



Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus

*Learning, connecting, and problem-solving
together. Our children are counting on us.*

The Budget and the State of Children in Ohio

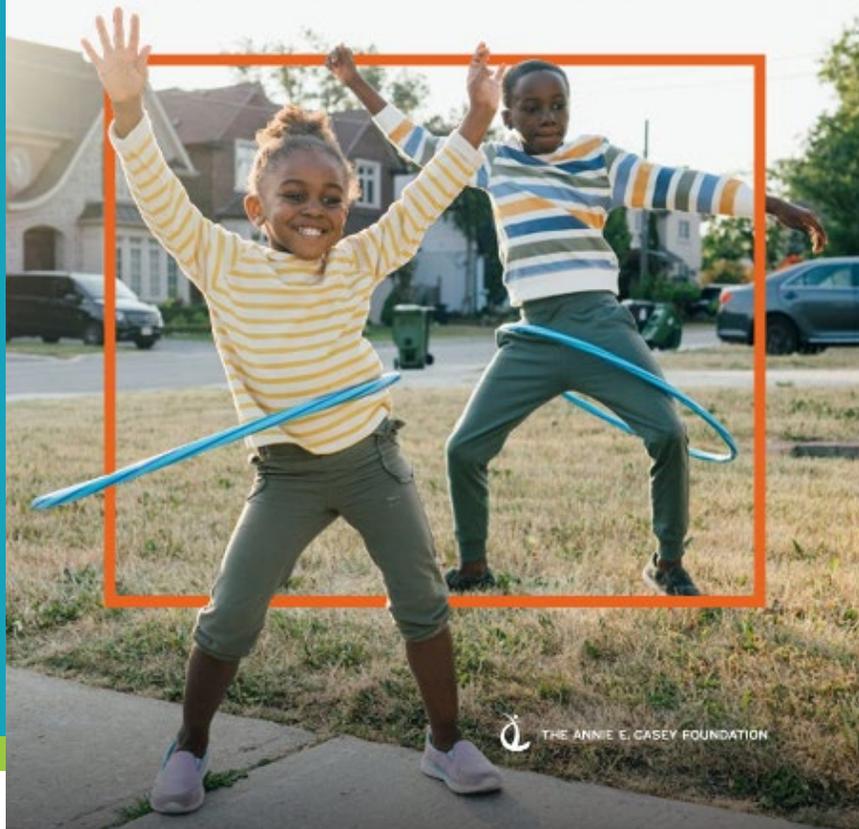
Opening Remarks: Rep. Latyna Humphrey



*Ohio Legislative
Children's Caucus
Vice-Chair*

2023 KIDS COUNT® DATA BOOK

STATE TRENDS IN CHILD WELL-BEING



2023 KIDS COUNT Data Book

Kim Eckhart

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio
June 26, 2023



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OVERALL RANK

29

2023 KIDS COUNT[®] DATA BOOK

OHIO



ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

26



EDUCATION

20



HEALTH

28



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

33

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

26

UNITED STATES

OHIO

Children in poverty

US 12,243,000 | OH 475,000

17%
2019

17%
2021

=
SAME

18%
2019

19%
2021

↑
WORSE

Children whose parents lack secure employment

US 21,143,000 | OH 785,000

26%
2019

29%
2021

↑
WORSE

26%
2019

30%
2021

↑
WORSE

Children living in households with a high housing cost burden

US 21,857,000 | OH 585,000

30%
2019

30%
2021

=
SAME

23%
2019

22%
2021

↓
BETTER

Teens not in school and not working

US 1,234,000 | OH 39,000

6%
2019

7%
2021

↑
WORSE

6%
2019

6%
2021

=
SAME

EDUCATION

20

	UNITED STATES			OHIO		
Young children (ages 3 and 4) not in school US 4,380,000 OH 162,000	53%	54%	↑ WORSE	55%	57%	↑ WORSE
	2012-16	2017-21		2012-16	2017-21	
Fourth-graders not proficient in reading US N.A. OH N.A.	66%	68%	↑ WORSE	64%	65%	↑ WORSE
	2019	2022		2019	2022	
Eighth-graders not proficient in math US N.A. OH N.A.	67%	74%	↑ WORSE	62%	71%	↑ WORSE
	2019	2022		2019	2022	
High school students not graduating on time* US N.A. OH N.A.	14%	14%	= SAME	18%	16%	↓ BETTER
	2018-19	2019-20		2018-19	2019-20	

N.A.: Not available *Graduation data may not be comparable across time due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNITED STATES

OHIO

Low birth-weight babies

US 311,932 | OH 11,291

8.3%
20198.5%
2021↑
WORSE8.6%
20198.7%
2021↑
WORSE**Children without health insurance**

US 4,165,000 | OH 140,000

6%
20195%
2021↓
BETTER5%
20195%
2021=
SAME**Child and teen deaths per 100,000**

US 23,198 | OH 837

25
201930
2021↑
WORSE27
201930
2021↑
WORSE**Children and teens (ages 10 to 17)
who are overweight or obese**

US N.A. | OH N.A.

31%
2018-1933%
2020-21↑
WORSE34%
2018-1934%
2020-21=
SAME

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

33

UNITED STATES

OHIO

Children in single-parent families

US 23,626,000 | OH 883,000

34%
2019

34%
2021

=
SAME

37%
2019

36%
2021

↓
BETTER

Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma

US 8,269,000 | OH 228,000

12%
2019

11%
2021

↓
BETTER

9%
2019

9%
2021

=
SAME

Children living in high-poverty areas

US 6,086,000 | OH 276,000

13%
2012-16

8%
2017-21

↓
BETTER

13%
2012-16

10%
2017-21

↓
BETTER

Teen births per 1,000

US 146,973 | OH 5,790

17
2019

14
2021

↓
BETTER

19
2019

16
2021

↓
BETTER

CHILD CARE AFFORDABILITY AND JOB CHANGES DUE TO CHILD CARE PROBLEMS BY STATE

LOCATION	CENTER-BASED CHILD CARE FOR TODDLERS			FAMILY- OR HOME-BASED CARE FOR TODDLERS			CHILDREN WHOSE FAMILY HAD JOB CHANGES DUE TO CHILD CARE PROBLEMS*
	ANNUAL COST	COST AS A PERCENTAGE OF MEDIAN INCOME		ANNUAL COST	COST AS A PERCENTAGE OF MEDIAN INCOME		
		SINGLE MOTHER	MARRIED COUPLE WITH CHILDREN		SINGLE MOTHER	MARRIED COUPLE WITH CHILDREN	
United States	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	13%
New Hampshire	\$12,496	31%	9%	\$9,940	25%	8%	14%
New Jersey	\$12,694	34%	9%	\$9,786	26%	7%	12%
New Mexico	\$9,156	33%	11%	\$10,284	37%	12%	12%
New York	\$16,551	48%	14%	\$11,778	34%	10%	13%
North Carolina	\$9,916	33%	10%	\$8,316	28%	8%	16%
North Dakota	\$10,090	30%	9%	\$7,580	23%	7%	8%
Ohio	\$11,302	39%	11%	\$8,761	30%	8%	13%



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Ohio Budget Comparison Fact Sheet

Which version(s) of the budget best supports children, families, & communities?



**OHIO
CHILDREN'S
BUDGET**
2024-2025

Issue	Executive	House	Senate	Why?
Provides Medicaid Coverage of Doula Services				The House provides Medicaid coverage of doula services, shown to combat infant and maternal mortality. The Senate removed this life-saving provision.
Protects Children From Lead Poisoning				The Executive budget maintains funding for lead safety programs. The Senate budget removes language for RRP which rewards lead-safe business practices and keeps children safe.
Eliminates Third Grade Retention Requirement				The Senate budget reinstates the Third Grade Reading Retention requirement eliminated in the House version. Retention is shown to produce short-term academic gains that wane over time and pose long-term harm.

Ohio Budget Comparison Fact Sheet

Which version(s) of the budget best supports children, families, & communities?



**OHIO
CHILDREN'S
BUDGET**
2024-2025

Issue	Executive	House	Senate	Why?
Expands Access to Free School Meals				<p>The House prioritizes funds to curb child hunger and support learning by making all reduced-price meals free. The Senate eliminated this provision.</p>
Fully and Fairly Funds Ohio Schools				<p>The House improves on the Executive by increasing funds to the Fair School Funding formula and funding a cost study for economic disadvantage. The Senate undermines equity through tax cuts and by changing the formula.</p>
Ensures Continuous Medicaid Coverage for Children to Age 4				<p>The House includes continuous Medicaid eligibility from birth to age 4 to ensure kids have consistent access to health care. The Senate removed this provision.</p>

Ohio Budget Comparison Fact Sheet

Which version(s) of the budget best supports children, families, & communities?



**OHIO
CHILDREN'S
BUDGET**
2024-2025

Issue	Executive	House	Senate	Why?
Invests in the Children Services System				The Executive budget expands the State Child Protection Allocation, Ohio START, and addressing the needs of multi-system youth. The House limited these investments, but the Senate removed them altogether.
Increases Access to Affordable Housing				The House increases a tax credit proposed in the Executive budget from \$100 million to \$500 million to incentivize developers to build affordable, below-market rent homes amid a pervasive housing crisis.
Boosts Minimum Pay to Address Educator Shortage				The House included a provision to increase the minimum salary for Ohio educators from \$30,000 to \$40,000. This was removed from the Senate budget.

Ohio Budget Comparison Fact Sheet

Which version(s) of the budget best supports children, families, & communities?



**OHIO
CHILDREN'S
BUDGET**
2024-2025

Issue	Executive	House	Senate	Why?
Expands Medicaid Coverage for Pregnant Women and Children up to 300% FPL				The Executive and House budgets expand health care access by increasing eligibility up to 300% FPL for children and birthing people. The Senate removed this provision.
Expands Food Assistance Access for Families				The House provides additional funds to food assistance providers. The Senate's budget creates barriers to access to SNAP.
Increases Access to School-Based Health Services				Both the Executive and House budgets provide crucial funds to school-based health centers and expand the Medicaid in Schools Program. The Senate budget guts these proposals.

Ohio Budget Comparison Fact Sheet

Which version(s) of the budget best supports children, families, & communities?



OHIO
CHILDREN'S
BUDGET
2024-2025

Issue	Executive	House	Senate	Why?
Expands Publicly Funded Child Care Access to 160% FPL				The Executive and House increases initial eligibility for publicly funded child care from 142% to 160% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), whereas the Senate increases this to just 145%.
Invests in Evidence-Based Home Visiting for Families				The Executive budget supports comprehensive services to more children and their families through home visits.



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The state of child & family food security in Ohio & how the state budget can still help

June 26, 2023 | Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus



Greater Cleveland
Food Bank



Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger, representing
Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks
and 3,600 member
agencies

After months of high inflation + increases to consumer prices + loss of \$126 million per month in SNAP, we anonymously surveyed more than 2,000 foodbank clients from across Ohio.



44.3%



have at least one
member under 18

38.1%



include at least one
disabled member

In the last 2-3 months:



68% had to choose between food and transportation/gas

66% had to choose between food and utilities



55% had to choose between food or medicine/health care

50% had to choose between food and housing





2 IN 3 (65.5%)

households served by foodbanks have adults in their household that cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food in the last 12 months, including more than

1 IN 3 (36.6%)

that did so almost every month over the last year

More than **8 IN 10**

foodbank clients sought help
with emergency food because
of higher food costs



54% reported feeling down, depressed, or hopeless since March

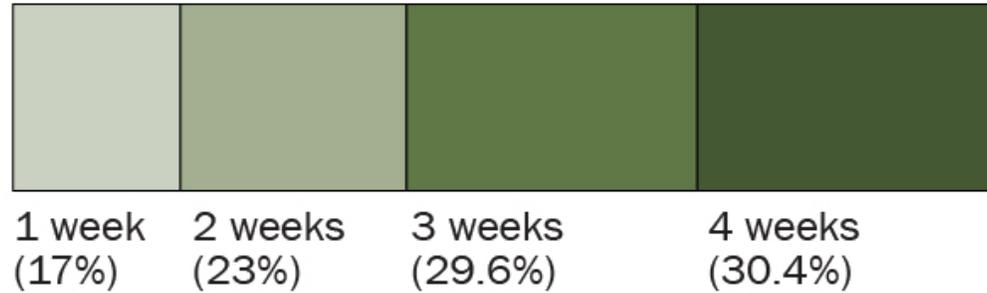




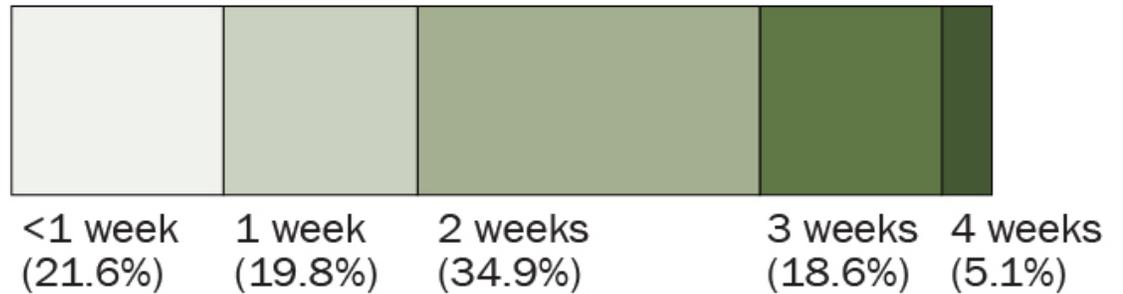
→ **40.7%** participate in SNAP



With pandemic-era SNAP benefits, **3 in 10** SNAP participants said their benefits lasted the full month



Since the end of pandemic-era SNAP benefits, **just 5% of** SNAP participants said their benefits lasted the full month





37% said they will
rely on us more
often in the next 2
months; just 5%
said they would rely
on us less often

The rate of child food insecurity in Ohio was 14.8% in 2021, when advance, expanded child tax credits and SNAP Emergency Allotments were available. That was down compared to 17.4% in 2019.

Child poverty fell by 14% or more while those federal investments in family wellbeing were in place.

Ohio must pass a budget does that aligns with the reality that a growing number of Ohioans are facing.

It should invest surpluses in access to food and other basic needs to support and stabilize kids, parents and caregivers, workers, and more, not provide tax breaks for the wealthy and well-connected, risking revenue needed to fund basic services or investments like a state-funded Thriving Families Tax Credit.

\$15 million in additional funding to support the Ohio Food Program and Agricultural Clearance Program was included by the House in its budget and should be included in the final budget.



Funding to offset the cost of reduced-price school meals for Ohio's K-12 students was included by the House in its budget and should be included in the final budget.



Several harmful changes and cuts to SNAP that would severely reduce, limit, and weaken eligibility for and access to federal food assistance were included in the Senate budget and must be removed from the final budget.

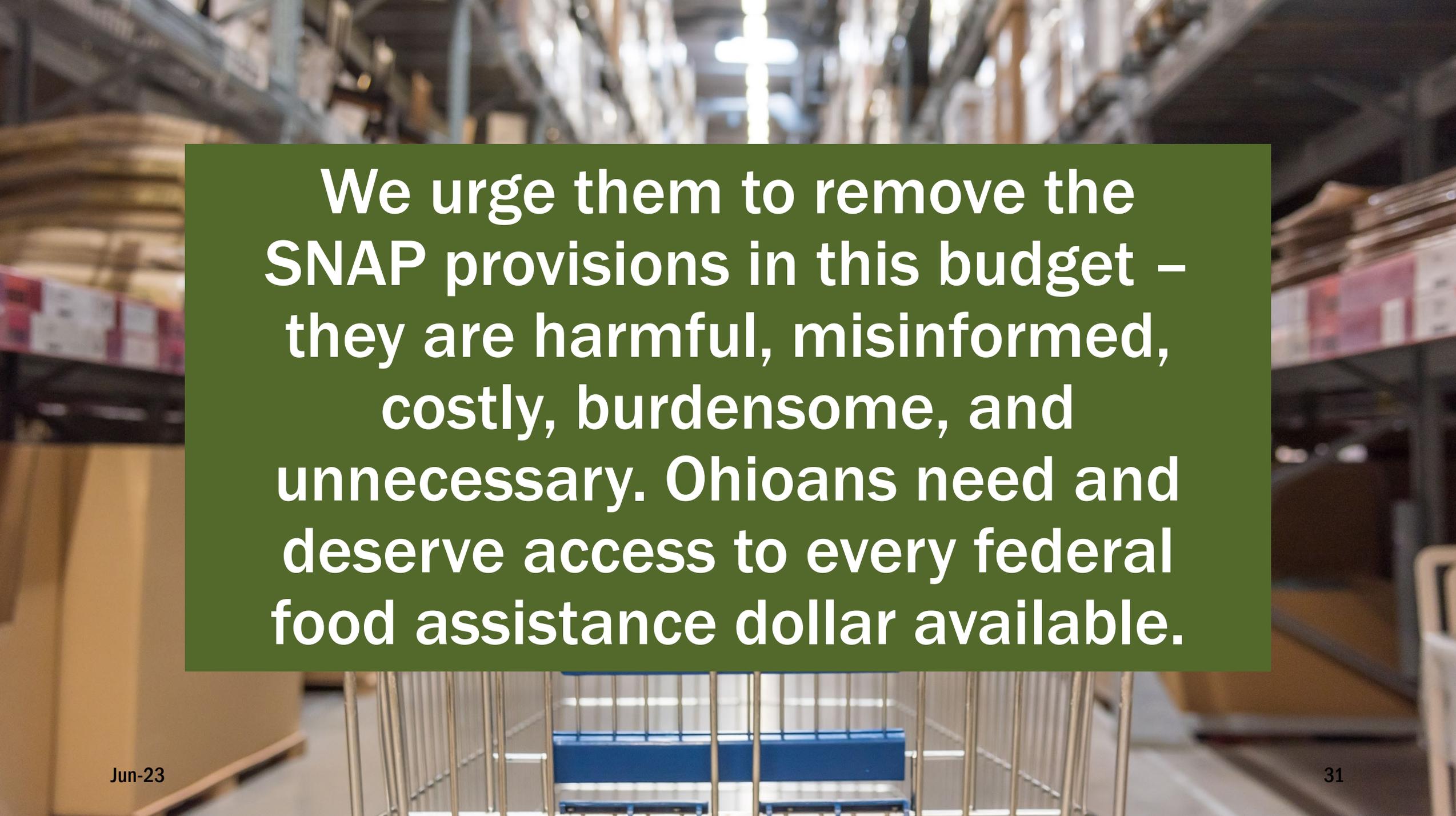


SNAP Photo ID (functionally does not work, costs millions of dollars, deters participation)

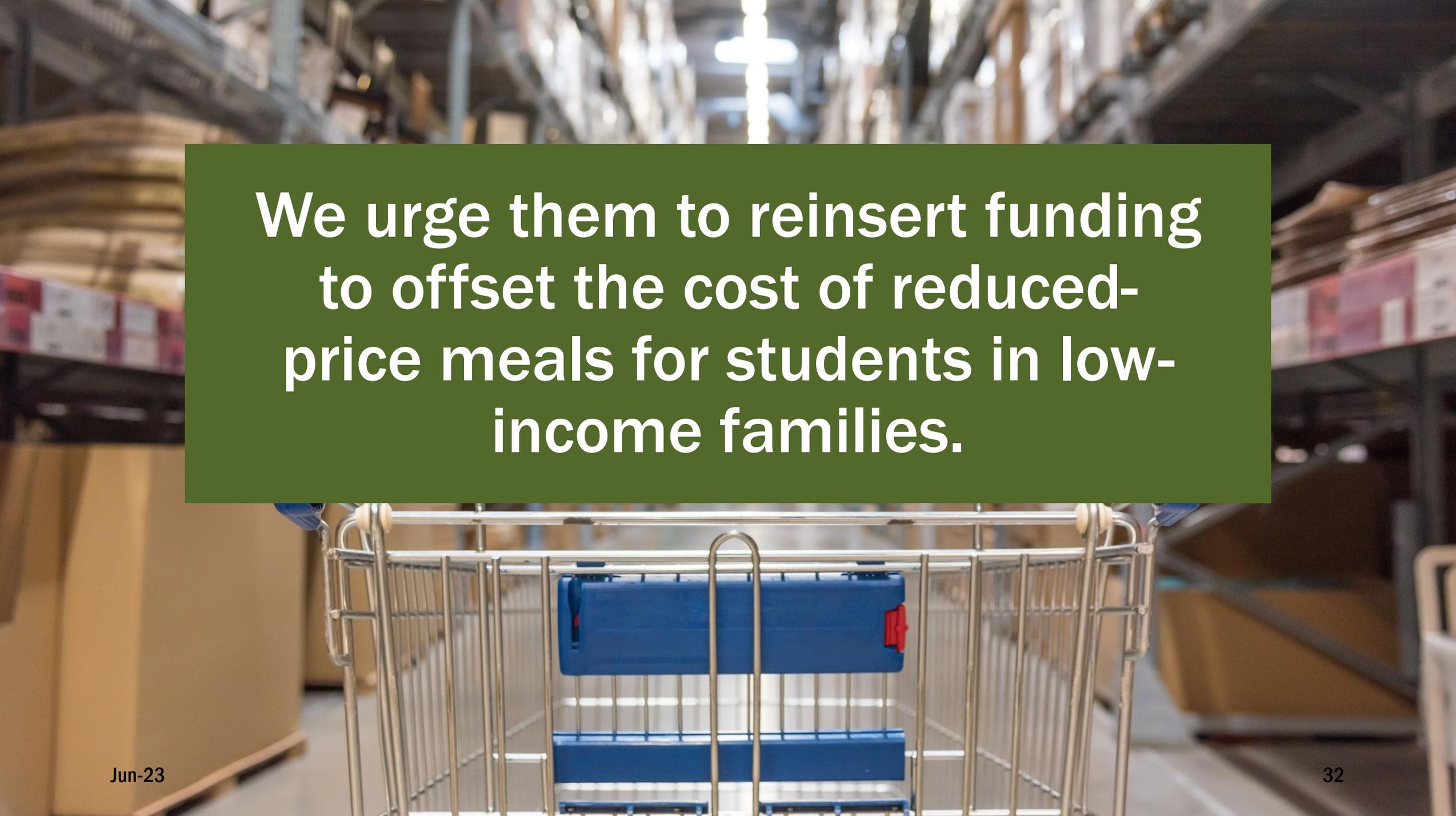
Six-month ban from program if ‘false’ information provided puts proof of ‘intent’ on consumer, harms kids in the household and we believe is illegal; currently this ends in an application denial, not a ban



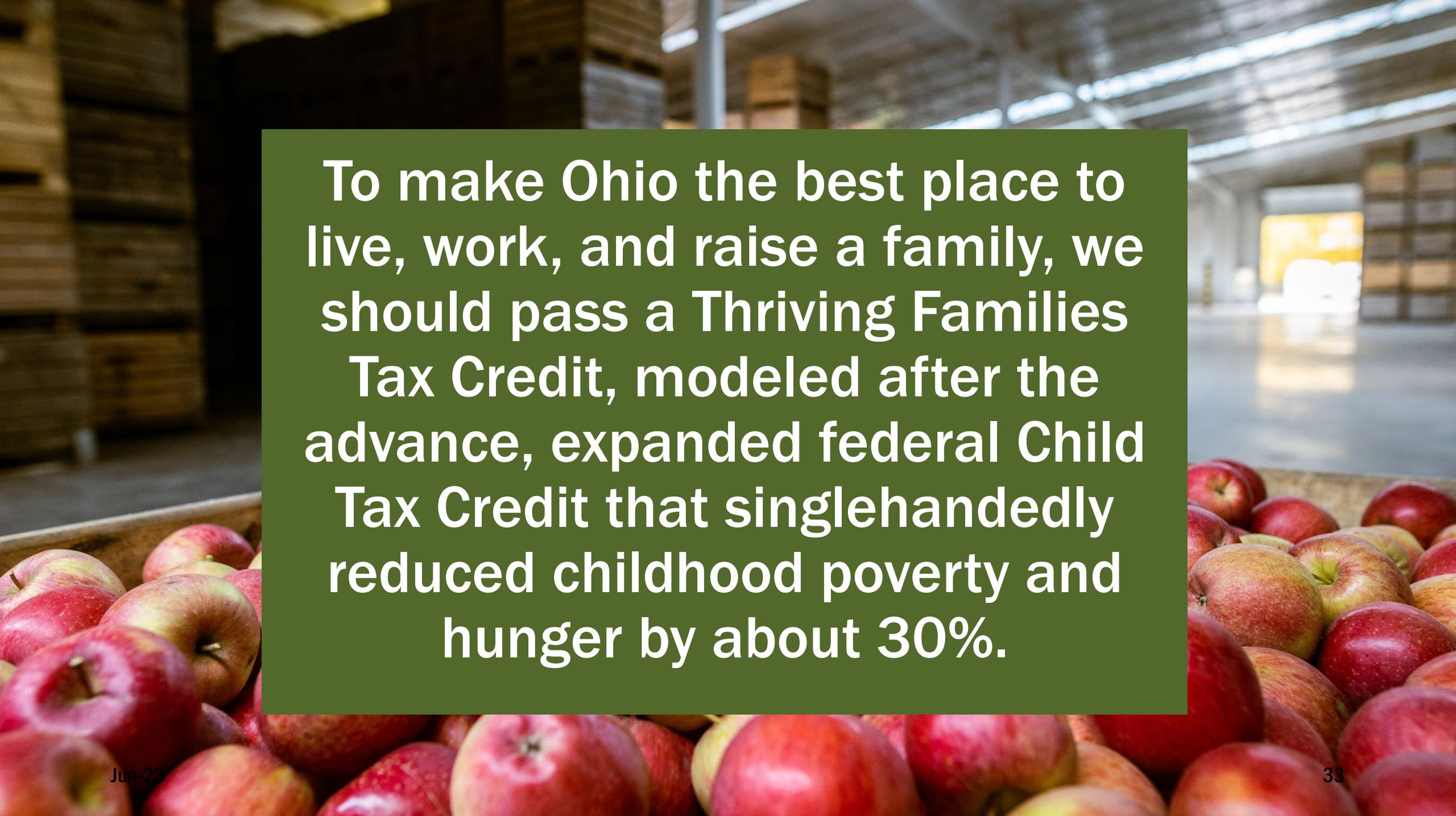
We urge Governor DeWine and the conference committee to fund Ohio's statewide hunger relief network at \$39.55 million per year, instead of flat-funding during sustained, record demand.



We urge them to remove the SNAP provisions in this budget – they are harmful, misinformed, costly, burdensome, and unnecessary. Ohioans need and deserve access to every federal food assistance dollar available.

A photograph of a shopping cart in a warehouse aisle. The cart is in the foreground, and the aisle is filled with tall stacks of cardboard boxes on both sides. The background is slightly blurred, showing the depth of the aisle and overhead lighting. A large green rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing white text.

**We urge them to reinsert funding
to offset the cost of reduced-
price meals for students in low-
income families.**



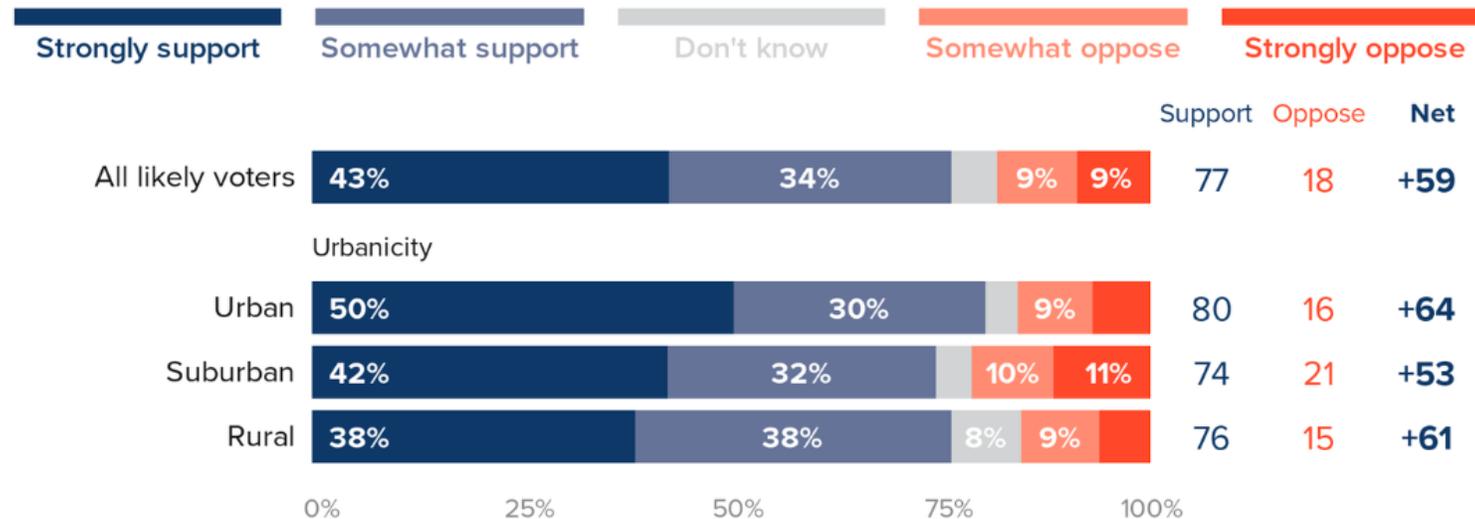
To make Ohio the best place to live, work, and raise a family, we should pass a Thriving Families Tax Credit, modeled after the advance, expanded federal Child Tax Credit that singlehandedly reduced childhood poverty and hunger by about 30%.

77% of Ohio voters support a state-funded child tax credit

Voters in Ohio Support Implementing a State Child Tax Credit

The Child Tax Credit is a tax credit provided to low-to-moderate income families with children under the age of 17.

Would you support or oppose a state-level Child Tax Credit in Ohio?



September 23–30, 2022 survey of 1,387 likely voters in Ohio

DATA FOR PROGRESS

Instead of cutting taxes for the wealthy or a sales tax holiday, give 1 million Ohio families with children with incomes under \$85,000 an average refund of \$1,000



In a \$94 billion budget and with a strong revenue outlook, these are the kinds of meaningful investments that can reduce child hunger and hardship, setting our kids up for a brighter future.

Lead Poisoning Prevention & Ohio's Operating Budget

By Tim Johnson
Senior Policy Advocate
Ohio Poverty Law Center

OLFKC Membership

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE)*
Alliance for the Great Lakes
Ashland/Richland County Lead Prevention Collaborative
Canton City Public Health
Center for Community Solutions
Children's Defense Fund, Ohio*
Cleveland Lead Safe Network
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)*
Concerned Citizens Organized Against Lead (CCOAL)*
Columbus Public Health*
Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD)
Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Enterprise Community Partners
Environmental Health Watch
Freshwater Future*
Greater Cincinnati Water Works
Groundwork Ohio*
Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Ohio Children's Alliance*
Ohio Environmental Council*
Ohio Federation for Health Equity & Justice
Ohio Healthy Homes Network (OHHN)**
Ohio Nurses Association
Ohio Poverty Law Center**
Ohio Public Health Association
National Council of Negro Women, Inc. –
Cuyahoga County Section
Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition
Northern Ohioans for Budget & Legislation Equality (NOBLE)*
Policy Matters Ohio*
Public Children Services Association of Ohio
Schubert Center for Child Studies, Case Western Reserve University**
The Khnemu Foundation
The MetroHealth System
Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition
United Way of Greater Cleveland
Voices for Ohio's Children
West Ohio Community Action Partnership*

9-Point Lead Action Plan Released February 2020



OHIO ACTION PLAN FOR
LEAD-FREE CHILDREN

All Ohio Children Deserve to Be Lead-Free.

We Can Get There.

- 1 | Help Homeowners & Landlords Eliminate Lead Hazards
- 2 | Make Rental Housing Lead-Safe
- 3 | Protect Children from Lead During Renovation & Demolition
- 4 | Disclose Lead Hazards & Engage Ohioans
- 5 | Empower Schools & Early Learning Programs to Keep Children Lead Safe
- 6 | Remove Lead from Drinking Water
- 7 | Build a Strong Lead Workforce
- 8 | Research New Ways to Protect Children from Lead
- 9 | Improve Supports for Children Exposed to Lead

The Problem

- There is NO safe level of lead in the bloodstream.
- Lead dust from lead paint in old housing (built before lead paint was outlawed in 1978) is the number 1 source of child lead poisoning.
- 2/3 of Ohio's housing stock was built before 1980 and an estimated 427,875 children 6 and under live in this housing.
- Every county in Ohio has young children in housing with potential lead hazards.
- The percentage of Ohio children testing positive for elevated blood lead levels is double the national average. Ohio has the second highest rate of children testing positive for elevated blood lead levels in the country.

Effects of Lead

- Lifelong impacts include:
 - Decreased bone and muscle growth
 - Damage to nervous system and/or kidneys
 - Speech and language problems
 - Hearing loss
- Effects include:
 - Developmental delay
 - Cognitive problems
 - Decreased IQ
 - Attention Deficit Disorder
- Study by CWRU on “Downstream Effects” findings include:
 - Children with EBLL 27% lower chance of being on track for kindergarten
 - 25-30% more likely to enter the juvenile justice system & 34% more likely to be incarcerated as adults
 - By age 23, 40% more likely to require homeless services (and other public aid)

Progress: HB 45 & ARPA

- In December of 2022, the Ohio General Assembly passed HB 45 which contained \$150 million dollars for lead poisoning prevention
 - THANK YOU!!!
- This historic investment is being spearheaded by the Department of Development with help from ODH.
- Funding breakdown includes:
 - \$20 million to Department of Health
 - \$100 million for Construction Activities
 - \$22.5 million for Workforce Development
 - \$4 million for contractor liaisons
 - \$3.5 million for administration
- <https://development.ohio.gov/community/housing-and-homelessness/lead-safe-ohio-program>

Ohio's Budget: The Good

- Maintained Investments in Cleveland Lead Safe Home Fund
- Preserved the SCHIP Lead Abatement Program
- Continued the Lead Safe Home Fund
- Supported Early Intervention Funding
- Funding added in Senate for Historic South Initiative in Toledo

However

Ohio Budget: Funding Cuts

- Lead Abatement Line Item cut significantly from Governor DeWine's Budget [440527]
 - Less Funding to expand Lead Safe Home Fund
 - Less Funding For Delegated Health Authorities
- Funding Cuts to H2Ohio Funding
 - Less funding for lead services line replacement
- Investments made in the budget represent Ohio's ONGOING commitment to lead poisoning prevention

Ohio Budget: RRP (Again) Removed

- The Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule requires contractors performing work in homes built pre-1978 be certified to do so in a lead safe manner
- A significant primary prevention tool that keeps kids safe on the front end.
- Currently enforced by USEPA and the process is muddled and haphazard
- EPA allows for states to do their own enforcement

RRP Removed Again

- Governor DeWine proposed allowing ODH to take over enforcement. Ohio would be the 15th state to adopt RRP enforcement
- State enforcement offers many benefits including
 - Not having unreasonable fines and fees
 - Focusing on compliance over punishment
 - Streamlined process and dedicated resources
- RRP was removed in Senate version
- Without RRP we not only reward bad actors and punish the well intentioned; we endanger children

There is No Cost Saving By Shortchanging Children

- Every child poisoned by lead in the state of Ohio represents a policy failure
- Picking priorities to fund is difficult
- Lead Poisoning Prevention represents a costs savings opportunity for Ohio; for every dollar spent there is \$17-dollar return
- What we don't spend now, we will pay for down the line at a much higher cost. There is no cost savings by not investing

We Can Fix This

(And I Don't Mean Just The Budget)

- Lead Poisoning can seem like an overwhelming problem that cannot ever truly be fixed
- That is wrong!!!
- Lead Poisoning happens where there is lead paint
- It will take time and consistent investment, but lead poisoning is a solvable problem. Commitment and sustained effort will lead us to a lead-free Ohio

Questions & Answers

*Moderated by Adriana Gordon,
Legislative Aide for Rep. Humphrey*

*For legislators and legislative staff,
please feel free to unmute
yourselves to ask questions or
share feedback.*

*For all other participants, please
use the chat or Q&A feature, and
we will do our best to answer in
the time allotted.*



*Thank you for joining
today's webinar!*

For more information on upcoming
Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus
webinars and meetings, please
contact:

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