



What Others Are Saying: SFY 2018-19 Executive Budget Public Health Proposals

“We applaud Governor Kasich and his Administration for introducing a biennial budget that continues to focus on helping Ohioans impacted by mental illness and addiction through the continuation of Medicaid expansion, the promotion of community-based mental health and addiction services, workforce enhancements, and the inclusion of prevention activities. We know that treatment works and people recover and we must continue working on all fronts to ensure access to programs and services that make recovery a reality for families and individuals in need.”

Cheri Walter
Chief Executive Officer
Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities

“Our collaborative partners are so pleased to see Governor Kasich prioritize infant mortality reduction in his recently released budget. New funding will support efforts to help moms quit smoking, help families put their babies to sleep safely, and will fuel evidence based strategies to help prevent infant deaths in Ohio. This is squarely in line with our local strategy. I can think of no issue more worthy of investment from the State.”

Ryan Adcock
Executive Director
Cradle Cincinnati

“The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman believes that long-term care facilities have the capacity to make corrections when problems occur. However, there are too many examples of conditions that jeopardize the health and safety of residents, and the Ohio Department of Health should have the authority to direct swift corrective action. I am supportive of Governor Kasich’s executive budget proposal to grant such authority to the Department of Health and allow the agency to take necessary action and seek reimbursement for expenses in cases of facility refusal to cooperate. This proposal is another example of Governor Kasich’s Administration stepping up to do what is right for consumers.”

Beverley Laubert
State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

“Thank you to Gov. Kasich for protecting the health information of Ohioans with HIV/AIDS while eliminating unnecessary privacy law barriers to care coordination for people with HIV/AIDS.”

Dan Paoletti
CEO, CliniSync / Ohio Health Information Partnership

“Developing a registry of lead-free homes in the state will provide families looking for healthy housing options to easily make an informed decision. Additionally, pledging funds to abate lead hazards in homes where children currently reside will reduce their exposure to lead, and its associated health effects. Both of these initiatives will improve public health and the quality of life for children in Ohio.

Chad Brown
President
Ohio Environmental Health Association

“Sadly, we must modernize the means to investigate and remedy instances of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of long-term care residents. Individuals who commit these acts use a variety of methods that include psychological abuse and sexual abuse but current laws do not support adequate investigations and consequences. The Ohio Department of Health’s proposal would add tools to the tool box to update their authority – a proposal that holds great promise for residents of long-term care facilities.”

Beverley Laubert
State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

"We are pleased that the Governor’s Executive Budget continues to assist families with hearing impaired children under the age of 21 in purchasing hearing aids. The Ohio Department of Health’s budget proposal to expand the equipment allowed to be purchased with this funding will further assist these families in obtaining the equipment that is badly needed for hearing assistance. We applaud the effort to address these unmet needs."

Dr. Stacy Weisend
Board-Certified Audiologist and Chair
Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition

“As advocates for residents of Residential Care Facilities, Ombudsman representatives see homes with quality problems and have been frustrated by the inability of the Ohio Department of Health to take action short of license revocation. Giving the Ohio Department of Health flexibility to impose monetary penalties on assisted living facilities will incentivize them to achieve compliance more quickly and will prevent unnecessary disruption caused for residents when a home is closed due to revocation.”

Beverley Laubert
State Long-Term Care Ombudsman