



**The Campaign to Protect Ohio's Future**, a coalition of 370 health, human services, primary and secondary education and higher education organizations calls on Ohio Legislators to: protect Ohio's most vulnerable citizens by restoring or adequately funding vital services through a responsible budget that has - as its primary priority - to meet basic human needs and provide sufficient funds to invest in Ohio's future.

## OHIO SFY 2006-2007 BUDGET OVERVIEW

### HEALTH CARE

The Campaign **OPPOSES** the following provisions:

- ✗ Elimination of health care for 25,000 working parents
- ✗ Elimination of dental and vision coverage to 800,000 adults
- ✗ Continued elimination of psychological services to 12,000 adults
- ✗ Elimination of Disability Medical Assistance to 15,000 adults
- ✗ Cuts in funding for the Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps
- ✗ Cuts in funding for Child and Family Health Services
- ✗ Freezing ODH funding for HIV/AIDS health services resulting in waiting lists

The Campaign **SUPPORTS** the following provisions:

- CHIP eligibility remaining at 200% of poverty
- Coverage for pregnant women at 150% of poverty
- Funding for the ABC ( Access to Better Care Initiative ) for children's behavioral health

### REBALANCING LONG TERM CARE

The Campaign **OPPOSES** the following provisions:

- ✗ Inadequate funding for PASSPORT that creates waiting lists for older adults
- ✗ Inadequate funding for Adult Protective Services
- ✗ Inadequate funding for Senior Community Services that continues waiting lists for older adults needing basic assistance such as home delivered meals

The Campaign **SUPPORTS** the following long term options for seniors:

- Medicaid waiver for assisted living to allow approximately 1,800 older adults who would otherwise be in nursing homes to live more independently in a less expensive setting

### EARLY CARE AND PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Campaign **OPPOSES** the following provisions:

- ✗ Inadequate funding for primary and secondary education
- ✗ Changes in the "cost of doing business factor" resulting in funding losses for 40 counties
- ✗ Elimination of the Medicaid/Community Alternative Funding System (CAFS) without a plan to continue, and fund these vital services for children with disabilities.
- ✗ Removing the cap on co-pays for families earning more than 150% of federal poverty level
- ✗ Limiting provider reimbursement rates to only the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile of the market rate.
- ✗ Oppose the reduction of early learning opportunities for 6,000 3 and 4 year old children.
- ✗ Oppose the use of TANF as the only source of funding for the early learning initiative

More Information on the Other Side

**The Campaign SUPPORTS the following provisions:**

- Increased eligibility for preschool to 200% of the federal poverty level.
- Using 2003 data for market rate reimbursement schedule.
- Increased eligibility for child care from 150% to 185% of poverty
- Expansion of all-day kindergarten in 52 new districts

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**The Campaign OPPOSES the following provision:**

- ✗ Cuts to local governments of \$112 million in '06 and \$125 million in '07. This funding supports fire and police protection, libraries and many health and human service programs at the county, city and township level.

**ECONOMIC SECURITY AND SAFETY**

**The Campaign OPPOSES the following provisions:**

- ✗ Refusal to remove the cap and release reserve funding from the Ohio Housing Trust Fund to provide more affordable housing opportunities
- ✗ The elimination of the displaced homemaker program that has served 27,000 women since its inception

**The Campaign SUPPORTS the following provisions:**

- Funding for the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food banks to serve 2.7 million low-income households
- Increase of 10% in Ohio Works First cash grants to families
- TANF demonstration projects to increase opportunities for self-sufficiency
- Funding for the Kinship Care Guardianship program that will support 3,000 children in kinship households

**TAX REFORM**

The Campaign encourages Ohio's Governor and General Assembly to adopt a fair, progressive, diversified system of taxation that eliminates Ohio's structural deficit and provides stable revenues sufficient to fund government services and invest in Ohio's future.

- The Governor's tax reform package gives the 1% of Ohioans with average annual incomes of \$643,000 a tax cut of \$460 million.
- The Governor's tax reform package will likely be a tax increase for Ohioans working at low-wage and minimum wage jobs.
- The Governor's tax reform package, once fully implemented, results in a \$2 billion cut in funding for needed services – more than the state spends for the Departments of Aging, Drug and Alcohol Services, Mental Health, Natural Resources, MRDD, and Corrections combined.
- The Governor's corporate tax reform proposal actually raises less money than the current system. Any corporate tax reform should maintain current levels of revenue and should restore a balance between the burden borne by individuals and businesses.
- The Campaign supports tax reform that provides sufficient resources to restore the above cuts and that provides funding for programs necessary to invest in Ohio's future.

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