

Greenbook
LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget
Ohio Civil Rights Commission

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LBO Greenbook

Ohio Civil Rights Commission

Quick look...

- The primary responsibility of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (CIV) is to investigate and resolve charges of discrimination.
- Biennial budget of \$22.2 million: \$10.7 million for FY 2024 and \$11.4 million for FY 2025.
 - Source of the budget: GRF (63.8%) and federal (36.2%). A larger federal funding share will be supported by an anticipated increase in federal partnership cases.
 - GRF increase of around 3% in each fiscal year.

Fund Group	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
General Revenue (GRF)	\$6,241,302	\$6,745,701	\$6,963,000	\$7,172,000
Dedicated Purpose (DPF)	\$0	\$2,964	\$0	\$0
Federal (FED)	\$3,087,540	\$3,465,550	\$3,786,800	\$4,232,800
Total	\$9,328,842	\$10,214,215	\$10,749,800	\$11,404,800
% change	--	9.5%	5.2%	6.1%
<i>GRF % change</i>	--	8.1%	3.2%	3.0%

Agency overview

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission is charged with enforcing R.C. Chapter 4112, which prohibits discrimination in employment, places of public accommodation, housing, granting of credit, and higher education because of certain characteristics. The Commission’s duties can be summarized as follows: (1) enforcing Ohio’s anti-discrimination laws through the investigation of complaints and the determination of whether or not discrimination has occurred, (2) educating the public, employers, housing providers, and places of public accommodation about Ohio’s anti-discrimination laws, and (3) offering alternative dispute resolution and mediation services to parties who have filed charges with the Commission.

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoints five members to the Commission, not more than three of whom can be of the same political party, and at least one member of whom must be at least 60 years of age. Over the past several years, the Commission’s full-time staff have totaled around 75. The annual increases in GRF and federal funding is expected to potentially support the filling of existing position vacancies as well as increasing the staffing ceiling.

Analysis of FY 2024-FY 2025 budget

Operating Expenses (ALIs 876321, 876604, and 876601)

FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
GRF ALI 876321, Operating Expenses					
\$5,909,891	\$5,499,840	\$6,241,302	\$6,745,701	\$6,963,000	\$7,172,000
% change	-6.9%	13.5%	8.1%	3.2%	3.0%
DPF Fund 2170 ALI 876604, Operations Support					
\$0	\$378	\$0	\$2,964	\$0	\$0
% change	--	-100.0%	--	-100.0%	--
FED Fund 3340 ALI 876601, Federal Programs					
\$2,682,845	\$2,898,311	\$3,087,540	\$3,465,550	\$3,786,800	\$4,232,800
% change	8.0%	6.5%	12.2%	9.3%	11.8%

The preceding table shows the appropriation line items (ALIs) that together support the operating expenses of the Commission.

The GRF provides the largest share (63.8%, or \$14.1 million) of the Commission's biennial budget of \$22.2 million, with the remainder (36.2%, or \$8.0 million) appropriated from the Federal Programs Fund (Fund 3340). Fund 3340 consists of reimbursement payments from the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which are then used to offset the cost of investigating cases. However, these reimbursement payments do not cover the full cost of processing the cases; the remainder of the cost must be absorbed by GRF funds.

The FY 2024 GRF appropriation of \$7.0 million, is \$217,299 (3.2%) more than the actual FY 2023 expenditure. The FY 2025 GRF appropriation is \$209,000 (3.0%) more than the amount appropriated from FY 2024. In addition, the amount appropriated from federal Fund 3340 also increases in each of FY 2024 (\$321,250, or 9.3%) and FY 2025 (\$446,000, or 11.8%). The increase is largely due to additional federal revenue from reimbursement payments under the HUD contract. Recently, the reimbursement per-case closed increased by \$200, from \$3,000 to \$3,200.