

# Office of the Governor

*Terry Steele, Budget Analyst*

- Total budget of \$10,078,558 for the biennium
- Office of Veterans' Affairs provides training, certification, and accreditation of more than 600 county veteran service officers, commissioners, and staff

## OVERVIEW

### Duties and Responsibilities

The Office of the Governor (GOV) oversees the operations of state government. Under the Ohio Constitution, the Governor is the chief executive officer of the state and is elected to four-year terms. The major duties of the Governor include:

- Formulating and implementing administrative policy for state agencies;
- Ensuring the faithful execution of Ohio's laws;
- Submitting biennial capital and operating budgets;
- Appointing judges, certain agency officials, and board and commission members; and
- Serving as commander-in-chief of the Ohio National Guard.

Beginning in FY 1996, the budget for the Office of the Lieutenant Governor was incorporated into the Governor's budget. The Lieutenant Governor oversees select departments and serves as state deputy commander-in-chief, and a cabinet member. The current Lieutenant Governor serves as the Director of the Department of Development. The Governor's office also funds the Office of Veterans' Affairs, which assists veterans in receiving services and benefits, and maintains burial records of Ohio's veterans.

Finally, the Governor's Office also funds Ohio's participation in national and regional associations, such as the National Governor's Association and the National Lieutenant Governor's Association.

The enacted budget provides \$5.05 million in FY 2006, a 15.79% increase over FY 2005 spending of \$3.36 million, and \$5.03 million in FY 2007, a .47% decrease over the FY 2006 appropriation.

**Agency in Brief**

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
52	\$5,051,779	\$5,026,779	\$4,697,265	\$4,672,265	Am. Sub. H.B. 66

\*Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2005.

**Vetoed Provisions**

There were no vetoed provisions that affected the Governor's office.

**ANALYSIS OF THE ENACTED BUDGET**

For budget purposes, as detailed below, the Office of the Governor is considered a single program series agency and its activities are not subdivided into separate programs.

**Program Series 1**

**Operating Expenses**

**Purpose:** This program series encompasses the activities of the chief executive officer of the state of Ohio.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund this agency, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2006	FY 2007
<b>General Revenue Fund</b>				
GRF	040-321	Operating Expenses	\$3,981,582	\$3,981,582
GRF	040-403	Federal Relations	\$422,760	\$422,760
GRF	040-408	Office of Veterans' Affairs	\$292,923	\$267,923
<b>General Revenue Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$4,697,265</b>	<b>\$4,672,265</b>
<b>General Services Fund</b>				
5AK	040-607	Federal Relations	\$354,514	\$354,514
<b>General Services Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$354,514</b>	<b>\$354,514</b>
<b>Total Funding: Office of the Governor</b>			<b>\$5,051,779</b>	<b>\$5,026,779</b>

There are two budgeted programs within the Governor's Office:

- **Office of the Governor**
- **Office of Veterans' Affairs**

### Office of the Governor

**Program Description:** The Office of the Governor oversees cabinet agencies, formulates administrative policy, recommends legislation, proposes operating and capital budgets, and considers and acts upon legislation approved by the General Assembly. The program also includes the costs to operate the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

**Funding Sources:** GRF, GSF

**Implication of the Enacted Budget:** The enacted budget will enable the Office of the Governor to fulfill his Constitutional and statutory duties.

### Office of Veterans' Affairs

**Program Description:** This program provides operational oversight of the 88 county Veterans' Service offices and provides training, certification, and accreditation of more than 600 county veteran service officers, commissioners, and staff. This office also serves as the custodian of approximately 2.0 million veterans' records and provides oversight of the Ohio Veterans' Plaza, and the Ohio Veterans' Hall of Fame.

**Funding Source:** GRF

**Implication of the Enacted Budget:** The enacted budget will enable the Office to address the concerns and needs of Ohio's veterans and active military duty personnel. About \$25,000 is to be used to pay Veterans' Hall of Fame expenses.