Ohio Budget Comparison Fact Sheet

OHIO CHILDREN'S BUDGET 2024-2025

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

Issue	Executive	House	Senate	Why?
Expands Access to Free School Meals				The House prioritizes funds to curb child hunger and support learning by making all reduced-price meals free. The Senate eliminated this provision.
Fully and Fairly Funds Ohio Schools				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.
Ensures Continuous Medicaid Coverage for Children to Age 4				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.
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.
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.

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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.
Invests in the Healthy Beginnings at Home Program				Both the Executive and House budgets provide \$16 million to support an evidence-based rental assistance program shown to reduce infant mortality. The Senate slashed funding preventing statewide expansion.
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.
Maintains Higher Education Autonomy to Support Learning & Worker Protections				The Senate folds in SB 83 - a bill that would undermine academic rigor, outlaw faculty and staff from striking, ban mandated diversity training, and undercut the ability for Ohio's public colleges and universities to attract top talent for years to come.