



## **OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

The Ohio School Boards Association believes that the 2007 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 2007 Local Impact Statement Report shows that 136 bills passed in 2006 and became law. Of those bills, six 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 here in the state. Whether it is costs associated with HB 9, that revised the public records law or SB 311, that establishes the Ohio Core curriculum, this information is vital when legislation is being debated.

School districts have faced many unfunded and underfunded mandates from both federal and state passed legislation and making sure these are known throughout the legislative process is important.

An area that still needs 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 these 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 of bills are enacted. Legislation can have a huge fiscal impact upon local school districts and this should be known to all as these bills progress through the legislature.

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