



Week of May 15, 2023

Budget update

The Senate Finance Committee held hearings this week on the biennial budget bill, [House Bill 33](#), delving into specific topic areas, including higher education, workforce, agriculture, and tax issues. Education issues will be heard at the May 31 hearing. Senate leadership and committee chairs are reviewing submitted budget amendments this weekend and next week, with a Senate substitute version to be released on either June 6 or 7. Amendments for the Senate's second round of changes are due June 9, and a full Senate vote is expected on June 15.

Please continue to engage with your senators urging them to support an increase in the minimum state share percentage from 5% to 10% via Senate amendment SC0358, attached to this newsletter.

House committee reviews two education bills

The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee this week held hearings on bills to require excused absences be provided to students who participate in FFA and 4-H ([HB 135](#)) and establish a state task force to adopt new social studies standards ([HB 103](#)). HB 135 received sponsor testimony from Reps. **Thomas Hall** and **Rodney Creech**, while HB 103 featured opponent testimony from 38 witnesses.

STRS approves 1% COLA increase

The State Teachers Retirement System board on Thursday approved a 1% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and delayed an increase in the full retirement age by maintaining the current 34 years, rather than the anticipated 35 years.

Lawsuit filed on SJR 2

The day after [Senate Joint Resolution \(SJR\) 2](#) was passed by the General Assembly, a lawsuit was filed by an opposition group – One Person One Vote – arguing the joint resolution cannot appear on the Aug. 8 ballot because the resolution did not amend the statute that limits the issues that may appear at the August special election (constitutional amendments currently may not appear on the ballot). The lawsuit is pending before the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Updated Legislative Committee Meeting

The next Legislative Committee meeting for Alliance members will take place on Friday, June 9 at 9:00 a.m. Members will have an opportunity in that meeting to receive an update on the Senate budget proposal that will be revealed earlier that week.

Heard around the Statehouse

"There is no six-year plan. Every General Assembly makes up their own budget and decides how to fund schools." - Senate President **Matt Huffman**, referring to the Cupp-Patterson school-funding plan, which requires six years to be fully implemented.

Sub. H.B. 33
As Passed by the House

_____ moved to amend as follows:

- In line 37619, strike through "0.95" and insert "0.90" 1
- In line 37621, strike through "0.05" and insert "0.10" 2
- In line 37625, strike through "0.95" and insert "0.90" 3
- In line 37637, strike through "0.05" and insert "0.10" 4
- In line 37638, strike through "0.05" and insert "0.10." 5
- Beginning in fiscal year 2026, the minimum state share percentage shall increase in each fiscal year, in a manner determined by the general assembly, until it is 0.20" 6-8
- In line 40099, strike through "0.05" and insert "0.10" 9
- In line 40101, after the period insert "Beginning in fiscal year 2026, the minimum state share of the base cost shall increase in each fiscal year, in a manner determined by the general assembly, until it is 0.20." 10-13
- In line 157155, delete "\$195,850,000 \$196,850,000" and insert "\$196,850,000 \$197,850,000" 14-15
- In line 157157, delete "\$7,879,550,000 \$8,198,797,000" and insert "\$7,888,550,000 \$8,211,797,000" 16-17
- In line 157163, add \$10,000,000 to fiscal year 2024 and \$14,000,000 to fiscal year 2025 18-19

In line 157216, add \$10,000,000 to fiscal year 2024 and 20
 \$14,000,000 to fiscal year 2025 21

In line 157745, delete "\$38,000,000" and insert "\$38,500,000" 22

The motion was _____ agreed to.

SYNOPSIS

Increase minimum state share percentage 23

R.C. 3317.017 and 3317.16 24

Increases from 5% to 10% in FY 2024 and FY 2025 the minimum 25
 state share percentage used to calculate several payments for 26
 school districts in the school funding formula. 27

Beginning in FY 2026, requires increases in the minimum state 28
 share percentage in each fiscal year, as determined by the General 29
 Assembly, until it reaches 20%. 30

Department of Education 31

Sections 265.10 and 265.250 32

Increases GRF appropriations by a total of \$10,000,000 in FY 33
 2024 and \$14,000,000 in FY 2025 by doing the following: 34

-Increasing GRF ALI 200550, Foundation Funding - All 35
 Students, by \$9,000,000 in FY 2024 and \$13,000,000 in FY 2025. 36

-Increasing GRF ALI 200540, Special Education Enhancements, 37
 by \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year and increasing the earmark from 38
 that ALI for payments for special education and related services 39
 at county DD boards and institutions by \$500,000 in each fiscal 40
 year (the remainder of the appropriation increase, \$500,000 in 41
 each fiscal year, is used to fund payments for preschool special 42

education services).

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