



Legislative Bulletin

SPECIAL BULLETIN

June 22, 2017

SENATE PASSES AND HOUSE REJECTS STATE BUDGET PLAN SETTING STAGE FOR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

As expected, yesterday the Ohio Senate convened to accept the final revisions to the Senate's version of the state operating budget bill, Sub. HB 49. After a nearly party-line vote, the Senate sent their proposal to the Ohio House, where it was rejected by House members. Just as in all previous budgets, the bill was assigned to a conference committee to hammer out the final language that will be sent to Governor Kasich next week for his signature.

Members of the conference committee include: Reps. (House Finance Chair) Ryan Smith (R-Gallipolis), Reps. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) and Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) and Sens. (Sen. Finance Chair) Scott Oelslager (R-North Canton), Gayle Manning (R-North Ridgeville) and Mike Skindell (D-Lakewood). Contact information for these legislators is available on our website [HERE](#)

The members serving on the conference committee will be making the final decisions and providing the necessary votes to approve the state budget, and will therefore determine how the issues municipalities care about will be handled. These members will determine if more state interference in municipal revenues and local control is allowed to persist, and will have the influence to repair the fractured relationship between the state and its municipal partners.

Specifically, the legislature must be reminded until the end that the LGF is meant for our communities and should not be diverted to state programs and that municipal revenues must remain in the control of municipalities and not be subject to more state distribution and interference.

We urge our members to continue to impress upon their state Representatives and Senators the urgency for their assistance in defending the cities and villages they represent against more state raids on local treasuries and against the erosion of local control. We also recommend that municipal leaders share their concerns with the members of the conference committee who will be the final body to complete the two-year spending and policy plan.