



## **Ohio Metro Chambers Coalition FY24-25 State Budget Priorities**

For more than a decade, regional chambers of commerce from across Ohio have worked collaboratively to jointly advocate on shared areas of interest impacting the metropolitan areas of our great state. We respectfully share our collective perspective on the FY24-25 Ohio Budget proposal as it continues working through the legislative process.

### ***Innovation Hubs***

We ask the Senate to fully restore the funding to \$150M as included within the Administration's proposal. The House lowered this appropriation to \$25M and we feel that more is needed to adequately invest in Ohio's innovation ecosystem.

### ***All Ohio Future Fund***

We ask the Senate to restore funding to the All Ohio Future Fund. While not expecting to achieve the full Administration request level, we are asking the Senate to provide an additional \$500-\$750M.

### ***Need Based Financial Aid Program (OCOG)***

The House agreed to a modest increase in OCOG, rather than the larger increases proposed in the Administration's proposal. We ask the Senate to fully restore these provisions.

### ***WorkFORCE Ohio***

We are requesting the Senate fully reinstate the language and the appropriations as outlined in the Administration's proposal.

### ***Downtown Development Grant***

We support the Downtown Development Grant proposed in the House budget proposal. We ask that the Senate support this provision.

### ***Ohio Motion Picture Tax Credit***

We appreciate the Administration and House moved to heighten the cap. We ask the Senate to consider removing the cap on this incentive.

### ***Minority Business Enterprise Loan / Women Owned Business Loans***

We ask that the Senate support language presented by the Administration and maintained by the House.

### ***Computer Science***

The House stripped all funding from this program but did leave maintain some of the language around computer science education. We should ask the Senate to restore the \$18.5 million per year appropriation.

### ***Small Business Development Center Funding***

We are requesting the Senate fully reinstate the language and the appropriations as outlined in the Administration's proposal.

***Career-Technical Construction Program***

We ask that the Senate maintain the as-introduced language and funding allocations.

***TechCred Program***

We ask the Senate to support language presented by the Administration and maintained by the House.

***Industry Sector Partnerships***

We ask the Senate to support language presented by the Administration and maintained by the House.

***Low- and Moderate- Income Housing Programs***

We support the Governor's proposed language, which was largely contained in the House passed version. The Senate is considering language that would provide assistance to struggling homeowners to help ensure they can stay in their homes. We support this objective and want to work with the Senate to develop language that would complement the Governor's affordable/workforce housing strategy.

***Airport Development Grants Fund***

We request support for Senate amendment to HB 33 (SC1937) to establish a fund of \$125 million for FY24 and FY25. This fund would allow Ohio's six commercial airports to draw down eligible dollars to use as the local match to federal grants such as BIL.