



July 17, 2019

Governor Mike DeWine  
Riffe Center, 30th Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine:

On behalf of the Ohio House Democratic Caucus, I write to respectfully ask you to use your executive powers to line-item veto several provisions in Amended Substitute House Bill 166, the biennial state operating budget.

These vetoes will strengthen our communities, ensuring that Ohioans can live the American dream right here at home. We believe that if you work hard and play by the rules, you should be able to get ahead. As it stands now, these provisions prevent the bill from creating a responsible framework for the future for all Ohioans.

We made a promise to our constituents to put people first, not special interests. If we truly want and a strong economy that works for everyone, we need to invest in working people, families and our state's future.

We thank you for your consideration and urge quick action to remove these harmful provisions from Amended Substitute House Bill 166.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emilia", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Emilia Strong Sykes**  
Minority Leader  
House District 34

Enclosure

Provisions to Amended Substitute House Bill 166 which House Democratic members encourage a line-item veto:

- (TAXCD61) Provision exempting supplemental executive retirement plans from municipal income taxation.
- (JFSCD6) \$3.75 million TANF funding earmark in each fiscal year to the Ohio Parenting and Pregnancy Program.
- (JEOCD6) The elimination of the Joint Education Oversight Committee.
- (EDUCD121) Provision increasing the maximum number of EdChoice scholarships by 5% if the number of applicants exceeds 90% of the number permitted; and the provision expanding eligibility for income-based EdChoice scholarships to all students entering grades K-12 for the first time, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.
- (EDUCD122) Provision increasing EdChoice scholarship eligibility beginning in the 2019-2020 school year if a student meets specific criteria
- (EDUCD127) Provision expanding eligibility for income-based EdChoice scholarships to all students entering grades K-12 beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.
- Provisions rolled back from HB 2 (charter school oversight from the 132<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly):
  - (EDUCD93) Provision decreasing the frequency the Ohio Department of Education must evaluate charter school sponsors which receive “effective” or “exemplary” overall ratings.
  - (EDUCD98) Provision permitting charter school sponsors to review the draft ratings *before* they are published.
  - (EDUCD141) Provision requiring the recalculation of a dropout recovery school sponsor rating for 2017-2018 if the sponsor received recalculated report card ratings for the 2017-2018 school year.
  - (EDUCD63) Relaxes evaluation standards for dropout recovery schools
- (RDFCD8) Alters the distribution of local government funding paid to municipalities by shifting funds toward smaller cities and villages.
- (TAXCD86) Provision changing how property tax election notices and ballot language will appear by requiring the language to convey a property tax levy’s rate in dollars for each \$100,000 of fair market value instead of in dollars for each \$100 of taxable value.
- (SOSCD14) Provision moving the 2020 Primary Election date to March 17, 2020 (St. Patrick’s Day).
- (JCRCD4) Provision prohibiting a state agency from adopting a new regulatory restriction unless the agency removes two or more existing restrictions.
- (TAXCD85) Provision authorizing a property tax reduction for certain property owners whose taxes comprise a relatively high proportion of a school district's operating expenses and caps the amount of school district property taxes paid by the property owners in the qualifying area at four times the operating expenses the district paid in the previous year on account of the students who reside in the qualifying area.