



June 22, 2021

Re: final state budget negotiations

Dear Governor DeWine, Senate President Huffman, House Speaker Cupp, Minority Leader Yuko, Minority Leader Sykes, and members of the Conference Committee:

We believe all Ohioans, whether white, Black, or brown, deserve to thrive. The pandemic has shown that investing in the health and well-being of one person is critical to protecting the health and well-being of us all. That's why we are calling on you to pass a state budget that provides a foundation of security, stability, and basic human dignity for all of us – no exceptions.

We look to you as state leaders to build a recovery for all Ohioans, but the Senate-passed budget takes Ohio in the opposite direction. It removes the plan to fairly and equitably fund our K-12 schools, dismantles the state's foundation for ensuring high-quality child care, and removes critical funding to expand broadband access to our neighbors across the state. Another change will lead to fewer affordable housing options for low-income seniors, people with disabilities and parents trying to provide a better life for their children. At the last minute, provisions were slipped in to make it harder for people to get enough food to eat, health care and other basic necessities. All of these changes will be damaging to the long-term health and well-being of children, adults and families all across the state, particularly Ohioans with low wages.

At the same time, the Senate budget proposes \$1.3 billion in tax cuts that would primarily benefit the wealthiest Ohioans and corporations. State lawmakers have cut income taxes for the wealthiest Ohioans for 16 years, and Ohio continues to fall behind the nation on jobs, wages and overall quality of life. This approach led to a slow recovery after the last recession, and it will leave tens of thousands of Ohioans less prepared to weather the next storm. It will also inevitably lead to cuts to education, healthcare and essential services we all rely on in

future budgets. We need to apply lessons from the past to today's challenges to forge a better way forward for all Ohioans.

Ohio can be the best state to raise a family. We can build a state where all children have a world-class education and all parents can afford to send their children to a high-quality child care setting. We can build a state where all people have enough food to eat, a roof over their head, and access to broadband. We can build a state where everyone has access to physical and behavioral healthcare. Let's invest in what really matters — our education, our well-being and our future.

In order to move Ohio in this direction, we ask that you pass a budget that makes the following changes:

- Restore the Fair School Funding Plan to adequately and equitably fund K-12 education.
- Restore \$190 million in funding to expand broadband access and remove language that restricts local governments from providing service to their residents.
- Remove provisions from Senate Bill 17 to ensure children and families who most need support can continue to access SNAP and Medicaid.
- Restore Step Up to Quality to ensure high-quality child care for all of our children.
- Remove the amendment (similar to SB 36 introduced in the 133rd General Assembly) that would exacerbate Ohio's affordable housing shortage.
- Remove the 5% income tax cut that primarily benefits the wealthiest Ohioans.

We, the undersigned organizations and Ohio residents, stand united in our support for these changes to the final state budget and our hope for a better future for all Ohioans.

Sincerely,

Statewide Organizations

1. ACTION OHIO Coalition for Battered Women
2. Advocates for Ohio's Future
3. Children's Defense Fund Ohio
4. Communications Workers of America, D4
5. Groundwork Ohio
6. Hunger Network in Ohio
7. Juvenile Justice Coalition
8. League of Women Voters of Ohio
9. MOVE Ohio
10. National Multiple Sclerosis Society
11. Ohio AFL-CIO
12. Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans Educational Fund
13. Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
14. Ohio Association of Foodbanks
15. Ohio Children's Budget Coalition
16. Ohio Council of Churches
17. Ohio Domestic Violence Network
18. Ohio Education Association
19. Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice
20. Ohio Federation of Teachers
21. Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition
22. Ohio National Organization for Women
23. Ohio Organizing Collaborative
24. Ohio Poverty Law Center
25. Ohio Progressive Asian Women's Leadership
26. Ohio Urban Resources System
27. Ohio Women's Public Policy Network
28. Ohio Workforce Coalition
29. One Ohio Now
30. Organize! Ohio
31. Policy Matters Ohio

- 32. Public Education Partners
- 33. Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio

- 34. URGE: Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity

Local / Regional Organizations

- 35. Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), Toledo
- 36. Antonine Sisters Adult Day Care, Inc., North Jackson
- 37. Antonine Village, North Jackson
- 38. Area 14 Workforce Development Board, Athens
- 39. Brecksville-Broadview Heights City School District, Cleveland
- 40. Caring Friends Food Pantry, Bellefontaine
- 41. Childhood Food Solutions, West Chester
- 42. Church of Our Saviour/La Iglesia de Nuestro Salvador Episcopa, Cincinnati
- 43. Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center, Cincinnati
- 44. Cleveland Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition, Cleveland
- 45. Cleveland Jobs with Justice, Cleveland
- 46. Clevelanders for Public Transit, Cleveland
- 47. Community Housing Solutions, Cleveland
- 48. Community Partnership on Aging, South Euclid
- 49. Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus, Middleburg Heights
- 50. Dayton Cooks - Wesley Community Center, Dayton
- 51. East End Neighborhood Development Corporation, Dayton
- 52. Firelands Bethel Church, Inc, Sandusky
- 53. First United Methodist Food Pantry, Van Wert
- 54. Freestore Foodbank, Cincinnati
- 55. Global Cleveland, Cleveland
- 56. Hall Hunger Initiative, Dayton
- 57. Healthy Community Partnership - Mahoning Valley, Youngstown
- 58. Heartland Conference UCC, Worthington
- 59. Hocking Athens Perry Community Action, Glouster
- 60. Homeless Congress, Cleveland
- 61. Hope Collective Church, Dayton
- 62. IMPACT Community Action, Columbus
- 63. Insure Our Future, East Canton
- 64. InterReligious Task Force on Central America, Cleveland
- 65. It Takes a Village, Lorain
- 66. It Takes a Village to Tackle HB70, Lorain
- 67. Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, Cleveland
- 68. Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio, Worthington
- 69. Mid-Ohio Food Collective, Grove City
- 70. Montgomery County Commissioners, Dayton
- 71. Ms. Shelly's Place Academy, West Carrollton
- 72. Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, Cleveland
- 73. Northeast Ohio Worker Center, Cleveland
- 74. Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office, Denver
- 75. Oberlin Community Services Council, Oberlin
- 76. Ohio NOW Education and Legal Fund, Brecksville
- 77. Perfecting Saints Heart to Heart Ministries, Akron
- 78. Pint Size Protesters, Columbus
- 79. R4 Workforce, Moreland Hills
- 80. Second Harvest Food Bank CCL, Springfield
- 81. Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio, Lorain
- 82. Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley, Youngstown
- 83. Southeast Ohio Foodbank & Kitchen, Glouster
- 84. St. Pauls Community Outreach, Cleveland
- 85. The Foodbank, Inc., Dayton
- 86. The Literacy Cooperative, Cleveland
- 87. The Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition, Cleveland
- 88. The Women's Fund of Central Ohio, Columbus
- 89. Towards Employment, Cleveland
- 90. Union Avenue United Methodist Church, Sebring
- 91. United Way of Greater Toledo, Toledo
- 92. Wesley Community Center, Inc., Dayton
- 93. West Ohio Food Bank, Lima
- 94. Westland Ecumenical Community Food Pantry, Columbus
- 95. West Side Catholic Center, Westlake
- 96. Xenia FISH Food Pantry, Xenia
- 97. Your Store of the Queen City, Cincinnati

Concerned Ohio Residents

Adam Artman, Shaker Heights
Adam Whiting, Cleveland
Adaora Schmiedl, Cleveland Heights
Alex Coccia, Columbus
Alexandra Sims, Cincinnati
Alexis Critchley, Columbus
Rev. Alice Diebel, Dayton
Alice Petersen, Toledo
Alison Paxson, Columbus
Alissa Smith, Rockbridge
Allison Ward, Beloit
Aloysius Wald, Columbus
Amanda Stevens, New Boston
Amy Hutchinson, Tipp City
Andrea Inverso, Danville
Andrea Turner, Cleveland Heights
Andrea Fetsko, Rocky River
Andreea Procopan, Oberlin
Andrew Beck, Cincinnati
Andrew Neutzling, Columbus
Andrew Ritterman, Lyndhurst
Angela Ciccio, Cleveland
Angela Nobbs, Girard
Anita Beck, Worthington
Ann Kocks, Cleveland Heights
Ann Pelzer, Strongsville
Anne Antonio, Willoughby
Annick Richardson, Kettering
Ariel Miller, Cincinnati
Ashley McClellan, Strongsville
Ashley Shepard, Gallipolis
August Ricksecker, Cincinnati
Barbara Altenburg, Dublin
Barbara Cartwright, Glouster
Barbara Olson, Monroe
Barbara Sorrell, Milford
Barbie Washington, Lorain
Becky Leader, Ottawa
Belinda St. Leger, Rocky River
Ben Stein, Cleveland
Beth Cagan, Cleveland Heights
Beth Egbert, Canton
Beth Houston, New Carlisle
Betty Cantley, Grafton
Beverly Lund, Shaker Heights
Beverly Wolf, Zanesfield
Bill and Nancy Gerdes, Hudson
Bob Handelman, Columbus
Brad Ross, Cleveland Heights
Bradley Wyner, Akron
Brandy Seger, Cleves

Brenna McNamee, Columbus Ohio
Brian Campbell, Delaware
Brian Gibbons, Fairview Park
Brian Houser, New Albany
Brian M. Scott, Cleveland Heights
C Loh, Cleveland
Caitlin Greenwood, Warren
Caitlin Johnson, Shaker Heights
Carley Riley, Cincinnati
Carlos Casillas, Cincinnati
Carol Del Prince, Cincinnati
Carol Neuman de Vegvar, Delaware
Carolyn Gibson, Chillicothe
Carolyn Rice, Dayton
Catherine Miller, Cleveland Heights
Cathy Cowan Becker, Grove City
Cathy McDaniel, Chillicothe
Cecilia Long, Dayton
Cheryl Cole, Dayton
Chris Marty, Waterville
Chris Thompson, Strongsville
Chris Hahnel, Columbus
Christine Sell, Cleveland
Christina Collins, Medina
Christopher Webster, Galloway
Cicely Philpot, Shaker Heights
Claire Brugnoletti, Cleveland Heights
Claire Farnsworth, McConnellsville
Clinton Smith, Columbus
Colette Harrison, Dayton
Colin Boysel, Columbus
Connie Young, Piqua
Constance Rubin, North Canton
Constance Minerovic, Painesville
Constance Mulder, Portsmouth
Craig Tingley, Celina
Cynthia Straffon, Shaker Heights
Dallas Schubert, Cleveland Heights
Daniel Demetzky, North Ridgeville
David Gurarie, Shaker Heights
David Hansen, Cleveland Heights
David Jennings, Columbus
Rep. David Leland, Columbus
David Rea, Cincinnati
David Sebring, Kersten
Dawn Kosec, Youngstown
Dawn Wojcik, Trotwood
DB Oblinger, Marion
Debbie Perlmutter, Toledo
Debbie Schmieding, Athens
Deborah Cooper, Worthington

Deborah Dunlop Hayashi, Vandalia
Deborah Guddy, Elyria
Dena Cranley, Cincinnati
Dennis Dyer, Ashland
Dennis Kay, Bellbrook
Dennis Lynch, Cincinnati
Diana Young, Vermilion
Diane Bailey, Reynoldsburg
Diane Baldwin, Loveland
Diane Diernbach, Mineral Ridge
Diane Dodge, Brecksville
Dianne Schubeck, Garrettsville
Dillion Gallagher, Cleveland
Don Pew, Girard
Donald and Charlotte Scherer, Bowling Green
Donna Adler, West Chester
Donna Sudar, Euclid
Durell Callier, Cincinnati
Earl Grove, East Canton
Ed George, Cleveland
Edward Butler, Loudonville
Elizabeth Lanphier, Cincinnati
Elizabeth Potts, Elida
Elizabeth Stiles, Cleveland
Ellen Lynch, Cincinnati
Ellen Worthington, Beachwood
Ellen Wright, Dayton
Emilia Vignola, Cleveland
Eric Skidmore, Liberty Township
Erin O'Daniel, Galena
Ernie Stockton, Huber heights
Evelyn Ting, Shaker Heights
Frank Johaneck, Westlake
Frederica Cohen, Akron
Frederica Scott, Cleveland Heights
Gail Cox, Cleveland
Gail Long, Shaker Hts.
Genna Petrolla, Cleveland
Geoffrey Brown, Westlake
Geoffrey Miller, Cleveland
Gerald Sgro, Cleveland Heights
Gisela Eder, Mans.
Rev. Glen Bengson, Powell
Gordon Svoboda, Akron
Hadley Sauers-Ford, Cincinnati
Halle Barnett, Beachwood
Hannah Scruggs, Fairborn
Harold Chichester, Columbus
Heather Fisher, Chesterland
Heather Tubbs Cooley, Dublin
Herb Weyl, Columbus
Hilary Draper, London

Ian Furman, Toledo
Ian Shakelton, Shaker Heights
Ida Pooler, Dayton
Ioanna Paraskevopoulos, Cincinnati
Iris Meltzer, Kent
Jacob Kraus-Preminger, Cincinnati
James Ciolino, Cincinnati
James Cooper, Granville
James Nelson, Orrville
Jan Underwood, Dayton
Janalee Stock, Athens
Jane Duff, Cleveland Heights
Jane Larson, Dublin
Jane Stoops, Loudonville
Janet Gorman, Mason
Janet Kramer, Struthers
Janice Resseger, Cleveland Heights
Janie Scheinbach, Columbus
Jason Leach, Cleveland Heights
Jason Miller, Toledo
Jay Houlahan, Worthington
Jeanne Wilson, Marietta
Jeannie Finlay-Kochanowski, Toledo
Jean W Hanson, Avon
Jeff Evans, Wintersville
Jeff Rechenbach, Westlake
Jeffrey Goliver, Dublin
Jennifer Miller, Galloway
Jessica Beardsley, Columbus
Jessica Weinberg, Toledo
Jill Finnerty, Belpre
Jill Rizika, Cleveland Heights
Jill Wettersten, Oberlin
Jim Czerniak, Toledo
Joan Spoerl, Cleveland Heights
Joan Tirman, Cincinnati
Joanne Lamert, Akron
Joe Betz, Lakewood
Joe Destefano, Cleveland Heights
Joe Motil, Columbus
Joel Gorski, Lakewood
John Grinstead, Columbus
John Layfield , Akron
Jon Hudson, Yellow Springs
Joseph Grove, Columbus
Joyce Wilson, Dayton
Judith Hofmann, Fostoria
Judith Schechter, Blue Ash
Judith Turner, Cleveland
Judy Rawson, Shaker Heights
Judy Rojas, Upper Arlington
Julia Wade, Columbus

Julie McGowan, Cincinnati
Justin Philipps, Newark
Kaci Roach, Cleveland
Kamla Lewis, Shaker Heights
Karen Beck, Columbus
Karen Connell, Cleveland Heights
Karen Hansen, Columbus
Karen Hoopes, Cincinnati
Karen Linn, Delaware
Karen Martens, Columbus
Karen Leith, Hudson
Karolyn Schalk, Cincinnati
Katherine Pendergraft, Cincinnati
Kathleen Caffrey, Beavercreek
Kathleen Gmeiner, Columbus
Kathleen Holman, Brecksville
Kathleen Lensenmayer, Columbus
Kathleen Roby, Ohio City
Kathryn Brown, Hudson
Kathryn Kram, Columbus
Kathryn Lilley, Westerville
Kathryn Pavia, Cincinnati
Kathy Duraney, Youngstown
Katie Meier, Cincinnati
Kayla Merchant, Columbus
Kellie Sheely, Westerville
Kelsey Snavely, Worthington
Ken Tegtmeyer, Cincinnati
Kermit Lind, Cleveland Hts.
Kerry Brooks, Hilliard
Kevin Draiss, Celina
Kevin Kappers, Cincinnati
Kim Kelly, Norwich Township
Kimberly Davis, Cincinnati
Kimberly Kraus-Preminger, Cincinnati
Kirsten Brademeyer, Cincinnati
Kristen Gasperetti, Cincinnati
Kristi Hannan, Toledo
Kristin Peterson, Oberlin
Kristina White, Maumee
Kurt Reiber, Wyoming
La Queta Worley-Bell, Cleveland
Larry Bresler, Cleveland
Larry Trover, Columbus
Lars Rupert, Powell
Laura Koeninger, Fairfield
Laura Rocker, Shaker Heights
Laura Winters-Duke, Waverly
Laureen Coughlin, Olmsted Township
Lauren Engler, Dublin
Laurie Albright, University Heights
Leah Trebil, Beavercreek

Lee Barbee, Cleveland Heights
Lee Roth, Cleveland Heights
Leo Deininger, Cleveland Heights
Linda Gaylor, Canal Winchester
Linda Hamilton, Findlay
Linda Metzger, St. Marys
Lindsey Griffis, Cincinnati
Lis Regula, Columbus
Lisa Rapaszky, Cleveland Hts.
Lisa Soper, Cincinnati
Lizett Schreiber, Lewis Center
Lois Romanoff, Cleveland
Loranell Breyley, Medina
Lori Elliott, Wyoming
Louisa Oliver, Cleveland Heights
Lucia Flewares, Columbus
Lynn Olsen, Marion
Lynn Buffington, Beavercreek
Lynne Bajec, University Heights
Maki Somosot, Cincinnati
Mandy Wagner, Canton
Marcia Cox, Centerville
Marcia Preston, Gahanna
Margaret Brewster, Cleveland Hts.
Margaret Hutchinson, Sheffield Village
Margaret Murphy, Shaker Hts.
Maria Ramirez, Worthington
Marilyn Burns, Cleveland
Mark Grabowski, Cleveland
Mark Schrider, Columbus
Marsha Strader, Cincinnati
Marti Franks, Reminderville
Marty Mason, Highland Heights
Marvin Stotz, Maineville
Mary Counter, Columbus
Mary Czech, Sheffield Lake
Mary Georgiton, Columbus
Mary Gibson, Cleveland Heights
Mary Macvicar, Columbus
Mary Schneider, Cincinnati
Mary Worthington, Oberlin
Mary Jo Kilroy, Columbus
Mary Louise, Hawkins, Columbus
Maryellen Hamernik, Norwalk
Maureen Reedy, Columbus
Mazie Adams, Cleveland Heights
Meeka Owens, Cincinnati
Megann LeVan, Springfield
Melanie Simon, Loveland
Michael Blake, Columbus
Michael Seid, Mason
Michaela Oldfield, Cincinnati

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Michelle Hendricks, Columbus
Michelle Jones, Fairborn
Michelle Kaiser, Columbus
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Mikalah Henyard, Hubbard
Min. Keva Presley, Cincinnati
Miranda Wilson, Trotwood
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Molly Martin, Cleveland
Molly Nichols, Columbus
Mona Mansour, Cincinnati
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Nancy Rapasky, Mayfield Heights
Nancy Russell, Toledo
Nancy Sayeedi, Beaver Creek
Nancy Whiting, Cleveland Heights
Nancy Jo Whittington, Akron
Nancy K Smith, Chagrin Falls
Nathaniel Chapman, Maumee
Ndidi Unaka, Cincinnati
Nick Bates, Columbus
Nicole Sofer, Cincinnati
Nicole Stoicoiu, University Heights
Noah Verhoff, Columbus Grove
Nusrat Mehdi, Berea
Pam Davis, Lima
Pamela Bertaud, Cleveland Heights
Pamela Turos, Euclid
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Paul Graham, Cincinnati
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Rachel Costanzo, Cleveland
Rachel Meffe, Akron
Rachel Scott
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Rebecca Cline, Medina
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Rebecca Kusner, Moreland Hills
Rebecca Montag, Cincinnati
Reggie Harris, Cincinnati
Renee Murphy, Troy
Renee Westermeyer, Springboro

Rev. David Connor, Lakewood
Rev. Paula Maeder Connor, Lakewood
Reva Levenstein, Shaker Heights
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Rita Bryce, Shaker Heights
Rita Haider, Columbus
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Robert Lisiewski, Middleburg Heights
Robert McFarland, Steubenville
Robert Noble, Lakewood
Roberta Abbey, Mentor
Robin Gilbert, Worthington
Roger B. Moore, Ashland
Ron Gay, Youngstown
Ronald Berry, Batavia
Ronnie Day, Clarksville
Ruth Hardy, Cincinnati
Ruth Skuly, Cleveland Heights
Ryan Carrier, Columbus
Samantha Frew, Columbus
Sandra Cobb, Moreland Hills
Sandy Luther, Wickliffe
Sara Ashley-Cook, Ravenna
Sara Frease, Dayton
Sara Keebler, Cincinnati
Sara Strattan, Canton
Sarah Biehl, Columbus
Sean Herron, Shaker Heights
Sengrithey Pich, Brunswick
Shannon Hanf, Troy
Sharon Ellis, Dayton
Sharon Greenrod, Cleveland
Shayla L Davis, Garfield Heights
Sherita Mullins, Cleveland
Sloane King Owen, Shaker Heights
Sonia Corrigan, Mount Vernon
Stefani Vancs, Lorain
Stephen Caruso, Pataskala
Stephanie Riccobene, Garfield Heights
Steve Drake, Kettering
Steve Hudson, Belle Center
Steven Simmons, Beaver Creek Township
Sue Cyncynatus, Kent
Sue Wolpert, Cleveland Hts.
Susan Allardyce, Columbus
Susan Kaeser, Cleveland Heights
Susan Smudz, Columbus
Susan Demelio, Cincinnati

Susan Kelley, Lakewood
Susan Ramlo , Hudson
Susan Walker, Belpre
Susan Walker-Tomci, Stow
Tammy Hawkins, Clarksburg
Taylor Smith, New Carlisle
Teresa Bihl, Union
Teresa Leitwein, Dublin
Teresa Reno, North Canton
Terrence McNulty, Strongsville
Terri McIntee, Burton
Terry Crogan, Boardman
Theresa Pretlow, Cleveland
Thomas Bennett, Shaker Heights
Thomas Johnson, Dayton
Thomas Hayes, Cleveland Heights

Tiara Chambers, Cincinnati
Tim Bonfield, Cincinnati
Tim Walters, Cleveland
Todd Hawley, Silver Lake
Tom Bullock, Lakewood
Toni Seese, Brunswick
Toni Thayer, Cleveland Heights
Tricia Niesz, Kent
Valerie Lee, Dayton
Valerie Pitaluga, Westerville
Vicki Wheeler, Deshler
Will Petrik, Columbus
William Davis, Dayton
William Wilson, Kettering
Yvonne Rowe, Cleveland