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January 2001

Dear Reader:

The Ohio Legislative Service Commission is pleased to present *Ohio Facts*. Now in its third edition, this booklet was developed to address frequently asked questions and to provide a broad overview of public finance in Ohio. Highlighted areas range from the comparative state of Ohio's economy, to its schools, justice systems, health and human services, transportation, and environment.

In all instances, researchers have used the most up-to-date data available. Our hope is that *Ohio Facts* will serve as a quick and valuable reference tool for legislators, agencies, and all persons interested in the financial state of Ohio.

If you have questions about any of the information contained in *Ohio Facts*, please call our office at (614) 466-3615.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert M. Shapiro".

Robert M. Shapiro
Director