



The Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) believes that the 2009 Local Impact Statement Report is a valuable tool provided by the Ohio Legislative Service Commission (LSC) to the members of the Ohio General Assembly and to all Ohioans.

The 2009 Local Impact Statement Report shows that 17 Senate bills and 26 House bills passed in 2008 and became law. Of those bills, two were reported as having a fiscal impact upon school districts in the "As Introduced" versions. OSBA believes it is important to note the fiscal impact that bills have upon school districts within the state. School districts face many unfunded and underfunded mandates from both federal and state passed legislation and it is important to make certain that these are known throughout the legislative process.

An area that remains to be addressed is the section of law that exempts LSC from having to update a local impact statement for the biennial budget, capital appropriation bill or any other budget corrections bill. OSBA would support legislation that would allow the General Assembly to include these bills that are now exempted in Division (F) of RC 103.143 from such local impact statements. OSBA also believes that local impact statements should be required at each phase of the legislative process. This is particularly important as substitute versions and amended substitute versions are often enacted. Legislation can have a huge fiscal impact on local school districts and this should be monitored and made known to all as introduced bills go through the legislative process and become altered by the process.

OSBA would like to salute the Legislative Service Commission on a job well done and we look forward to working with you in the future.