

Rally for Ohio's Future

*Why We're Here – Combatting the Senate's Most Harmful Budget Provisions
And Reminding Legislators That #WeAreOhiosFuture*

For Ohio Child Care

- **Slashes** proposed child care eligibility for 12,000 Ohio kids compared to the House and Governor's proposals
- **Cuts** child care infrastructure grants and redirects grants from areas where we see more babies dying before their 1st birthday
- **Guts** early childhood mental health funding

For Ohio Healthcare

- **Eliminates** the House's plan to provide Medicaid coverage to kids from ages 0 through 3, without interruptions in coverage
- **Removes** House-proposed Medicaid coverage of doula supportive services through pregnancy and childbirth
- **Cuts** proposed Medicaid coverage for pregnant moms and children up to age 19 under 300% FPL, contrary to the House's and Governor's vision of Ohio being the best place to raise a family
- **Fails** to raise wages for direct care workers – who take care of Ohioans in their homes – to the long-overdue minimum wage of \$20 per hour, instead undervaluing these workers at an average \$17 per hour
- **Fails** to raise wages for behavioral healthcare to the much needed 20% increase over current rates

For Ohio Families

- **Implements** a misguided tax cut that will benefit the wealthiest Ohioans at the expense of cutting programs that support kids and families
- **Fails** to implement other proven supports for families, such as a state tax credit that actually puts real money back in the pockets of families with kids, and invests in tax cuts for the wealthy instead

For Older Ohioans

- **Scraps** funding for the first-ever \$40 million Healthy Aging grants to local communities to help older adults stay in their homes with adaptations like grab bars and ramps
- **Reduces** funding for home-delivered meals and community supports – preventing Ohio from receiving additional federal funds for older adults

Homes for Ohio's Future

- **Eviscerates** funding for the Healthy Beginnings at Home pilot program, a proven program that would expand housing for pregnant moms and babies and reduce infant and maternal mortality
- **Abolishes** the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, threatening affordable housing financing in Ohio
- **Strips** away vital programs that assist and incentivize affordable housing development

For Ohio Public Schools

- **Guts** Ohio public school funding by pulling \$540 million from the school funding formula
- **Redirects** \$181 million in public school funding to fund wealthy Ohioans attending private schools, an unprecedented level of public dollars supporting private schools
- **Eliminates** funding to make reduced-price school meals free for low-income students, meaning some kids can't afford to eat while they're at school
- **Erodes** the autonomy and freedom of public higher education institutions by telling Ohio colleges and universities what they can and can't say and do – which will likely drive prospective college students out of Ohio

For Food Secure Ohioans

- **Slashes** funding for the Ohio Association of Foodbanks, the front lines for hunger relief, at a time of record need
- **Mandates** photo IDs be included on SNAP cards – a \$15 million costly, harmful barrier that solves a fake problem rooted in racist stereotypes and that other states have attempted to implement and failed

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Where Do We Go From Here? How Lawmakers Can Build a #BetterBudgetForOhio

We look to state leaders to provide a foundation of health and economic security for all Ohioans, but the Senate-passed budget takes Ohio in the opposite direction.

Compared to the House budget, the Senate budget:

- **defunds** public schools
- **defunds** child care and preschool
- **defunds** health care (Medicaid) for children and pregnant people
- **defunds** services for older adults
- **defunds** school meals and Ohio foodbanks
- **defunds** affordable housing for pregnant moms and babies
- funds private schools and millionaires who are already sending their kids to private schools
- includes major tax cuts that would mostly benefit the rich
- erodes the autonomy and freedom of public higher education institutions
- adds new barriers (work requirements and photo ID) that would remove people from critical public economic security programs, including SNAP and Medicaid

We can and must do better.

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 and a roof over their head. Let's invest in what really matters — our education, our well-being and **our future**.

We're calling on leadership in the House, the Senate, and the Conference Committee to pass a final budget that ensures:

- **No child goes to school hungry and Ohioans have enough to eat.** Restore the House investments in school meals and the Ohio Association of Foodbanks.
- **Parents get the child care they need and more children start Kindergarten ready to learn.** Restore the House investments in child care and early childhood education.
- **Kids have the opportunity to get a high-quality public education.** Restore the House investment in the fair school funding plan.
- **More people get the stable, affordable housing they need.**
- **We have the resources to invest in Ohio's future.** Remove the Senate tax cut that would mostly benefit the wealthiest Ohioans.
- **No Ohioans are harmed.** Remove provisions that would limit Ohioans accessing SNAP, Medicaid, and other critical economic security programs.