

FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Scott Dunn - Chairman
Vincent A. Vicites - Vice Chairman
Harry Dutch Kaufman - Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2025

Fayette County Commissioners Issue Statement on State Budget Impasse and Fiscal Impact

Uniontown, PA - Today marks Day #128 without an enacted state budget in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This causes financial hardships for counties, school districts, and non-profits who rely on state funding to provide services. For counties, social services such as Children & Youth, Behavioral Health, and others are mandated to be provided. Without a state budget, counties must find alternatives to fund these operations.

On average counties receive nearly 30% of their total funding from the Commonwealth. It would be impossible for any business to survive this loss of revenue. Counties all over PA have been forced to dip into reserve funds, deplete their General Funds, or rely on lines of credit. Some counties have utilized furloughs, facility closures, prioritizing payments to vendors, and cuts in services.

In Fayette County, we have implemented spending and hiring freezes. Mandated services usually funded by the state have been funded by the county's General Fund. The Fayette County Commissioners have been focused on our budget all year long. We have realigned offices, cut staff, added additional revenue sources, and cut costs by utilizing technology. Fayette County is operating under budget and had anticipated a budget reserve at year end. However, the lack of state funding causes cash flow limitations that can no longer be absorbed. Fayette County waited as long as possible hoping for a resolution to the budget stalemate. We cannot wait any longer.

The reduction in the General Fund is to the point that we need to secure a temporary loan of up to \$5.5 million from the State Treasury Budget Bridge Loan program. This is a temporary loan that will be repaid within 10 days of Fayette County receiving our allotment of state funding. Unfortunately, this comes with a cost. If this loan is in place for the remainder of the year, the interest fees will be approximately \$35,000. Fayette County has money in the debt service fund to cover this interest, but make no mistake, the debt service fund is taxpayer dollars that will need to be spent because there is no state budget.

There will not be a county tax increase in 2026.



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This communication is part of the Fayette County PR Initiative, which is funded through the Fayette County Local Share Account (LSA) and Hotel Tax Grants in cooperation with the Fayette County Board of Commissioners, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, The Redstone Foundation and other partners. This funding has been designated for the continued promotion and marketing of Fayette County, PA.

For more information, contact Rick Fike, Public Relations Specialist, at 724-437-4571, rfike@fayettecountypa.info or Commissioner Scott Dunn at 724-430-1200, sdunn@fayettepa.org