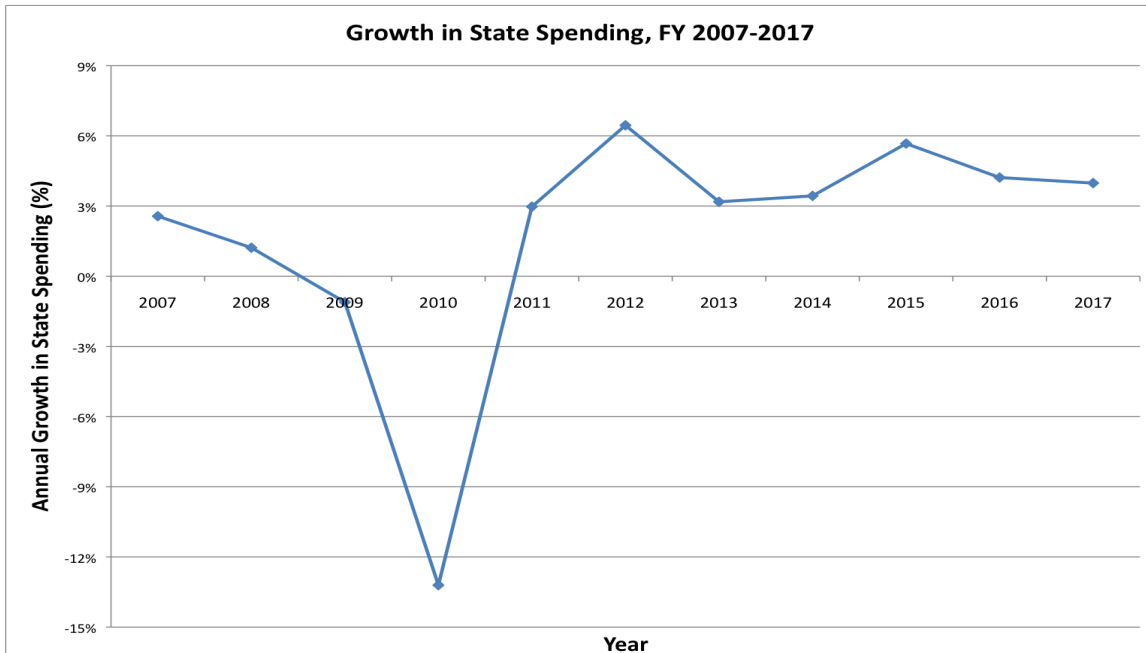


Figure 1. Annual growth rates in state-source funding by year.

Sources: Table 2: *State-Source GRF, LGF, PLF, LPEF Expenditures*, * FY 1975 - FY 2017, Legislative Service Commission, February 11, 2015, <http://www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/revenuehistory/historicalexpedituresrevenue/table2-hb64-in.pdf>.

Most of Ohio’s state agencies managed to do that well or better in the 2016-17 budget, but not all. Some key examples of agencies far exceeding the preferred growth rate include:

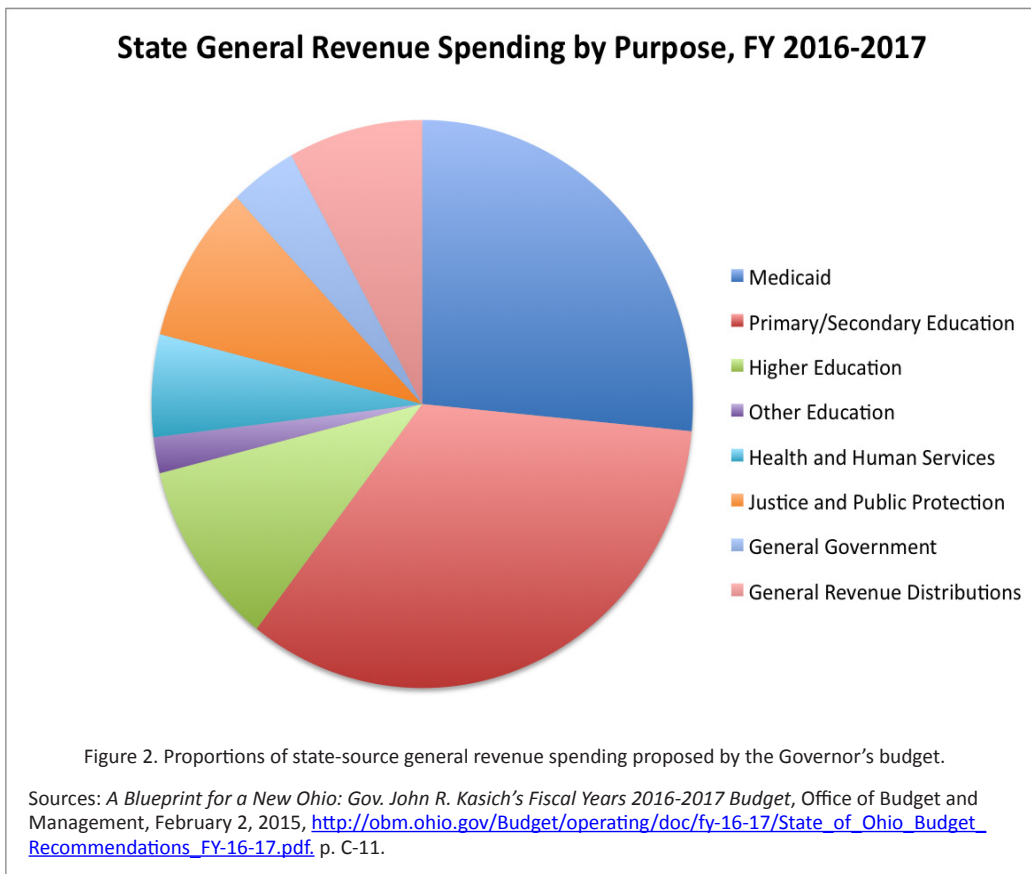
- Ohio Supreme Court and Judiciary: 6.3% increase from FY 2015 to 2016, 5.0% from 2016 to 2017. \$17.8 million total increase.
- Department of Job and Family Services: 11.8% increase from FY 2015 to 2016. \$362 million total increase.
- Department of Natural Resources: 5.4% increase from FY 2015 to 2016. \$21 million overall increase.

Agency	Total Expenditures (Bluebook)	Total Expenditures (Recommended)	Total Savings Over Biennium
Ohio Supreme Court and Judiciary	\$333,349,134	\$319,819,092	\$13,530,042
Department of Jobs and Family Services	\$6,927,802,636	\$6,672,063,456	\$255,739,180
Department of Natural Resources	\$689,375,712	\$680,165,946	\$9,209,766

If most agencies held to 3% growth, over the next two years the state would save over \$1.9 billion. This projection allows for departments to grow at a higher rate if and when their statutory responsibilities expand. The Department of Agriculture, for instance, has been given a larger role regulating toxic algal bloom, and the Department of Medicaid is accepting the Obamacare expansion.

New programs should only emerge to address substantive needs in a cost-effective way. For example, the 2013 increase in exotic animal regulation was a response to an isolated tragedy. Isolated tragedies do not always require a legislative response, much less a response that increases annual spending by \$800,000. Likewise, lawmakers should avoid funneling new funds into expired programs. Connect Ohio, which conducts broadband access studies, was originally funded by a federal stimulus grant scheduled to expire in 2014. Rather than allowing the program to end as scheduled, the proposed House budget will spend close to \$2 million of the state’s GRF dollars to sustain Connect Ohio beyond its expiration date.⁶

Primary and secondary school funding has been a perennial offender of the 3% rule during Governor Kasich’s tenure. According to the Legislative Service Commission, total state



6 Legislative Service Commission, *Sub. H.B. 64 As Reported by the House Finance Committee*, Legislative Service Commission, accessed April 23, 2015, http://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/solarapi/v1/general_assembly_131/bills/hb64/RH?format=pdf, p. 2796.

spending on primary and secondary education, which includes GRF and lottery profits, has risen from \$8.1 billion in FY11 to \$10.3 billion in the Governor's proposed budget for FY16.⁷ That is an increase of more than 27% and averages over 5% per year. Applying a more responsible 3% growth rate to the Governor's proposed budget could save Ohio taxpayers over \$567 million. Ohio needs a serious, comprehensive conversation about school funding, and the escalating spending rate is a logical place to start.

Reform Revenue Sharing - \$400 million

Ohio should continue to reform its revenue sharing mechanisms. The Local Government Fund (LGF) is now due to grow with GRF revenues over \$383 million in FY16 and \$399 million in FY17.⁸ Additionally, the House has proposed a \$20 million fund dedicated to financing local government capital costs.⁹ Given the growth of local sales tax revenue for counties and income tax revenue for municipalities, LGF redistributions of this magnitude are not needed. Reducing future LGF distributions, even by as much as \$200 million per year, would be better than maintaining redistributive policies that obscure local accountability for local officials. The Buckeye Institute has shown that townships were likely to be the most effected by LGF reductions, so remaining LGF funds could be more carefully directed to townships and other entities most in need, rather than redistributed as broadly and indiscriminately as they have been historically.¹⁰

End Corporate Welfare

The government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers in private industry, yet this is exactly what occurs when politicians issue grants to specific businesses. Using taxpayer money to support government-favored businesses is ethically inappropriate and economically harmful.¹¹ Firms are given an incentive to lobby for political favor and reap millions in tax dollars. These firms then succeed on the skill of their lobbyists rather than

7 Legislative Service Commission, *Table 2: State-Source GRF, LGF, PLF, LPEF Expenditures, * FY 1975 - FY 2017*, Legislative Service Commission, February 11, 2015, <http://www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/revenuehistory/historicalexpendituresrevenue/table2-hb64-in.pdf>.

8 Legislative Service Commission, *Budget in Detail- H.B. 64 As Introduced in House Finance*, Legislative Service Commission, April 14, 2015, <http://www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/bid131/budgetindetail-hb64-h1.pdf>.

9 Legislative Service Commission, *Sub. H.B. 64 As Reported by the House Finance Committee*, Legislative Service Commission, accessed April 23, 2015, http://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/solarapi/v1/general_assembly_131/bills/hb64/RH?format=pdf, p. 2792.

10 Greg R. Lawson, *Revenue Sharing Reform: On the Road to Ohio's Recovery*, The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions, September 2, 2014, <http://www.buckeyeinstitute.org/uploads/files/BUCKEYE-revenue-sharing-reform-main-article-ALL-COLOR.pdf>.

11 Tom DeHaven and Chris Edwards, *Corporate Welfare Spending vs. the Entrepreneurial Economy*, June 1, 2012, <http://www.cato.org/publications/congressional-testimony/corporate-welfare-spending-vs-entrepreneurial-economy>.

competitive merit, hurting consumers in the process. Whereas private investment seeks out the most successful and efficient firms, government investment seeks out politically popular firms. Politicians and bureaucrats should not undermine the market by rewarding political allies with taxpayer dollars and smothering their competitors.

Several examples of corporate welfare that should end include:

Horseracing Development Funds - \$22.4 million

Funded through taxes on wagers and casino revenue, this program distributes millions of dollars to racehorse breeders, racetrack owners, and prize money for Ohio-bred racehorses. There is no reason for the government to prop up the racing industry in general, much less to redistribute profits from one gambling avenue to another.

Agriculture Market Development - \$2.5 million

This program conducts marketing on behalf of Ohio agriculture producers, with the bulk of expenses promoting Ohio-grown wine grapes. The program is funded through a combination of license fees on farmers, excise taxes on liquor, and the General Revenue Fund. Ohio's wine producers should contract with private marketing firms, and they should not expect taxpayers to foot the bill.

TourismOhio - \$16 million

Funded by the sales tax, this is a marketing program for Ohio's tourist industry. The program is slated to end in 2018, but will remain an \$8 million annual gift to the tourism industry until then. This program could be privatized and paid for by the businesses it benefits.

Third Frontier - \$157 million

The Third Frontier program was designed to spur technical innovation via grants to universities and businesses. Educational grants aside, it is slated to distribute \$157 million to private research and development firms over the next two years. Venture capital firms, whose sole purpose is to identify innovative lines of research, should play this role—not the Ohio taxpayers. There is almost no nexus between technical innovation and lobbying ability; indeed, small firms on the cutting edge of research will likely have fewer resources to invest in currying political favors. Unfortunately, this program is financed with bond sales, many of which have already taken place. Nothing can be done about the \$178 million in debt this program has already generated, but eliminating this program will prevent additional future tax increases.

Incumbent Workforce Training Vouchers - \$15 million

This program is funded through casino licensure fees and reimburses employers in other industries for training expenses. Participation is limited to established businesses

training existing employees in “targeted” industries. Companies can receive up to \$4,000 per employee, irrespective of the value added by the training programs. If and when additional training is needed should be determined by investors.

Although not a comprehensive list of Ohio’s corporate welfare programs, these examples alone represent \$212.9 million in potential savings.

End Government Advocacy and Philanthropy

Just as private industry should guide investment, private charity should guide culture and philanthropy. Artistic and cultural endeavors can and should be driven by voluntary donors rather than by government fiat. When the government begins directing civil charity it inevitably crowds out private philanthropy. The public-sector’s ever-expanding altruism has reduced private-sector donations, which in turn creates the need for still more government spending.¹² This predictable cycle produces perpetual spending growth, increases the government’s influence in once private areas, and blurs the line between public advocacy and government advocacy by replacing private donations with taxpayer dollars.

Ohio Arts Council - \$20.9 million in subsidies

The Ohio Arts Council receives income and sales tax revenue to redistribute to specifically chosen artists and galleries, thereby establishing the government as an arbiter of taste and culture. Ohioans are more than capable of choosing for themselves which artists to patronize without the government’s guidance.

Advocacy Groups - \$15.8 million across three departments

Groups such as the Office of Consumers’ Counsel, Commission on Hispanic Affairs, and Commission on Minority Health are advocacy groups that conduct court cases and lobbying efforts on behalf of specific interest groups and larger government. This function could be filled by nonprofit organizations funded through donations rather than a government agency funded through excise and income taxes. Government agencies and counsels such as these suffer inherent conflicts of interest created when a government agency is tasked with lobbying the government. A private group will determine the best way to advance stakeholders’ interests, a government agency, on the other hand, will prioritize methods that increase the government’s power. Cutting government spending in these areas will save \$15.8 million, and reduce future spending by reducing further government growth perpetuated by the government’s own agencies lobbying for more money. The state could save now *and* save later.

12 David B. Muhlhausen and Patrick D. Tyrrell, *The 2013 Index of Dependence on Government*, The Heritage Foundation, November 21, 2013, http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2013/pdf/SR142update.pdf.

County Agriculture Subsidies - \$783,000 to local fairs

Income and sales tax revenues are redistributed by the Ohio Department of Agriculture to local county fairs. County fairs are fun and informative, but they are not concerns for the state at-large. Local governments, counties, and private groups such as the 4-H Club could fill this role and put on the county fairs.

Ohio History Connection - \$10 million

Ohio History Connection subsidizes local historical societies and operates various museums of local interest around the state. Many if not all of these museums could be administered by local non-profit organizations and supported by private donors rather than taxpayers. The agency's public record duties are flat-funded in the Governor's proposed budget.

Broadcast Education Media Commission - \$8.2 million

The Broadcast Education Media Commission (BEMC) allocates over \$4 million a year from the General Revenue Fund to nonprofit news agencies and educational programming. Educational programming has a long history of being funded with pledge drives and related private charities. The BEMC's statehouse news service provides a redundant and wasteful service already satisfied by private news services throughout the state.

These five programs are not the only government functions that could be replaced by private charities, but they account for \$55.7 million in the 2016-2017 budget and would be a good place to start.

Conclusion

By limiting government growth and eliminating wasteful public spending, Ohio's policymakers could save almost \$2.6 billion. Governor Kasich and the General Assembly should reconsider their plan for 2016 and 2017, cutting back on what they do not need, and abdicating roles for which the public sector is less qualified.

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Founded in 1989, The Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions is an independent research and educational institution—a think tank—whose mission is to advance free-market public policy.

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APPENDIX I: RECOMMENDED FUNDING LEVELS AND PROJECTED SAVINGS

Unless otherwise noted, each appropriation increases by Bluebook-recommended amounts or by 3%, whichever is lower. Entries in bold incorporate program cuts detailed in The Buckeye Institute's "2015 Ohio Piglet Book."

Agency	Estimated FY 15	Bluebook Appropriation 2016	Bluebook Appropriation 2017	Suggested Appropriation 2016	Suggested Appropriation 2017	Total Savings Over Biennium
Accountancy Board of Ohio	\$1,302,500	\$1,377,714	\$1,399,173	\$1,341,575	\$1,381,822	\$53,490
Adjutant General's Department	\$55,863,958	\$53,795,633	\$53,795,633	\$53,795,633	\$53,795,633	\$0
Department of Administrative Services	\$712,690,672	\$663,568,777	\$660,426,495	\$663,568,777	\$660,426,495	\$0
Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review	\$456,376	\$493,139	\$512,253	\$470,067	\$484,169	\$51,155
Department of Aging	\$89,949,185	\$90,149,185	\$90,149,185	\$90,149,185	\$90,149,185	\$0
Department of Agriculture¹	\$52,612,978	\$57,777,617	\$57,702,617	\$53,583,712	\$53,531,308	\$8,365,214
Air Quality Development Authority	\$1,108,033	\$1,117,984	\$1,104,216	\$789,140	\$828,597	\$604,463
Architects Board and Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners	\$483,454	\$507,614	\$517,912	\$497,958	\$512,896	\$14,672
Ohio Arts Council	\$12,471,204	\$13,497,050	\$13,997,050	\$2,645,340	\$2,724,700	\$22,124,060
Athletic Commission	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$0
Attorney General	\$264,944,339	\$273,749,911	\$276,379,670	\$273,749,911	\$276,379,670	\$0
Auditor of State	\$72,453,464	\$74,776,584	\$74,982,584	\$74,776,584	\$74,982,584	\$0
Ohio State Barber Board	\$674,272	\$674,272	\$688,272	\$674,272	\$688,272	\$0
Broadcast Educational Media Commission	\$8,026,266	\$7,953,422	\$7,953,422	\$3,871,678	\$3,871,678	\$8,163,488
Office of Budget and Management	\$27,599,772	\$28,642,814	\$28,651,537	\$28,427,765	\$28,427,765	\$438,821
Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board	\$7,710,596	\$7,781,305	\$7,781,305	\$7,710,596	\$7,710,596	\$141,418
State Board of Career Colleges and Schools	\$579,328	\$579,328	\$579,328	\$579,328	\$579,328	\$0
Casino Control Commission	\$13,546,674	\$12,465,000	\$12,465,000	\$12,465,000	\$12,465,000	\$0
Chemical Dependency Professionals Board	\$469,349	\$490,644	\$489,666	\$483,429	\$483,429	\$13,451
Ohio State Chiropractic Board	\$630,775	\$648,734	\$663,521	\$648,734	\$663,521	\$0
Civil Rights Commission	\$7,502,680	\$8,213,204	\$8,358,426	\$7,727,760	\$7,959,593	\$884,276
Court of Claims	\$2,917,005	\$2,995,766	\$3,043,699	\$2,995,766	\$3,043,699	\$0
Department of Commerce	\$171,000,001	\$171,538,916	\$170,929,434	\$171,538,916	\$170,929,434	\$0

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Office of the Consumers' Counsel	\$5,641,093	\$5,641,093	\$5,641,093	\$0	\$0	\$11,282,186
Controlling Board						\$0
Ohio State Board of Cosmetology	\$3,474,030	\$3,758,000	\$3,818,530	\$3,578,251	\$3,685,598	\$312,681
Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board	\$1,281,478	\$1,287,029	\$1,301,462	\$1,287,029	\$1,301,462	\$0
State Dental Board	\$1,566,484	\$1,579,984	\$1,579,984	\$1,579,984	\$1,579,984	\$0
Board of Deposit	\$1,876,000	\$1,876,000	\$1,876,000	\$1,876,000	\$1,876,000	\$0
Development Services Agency	\$1,197,457,272	\$1,269,903,713	\$1,284,523,513	\$1,146,976,044	\$1,094,980,379	\$312,470,802
Department of Developmental Disabilities ²	\$2,549,521,843	\$2,775,723,681	\$3,044,974,441	\$2,676,997,935	\$2,757,307,873	\$386,392,314
Board of Dietetics	\$342,592	\$362,872	\$371,779	\$342,592	\$342,592	\$49,467
Department of Education³	\$10,941,102,376	\$10,784,327,048	\$11,132,522,528	\$10,560,790,496	\$10,788,785,015	\$567,274,065
Ohio Elections Commission	\$518,117	\$527,617	\$527,617	\$527,617	\$527,617	\$0
State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors	\$741,000	\$741,000	\$771,000	\$741,000	\$763,230	\$7,770
Employee Benefits Funds	\$1,538,079,486	\$1,608,712,278	\$1,683,969,956	\$1,608,712,278	\$1,683,969,956	\$0
State Employment Relations Board	\$3,846,457	\$3,836,457	\$3,836,457	\$3,836,457	\$3,836,457	\$0
State Board of Engineers and Surveyors	\$993,889	\$993,889	\$993,889	\$993,889	\$993,889	\$0
Environmental Protection Agency	\$199,606,723	\$183,226,886	\$185,898,047	\$183,226,886	\$185,898,047	\$0
Environmental Review Appeals Commission	\$545,530	\$612,435	\$612,435	\$612,435	\$612,435	\$0
Ohio Ethics Commission	\$2,022,556	\$2,022,556	\$2,022,556	\$2,022,556	\$2,022,556	\$0
Ohio Expositions Commission	\$14,243,000	\$14,130,000	\$14,370,000	\$14,130,000	\$14,370,000	\$0
Facilities Construction Commission	\$408,678,293	\$424,174,700	\$431,032,700	\$420,938,642	\$420,938,642	\$13,330,116
Office of the Governor	\$3,151,552	\$3,151,552	\$3,151,552	\$3,151,552	\$3,151,552	\$0
Department of Health	\$667,284,994	\$656,875,690	\$657,031,286	\$656,875,690	\$657,031,286	\$0

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Department Of Higher Education	\$2,436,753,748	\$2,523,939,826	\$2,567,738,380	\$2,523,939,826	\$2,567,738,380	\$0
Higher Educational Facility Commission	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$0
Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs	\$417,334	\$437,941	\$437,941	\$417,334	\$417,334	\$41,214
Ohio History Connection	\$10,799,625	\$10,409,625	\$10,409,625	\$5,426,288	\$5,426,288	\$9,966,674
Ohio Housing Finance Agency	\$12,477,665	\$12,111,500	\$12,176,700	\$12,111,500	\$12,176,700	\$0
Ohio Industrial Commission	\$49,638,213	\$50,687,479	\$51,753,389	\$50,687,479	\$51,753,389	\$0
Office of Inspector General	\$2,350,598	\$2,152,759	\$2,152,759	\$2,152,759	\$2,152,759	\$0
Department of Insurance	\$36,545,157	\$36,841,409	\$37,543,853	\$36,841,409	\$37,543,853	\$0
Department of Job and Family Services ⁴	\$3,099,681,048	\$3,465,193,324	\$3,462,609,312	\$3,254,665,100	\$3,417,398,355	\$255,739,180
Joint Legislative Ethics Committee	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$700,000	\$0
Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee	\$500,000	\$321,995	\$490,320	\$321,995	\$490,320	\$0
Judicial Conference of Ohio	\$1,282,200	\$1,336,000	\$1,375,000	\$1,320,666	\$1,360,286	\$30,048
Judiciary / Supreme Court	\$152,957,622	\$162,574,186	\$170,774,948	\$157,546,351	\$162,272,741	\$13,530,042
Lake Erie Commission	\$666,637	\$659,000	\$667,000	\$659,000	\$667,000	\$0
Legislative Service Commission	\$29,201,103	\$24,780,478	\$24,680,478	\$24,780,478	\$24,680,478	\$0
State Library Board	\$21,548,736	\$22,176,021	\$22,272,763	\$22,176,021	\$22,272,763	\$0
Liquor Control Commission	\$796,368	\$796,368	\$796,368	\$796,368	\$796,368	\$0
Lottery Commission	\$470,489,928	\$362,302,329	\$364,663,457	\$362,302,329	\$364,663,457	\$0
Manufactured Homes Commission	\$1,206,959	\$1,206,959	\$1,206,959	\$1,206,959	\$1,206,959	\$0
Department of Medicaid ⁵	\$24,033,188,234	\$24,531,320,607	\$25,129,010,938	\$24,531,320,607	\$24,576,583,503	\$552,427,435
State Medical Board	\$9,172,000	\$9,467,737	\$9,655,200	\$9,467,737	\$9,655,200	\$0
Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	\$661,747,474	\$692,710,905	\$698,735,251	\$692,710,905	\$698,735,251	\$0
Commission on Minority Health	\$1,770,637	\$1,855,152	\$1,869,248	\$1,855,152	\$1,869,248	\$0
Ohio Motor Vehicle Repair Board	\$484,292	\$484,292	\$484,292	\$484,292	\$484,292	\$0

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Department of Natural Resources	\$325,298,171	\$342,891,727	\$346,483,985	\$335,057,116	\$345,108,830	\$9,209,766
Board of Nursing	\$8,649,484	\$9,127,834	\$9,147,834	\$8,908,969	\$9,176,238	\$190,462
Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Athletic Trainers Board	\$925,897	\$925,897	\$944,865	\$925,897	\$944,865	\$0
Ohioana Library Association	\$140,000	\$155,000	\$160,000	\$144,200	\$144,200	\$26,600
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency	\$254,533,418	\$262,631,699	\$261,631,698	\$262,631,699	\$261,631,698	\$0
Ohio Optical Dispensers Board	\$365,000	\$373,000	\$375,400	\$373,000	\$375,400	\$0
State Board of Optometry	\$347,278	\$347,278	\$347,278	\$347,278	\$347,278	\$0
State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics	\$159,982	\$176,950	\$186,438	\$164,781	\$169,725	\$28,882
Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Release Compensation Board	\$1,141,971	\$1,257,155	\$1,258,914	\$1,257,155	\$1,258,914	\$0
State Board of Pharmacy	\$7,476,792	\$7,058,285	\$6,968,799	\$7,058,285	\$6,968,799	\$0
State Board of Psychology	\$571,000	\$588,690	\$598,890	\$588,690	\$598,890	\$0
Office of the Public Defender	\$78,696,680	\$80,136,507	\$81,551,849	\$80,136,507	\$81,551,849	\$0
Department of Public Safety	\$693,977,457	\$686,287,971	\$685,810,371	\$686,287,971	\$685,810,371	\$0
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio	\$53,431,274	\$53,254,528	\$53,254,528	\$53,254,528	\$53,254,528	\$0
Public Works Commission	\$314,891,800	\$321,589,807	\$331,514,956	\$321,589,807	\$331,514,956	\$0
State Racing Commission	\$53,429,086	\$43,635,000	\$43,635,000	\$32,435,000	\$32,435,000	\$22,400,000
Department of Rehabilitation and Correction	\$1,627,633,274	\$1,670,903,612	\$1,716,218,299	\$1,670,903,612	\$1,716,218,299	\$0
House of Representatives	\$26,496,180	\$24,744,454	\$24,744,454	\$24,744,454	\$24,744,454	\$0
Respiratory Care Board	\$545,246	\$572,005	\$570,123	\$572,005	\$570,123	\$0
State Revenue Distributions⁶	\$6,699,686,800	\$7,373,080,551	\$7,442,794,263	\$7,173,080,551	\$7,242,794,263	\$400,000,000
Board of Sanitarian Registration	\$145,650	\$158,250	\$153,650	\$158,250	\$153,650	\$0
Ohio State School for the Blind	\$11,003,204	\$11,967,424	\$12,213,234	\$11,333,300	\$11,673,299	\$1,174,059
Ohio School for the Deaf	\$11,214,902	\$12,741,681	\$13,166,124	\$11,551,349	\$11,897,890	\$2,458,566
Secretary of State	\$21,008,911	\$17,942,826	\$17,440,826	\$17,942,826	\$17,440,826	\$0

APPENDIX I: RECOMMENDED FUNDING LEVELS AND PROJECTED SAVINGS

Unless otherwise noted, each appropriation increases by Bluebook-recommended amounts or by 3%, whichever is lower. Entries in bold incorporate program cuts detailed in The Buckeye Institute's "2015 Ohio Piglet Book."

Agency	Estimated FY 15	Bluebook Appropriation 2016	Bluebook Appropriation 2017	Suggested Appropriation 2016	Suggested Appropriation 2017	Total Savings Over Biennium
Senate	\$14,346,867	\$12,978,440	\$12,978,440	\$12,978,440	\$12,978,440	\$0
Commission on Service and Volunteerism	\$7,554,072	\$7,518,733	\$7,513,177	\$7,518,733	\$7,513,177	\$0
Commissioners of the Sinking Fund	\$1,159,347,600	\$1,160,357,700	\$1,226,079,300	\$1,160,357,700	\$1,226,079,300	\$0
Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation	\$325,000	\$426,800	\$426,800	\$426,800	\$426,800	\$0
Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology	\$508,660	\$508,660	\$508,660	\$508,660	\$508,660	\$0
Board of Tax Appeals	\$1,700,000	\$1,925,001	\$1,925,001	\$1,785,000	\$1,874,250	\$190,752
Department of Taxation	\$1,897,144,182	\$1,693,158,745	\$1,692,956,245	\$1,693,158,745	\$1,692,956,245	\$0
Department of Transportation	\$3,134,749,998	\$2,889,306,983	\$3,001,467,913	\$2,889,306,983	\$3,001,467,913	\$0
Treasurer of State	\$40,826,616	\$40,826,616	\$41,863,416	\$40,826,616	\$41,863,416	\$0
Veterans Organization	\$1,887,986	\$1,887,986	\$1,887,986	\$1,887,986	\$1,887,986	\$0
Department of Veterans Services	\$92,546,895	\$88,440,941	\$103,423,580	\$88,440,941	\$103,423,580	\$0
Veterinary Medical Licensing Board	\$361,695	\$382,195	\$388,195	\$372,546	\$383,722	\$14,122
Bureau of Workers' Compensation	\$279,483,900	\$276,242,967	\$276,242,967	\$276,242,967	\$276,242,967	\$0
Department of Youth Services	\$247,160,392	\$231,356,649	\$226,667,949	\$231,356,649	\$226,667,949	\$0
TOTALS	\$67,151,389,044	\$ 68,458,924,032	\$ 70,151,435,311	\$67,542,527,511	\$68,468,430,121	\$ 2,599,401,711

¹ Department of Agriculture is allowed to grow by 5% for 2016 to account for increased responsibilities regulating algal bloom.

² Department of Developmental Disabilities is allowed to grow by 5% for 2016 to account for increased community service responsibilities.

³ Only spending from state-source GRF expenditures is fixed to 3% growth.

⁴ Department of Jobs and Family Services is allowed to grow by 5% for 2016 to account for increased job placement responsibilities.

⁵ Only 2017 state source GRF spending is capped at 3% to account for the Medicaid expansion.

⁶ Many of the expenditures listed here are merely collected by the state on behalf of local governments and are not under the state's authority. We only address state distributions to the LGF.