

House of Representatives

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- Primarily GRF-driven budget
- Virtually no growth GRF budget request
- Member and staff compensation by far largest expense

OVERVIEW

Duties and Responsibilities

The role of the House of Representatives, in conjunction with the Senate, is to represent the people of the state of Ohio and provide for their protection and well being as established in Article II of the Ohio Constitution. The specific duties and powers of the House of Representatives are essentially as follows:

- To introduce, consider, and enact bills affecting the laws and public policies of the state of Ohio;
- To consider and pass, as is deemed necessary, resolutions, which are nonbinding formal expressions of the opinions and wishes of the General Assembly. The formal approval of resolutions does not require a gubernatorial signature; and
- To be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

Representatives are elected from 99 legislative districts, each serving a population of approximately 115,000 persons. The elections to the House of Representatives occur every two years. All members are subject to term limits prescribing no more than four consecutive two-year terms. Each Representative retains his or her own personal staff, typically consisting of an administrative aide, and for certain members, an additional legislative aide.

Agency in Brief

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2008	2009	2008	2009	
312	\$22.05 million	\$22.05 million	\$20.57 million	\$20.57 million	Am. Sub. H.B. 119

*Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2007.

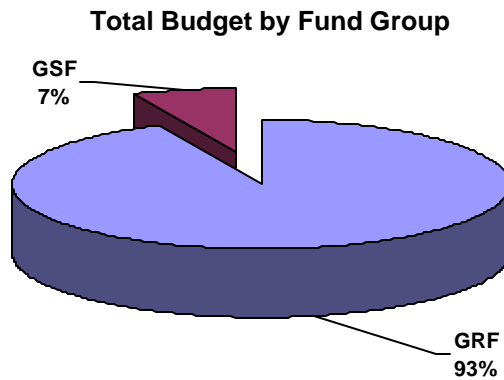
Highlights of FYs 2008 - 2009 Budget Issues

The budget for the House of Representatives contains three line items as follows: a GRF line item providing funding for approximately 93% of the House's total budget, the majority of which is directed toward payroll and benefit expenses for legislators and their staffs, and two General Service Fund line items, one of which collects reimbursement payments for various expenses, and one of which collects revenue from the sale of flags, insignia, seals, and other similar items. The appropriation amounts are

sufficient to fund ongoing activities of House members and staff. No new programs or program expansions were funded.

Expense by Fund Group

The pie chart immediately below shows the total appropriations (FYs 2008 and 2009) for the House of Representatives by fund group: General Revenue Fund (GRF) and General Services Fund (GSF).



ANALYSIS OF THE BUDGET

Single Program Series

Operating Expenses

Purpose: To support the efforts of state representatives and related staff in representing their respective districts, developing legislation, and overseeing the administration of state activities and the state budget

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the House of Representatives, as well as the appropriations that fund its activities.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
General Revenue Fund				
GRF	025-321	Operating Expenses	\$20,574,568	\$20,574,568
General Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$20,574,568	\$20,574,568
General Services Fund				
103	025-601	House Reimbursement	\$1,433,664	\$1,433,664
4A4	025-602	Miscellaneous Sales	\$37,849	\$37,849
General Services Fund Subtotal			\$1,471,513	\$1,471,513
Total Funding: House of Representatives			\$22,046,081	\$22,046,081

Program Description: This program serves to promote the role and responsibilities of the House of Representatives. Each member of the House of Representatives is elected to a two-year term from one of the state's 99 House districts. Each member is assigned to serve on at least one standing committee or subcommittee.

Funding Source: (1) GRF; (2) sale of flags and other items to the general public; (3) moneys from salvage and recycling of equipment, materials, and supplies; and (4) miscellaneous reimbursements, such as those received for overpayment of medical insurance

Implication of the Budget: The budget provides total appropriations of \$22,046,081 each year of the biennium, including \$20,574,568 each year from the GRF. The FY 2008 appropriation amounts represent a 1% increase in GRF funding as compared with FY 2007, or a total gain of slightly under \$204,000 in each of FYs 2008 and 2009. With that amount of GRF funding, it would appear that the House will be able to maintain current service levels, including covering the payroll costs associated with 99 House members and approximately 176 full-time and part-time staff. It would also be sufficient to provide funding for up to 3% pay increases for legislators on January 1, 2008, the final pay increase for legislators provided for currently in statute.

Temporary Law

Operating Expenses (Section 301.10). The budget contains a temporary law provision requiring the Director of Budget and Management, at the direction of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, to transfer: (1) any unencumbered appropriations from FY 2007 to FY 2008 for use within line item 025-321, Operating Expenses, and (2) any unencumbered appropriations from FY 2008 to FY 2009 for use within line item 025-321, Operating Expenses.

FY 2008 - 2009 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Group

Line Item Detail by Agency

FY 2007 Adj. **FY 2008** **% Change** **FY 2009** **% Change**
FY 2005: **FY 2006: Appropriations:** **Appropriations:** **2007 to 2008:** **Appropriations:** **2008 to 2009:**

Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill

Version: Enacted

REP House of Representatives

GRF	025-321	Operating Expenses	\$ 18,359,466	\$ 18,937,078	\$ 20,370,859	\$ 20,574,568	1.00%	\$ 20,574,568	0.00%
General Revenue Fund Total			\$ 18,359,466	\$ 18,937,078	\$ 20,370,859	\$ 20,574,568	1.00%	\$ 20,574,568	0.00%
103	025-601	House Reimbursement	\$ 8,833	\$ 161,480	\$ 1,419,469	\$ 1,433,664	1.00%	\$ 1,433,664	0.00%
4A4	025-602	Miscellaneous Sales	\$ 22,195	\$ 16,386	\$ 37,474	\$ 37,849	1.00%	\$ 37,849	0.00%
General Services Fund Group Total			\$ 31,028	\$ 177,865	\$ 1,456,943	\$ 1,471,513	1.00%	\$ 1,471,513	0.00%
House of Representatives Total			\$ 18,390,494	\$ 19,114,943	\$ 21,827,802	\$ 22,046,081	1.00%	\$ 22,046,081	0.00%