

**Greenbook**  
**LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget**  
**Joint Legislative Ethics Committee**

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# LBO Greenbook

## Joint Legislative Ethics Committee

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### Quick look...

- The Joint Legislative Ethics Committee (JLEC) administers ethics laws related to members and employees of the General Assembly and lobbying laws related to legislative agents and executive agency lobbyists.
- JLEC is a 12-member joint legislative committee, which is assisted in its duties by the Office of the Legislative Inspector General (OLIG).
- OLIG consists of six full-time staff, including the Legislative Inspector General.
- Biennial appropriation of \$1.7 million: \$873,000 in each of FY 2024 and FY 2025.
  - Sources of the budget: GRF (81.7%); Dedicated Purpose Fund (DPF) group (18.3%).

Fund Group	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
General Revenue	\$621,757	\$587,046	\$713,000	\$713,000
Dedicated Purpose	\$157,217	\$159,689	\$160,000	\$160,000
Total	\$778,974	\$746,736	\$873,000	\$873,000
% change	--	-4.1%	16.9%	0.0%
<i>GRF % change</i>	--	-5.6%	21.5%	0.0%

### Agency overview

The Joint Legislative Ethics Committee (JLEC) was created to serve the General Assembly and is charged with two primary responsibilities: (1) to administer the laws regarding ethics that relate to members and employees of the General Assembly and (2) to administer Ohio’s lobbying laws governing the registration and reporting requirements of legislative agents, executive agency lobbyists, and their employers.

JLEC is a 12-member legislative committee, which is assisted in its duties by the Office of the Legislative Inspector General (OLIG). The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate each appoint six members from their respective chambers to serve on the legislative committee, with not more than three being from the same political party. OLIG consists of the Legislative Inspector General and five other full-time staff.

## Analysis of FY 2024-FY 2025 budget

### Operating expenses (ALIs 028321, 028601, and 028602)

FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
<b>GRF ALI 028321, Legislative Ethics Committee</b>					
\$541,318	\$541,770	\$621,757	\$587,046	\$713,000	\$713,000
% change	0.1%	14.8%	-5.6%	21.5%	0.0%
<b>Fund 4G70 ALI 028601, Joint Legislative Ethics Committee</b>					
\$135,436	\$150,376	\$147,217	\$149,689	\$150,000	\$150,000
% change	11.0%	-2.1%	1.7%	0.2%	0.0%
<b>Fund 5HNO ALI 028602, Investigations and Financial Disclosure</b>					
\$5,398	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
% change	85.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

The preceding table shows Joint Legislative Ethics Committee's (JLEC's) three appropriation line items (ALIs) that together support the operating expenses, including those of the Office of the Legislative Inspector General (OLIG). JLEC's budget for the biennium totals \$1.7 million with appropriations of \$873,000 in each fiscal year. This amount represents a 16.9% increase (\$126,264) from the actual FY 2023 expenditures.

The GRF provides 81.7% of the funding for JLEC. This funding is appropriated to ALI 028321, Legislative Ethics Committee. The budget authorizes the Legislative Inspector General to certify to the Director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) an amount up to the unexpended, unencumbered balance of GRF ALI 028321, Legislative Ethics Committee, at the end of FY 2023 and FY 2024 to be reappropriated to FY 2024 and FY 2025, respectively, and reappropriates the certified amount.

The remaining 18.3% is supported by fee revenue from two dedicated purpose funds: the Joint Legislative Ethics Fund (Fund 4G70) and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee – Investigative Fund (Fund 5HNO).

Fund 4G70 revenue sources include: (1) \$25 registration statement fee paid by legislative agents, executive agency lobbyists, retirement system lobbyists, or their employers, (2) late filing fee (\$12.50 per day, up to a maximum fee of \$100), and (3) investment earnings. Legislative agent registrations expire December 31 of every even-numbered year, and executive and retirement lobbyist registrations expire January 31 of each year.

Fund 5HNO revenue sources include: (1) \$40 annual financial disclosure statement filing fee assessed members of, and candidates for, the General Assembly, and designated General Assembly and legislative agency staff (staff fee paid by employing state agency), (2) late filing fee (\$10 per day, up to a maximum fee of \$250), and (3) investment earnings.