



## STATUS REPORT: STATE OPERATING BUDGET (FY 2022 - 2023)

Overview of the final status of the Women's Public Policy Network's top 10 budget goals and opportunities for proactive action in the legislative session on issues for women and their families.

POLICY GOAL	BUDGET STATUS	CORRESPONDING POSITIVE BILLS
1.) Strengthen the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	<b>Missed opportunity:</b> State budget did not include any provisions that strengthened the state EITC	<b>House Bill 59:</b> To make the earned income tax credit partially refundable
2.) Improve access to and affordability of high-quality child care	<p><b>Progress made:</b> The final version of the budget included an increase of the eligibility for public child care from 130% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to 142% of the FPL and 150% of the FPL for children with disabilities</p> <p><b>Maintained/protected:</b> The Senate version of the budget included threats to the Step Up to Quality program for publicly funded child care; the final budget restored the Step Up to Quality mandate that requires publicly funded child care providers to be one-star rated by 2022</p> <p><b>Negative action:</b> A provision was added to the budget that eliminated the requirement for publicly funded child care providers to be "highly rated" with three-star rating by 2025</p>	<b>House Bill 145:</b> To increase the eligibility for publicly funded child care to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level
3.) Increase access to and affordability of high-quality housing, particularly for Black women who experience disproportionately higher rates of eviction	<p><b>Progress made:</b> The budget increased investments in the Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Program to \$55,250,000 per FY, (compared to the \$47 million per FY from the previous budget cycle)</p> <p><b>Progress made:</b> Invested up to \$2,250,000 in FY 2022 for Department of Development, in coordination with Department of Housing, to support stable housing initiatives for pregnant mothers and to improve maternal and infant health outcomes</p> <p><b>Progress made:</b> Requires the totality of GRF funding (increased to \$3,400,000 per FY) for the Youth Homelessness program to be used to address homelessness in youth and pregnant women by providing assertive outreach to provide stable housing, including recovery housing</p> <p><b>Maintained/protected:</b> A proposal was removed from the final budget that would have jeopardized the viability and future of nearly one-third of Ohio's affordable housing properties</p>	<p><b>House Bill 182:</b> To prohibit discrimination in rental housing based on lawful source of income</p> <p><b>House Bill 167:</b> To provide rent and utility assistance. (Enacted into law)</p> <p><b>Senate Bill 110:</b> To provide rent and utility assistance</p>

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4.) Preserve and protect Medicaid	<p><b>Maintained/protected:</b> A proposal in the Senate-version of the budget to revamp the state's Medicaid managed care program was vetoed by the governor</p>	Currently no corresponding positive legislation
5.) Designate funding for services and programs addressing maternal and infant mortality and morbidity, with a focus on ending racial and ethnic inequalities facing Black women and women of color	<p><b>Progress made:</b> The budget extends Medicaid postpartum coverage for pregnant women from 60 days after giving birth to 12-months postpartum</p> <p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to include any provisions that strengthened the Ohio Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Board (PAMR)</p> <p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to include a provision that would have allowed for the state's Medicaid program and private insurance to cover doula and midwife services</p> <p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to include any specific funding investments in ongoing bias and cultural humility training within hospitals and birthing centers</p>	<p><b>Senate Bill 125:</b> To enact the Save Our Mothers Act regarding birth equity, peripartum racial and ethnic disparities, and implicit bias in the health care system</p> <p><b>Senate Bill 137:</b> To modify the laws governing the Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Board and to require birthing facilities to report data on severe maternal morbidity</p>
6.) Expand and improve programs that provide security and stability for Ohioans with low income	<p><b>Negative action:</b> The budget creates a Public Assistance Benefits Accountability Task Force that, among other things, will require the Task Force to study the costs and benefits associated with implementing a requirement that each SNAP debit card include a color photograph of at least one adult member of the household</p> <p><b>Negative action:</b> The final budget allocating a total of \$6 million of funding from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to so-called Crisis Pregnancy Centers</p> <p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to take action to utilize Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds towards one-time emergency payments</p> <p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to increase funding to the Ohio Works First (OWF) program to raise the minimum monthly payments</p>	Currently no corresponding positive legislation
7.) Boost investments to services and programs in the state of Ohio that support survivors and victims of sexual and domestic violence	<p><b>Progress made:</b> The budget increased Rape Crisis Centers funding to \$10 million per fiscal year (\$20 million total), (compared to the \$4.8 million per FY from last budget cycle)</p> <p><b>Progress made:</b> The budget increased funding for Domestic Violence Program to \$5 million for FY 2022 and \$2.5 million for FY 2023 (\$7.5 million total), (compared to the \$1 million per FY from last budget cycle)</p>	Currently no corresponding positive legislation
8.) Increase funding, resources, and staff for the Ohio Bureau of Wage and Hour Administration to more efficiently and effectively address wage theft	<p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget did not include any provisions to strengthen the Ohio Bureau of Wage and House Administration</p>	<p><b>House Bill 187:</b> To require an employer to provide earnings and deductions statements to each of the employer's employees, addressing wage theft</p>

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<p>9.) Utilize resources and funding to reduce incarceration and prison overcrowding, focusing the programs on community-based rehabilitation</p>	<p><b>Progress made:</b> The budget makes a number of improvements to community-based rehabilitation programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding community-based substance use disorder treatment program</li> <li>• Providing subsidies for community based corrections programs</li> <li>• Providing access to individuals on probation to services for those addicted to opiates and other illegal substances</li> </ul> <p><b>Progress made:</b> Lawmakers added a provision that requires the GRF funding (increased to \$100,000 per FY, compared to the \$0 per FY from the previous budget cycle) for the Victims of Human Trafficking program to be used to provide treatment, care, rehabilitation, education, housing, and assistance for victims human trafficking</p> <p><b>Progress made:</b> The budget earmarks \$275,000 per FY to the Parole and Community Operations in order to create and implement a program that award grants to at least one nonprofit organization operating a reentry employment programs for formerly incarcerated people</p> <p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to enact bail reform</p>	<p><b>House Bill 315:</b> To make changes to the state's cash bail system</p> <p><b>Senate Bill 182:</b> To make changes to the state's cash bail system</p>
<p>10.) Expand access to Paid Family and Medical Leave for working Ohioans</p>	<p><b>Missed opportunity:</b> The budget failed to include any provisions that would increase access to paid family and medical leave for Ohioans</p>	<p>Currently no corresponding positive legislation</p>

*The Ohio Women's Public Policy Network is a coalition unlike any other group in the state. Formed in 2015 as a program of the Innovation Ohio Education Fund, we bring together nearly 40 organizations to collaboratively advocate for public policies that build economic opportunity for women and families. We are united by a shared vision for Ohio in which all women – particularly women of color and other marginalized women – have the resources to thrive and opportunity to lead economically secure, safe, and healthy lives. For more information, visit our website:*

**WWW.WOMENSPUBLICPOLICYNETWORK.ORG**

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