

# State and Local Government Commission of Ohio

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## Overview

The State and Local Government Commission of Ohio (SLG) is a 13-person bipartisan commission that serves as a forum for the discussion and resolution of problems among state, local, and federal governments. The Commission, which is chaired by the Lieutenant Governor, also works as an advocate for local governments, representing their interests and priorities at the state level. An executive director, three full-time staff members, and an intern support the Commission.

By acting as a coordinator, the Commission plays a leading role in the process of finding solutions to problems associated with unfunded state mandates on local governments. Through a Local Government Mandate Task Force, which was created during the last administration, local governments and school districts found representation. The task force works to evaluate the need for eliminating or modifying old or outdated state mandates and provides suggestions for funding mandates.

The Commission maintains a database of local elected officials, creates publications for local officials, and maintains a web site. Every four years the Commission is required to issue a report that makes recommendations for the repeal, modification, or funding of state mandates on local government.

## ADDITIONAL FACTS AND FIGURES

State and Local Government Commission of Ohio Staffing Levels						
	1998*	1999	2000	2001	<i>Estimated</i>	
					2002	2003
Full-time employees	4	4	4	4	4	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

\*The Commission added an intern position in FY 1998. Interns are paid an hourly wage based upon their level of education.

For the FY02/FY03 biennium, the Commission is budgeted for 4 FTPs. Currently one of the Administrative Assistant positions is vacant, but will be filled if and when the need arises during the biennium. The four FTPs are Executive Director, Deputy Director, Administrative Assistant, and Administrative Assistant.

## ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

### State and Local Government Commission

*Single Program Agency*

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**Purpose** The State and Local Government Commission serves as a forum for the discussion and resolution of problems among state, local, and federal governments.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund this agency, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2002	FY 2003
GRF	046-321	Operating Expenses	\$242,441	\$251,052
<b>Total funding: State and Local Government Commission</b>			<b>\$242,441</b>	<b>\$251,052</b>

### State and Local Government Commission

**Agency Description:** The State and Local Government Commission of Ohio (SLG) is a bipartisan commission that was established in 1978 by the Ohio General Assembly. It is comprised of a 13-person board that is statutorily chaired by the Lieutenant Governor. The commission members include two state senators, two state representatives, two representatives each from county, township, and municipal governments appointed by the governor and two representatives of the public sector. An executive director, three full-time staff members, and an intern support the Commission.

The Commission serves as a forum for the discussion and resolution of problems among state, local, and federal governments. The Commission also works as an advocate for local government, representing their interests and priorities at the state level. The Commission maintains a database of local elected officials, provides publications, including the Directory of State Services, to local officials, and maintains a web site.

Following the enactment of executive order 94-62V, the Commission established the Local Government Mandates Task Force, which was charged with conducting a study of outdated or inappropriate state mandates. In December 1996 the State and Local Government Commission issued the first Quadrennial Report on unfunded mandates. The quadrennial report makes recommendations for the repeal, modification, or funding of state mandates on local government.

The nature and focus of the commission's work has changed with different lieutenant governors. During the FY 1998-FY 1999 biennium, the Commission oversaw the creation and distribution of moneys from a \$5.6 million Mandate Assistance Fund that was used to fund four unfunded mandates and issued a study on the impact of solid waste laws at the behest of the Legislature.

In FY2000, the SLG distributed almost \$1.4 million in subsidy money to counties to reduce the costs of mandated expenses for providing office space and related costs for Educational Service Centers (ESCs). The following table displays the amount of money each county received for this purpose.

<b>Summary of Educational Service Center (ESC) Disbursements</b>				
Adams	\$11,075.53		Licking	\$28,505.05
Allen	\$27,753.20		Logan	\$10,673.85
Ashland	\$4,965.98		Lorain	\$24,308.13
Ashtabula	\$15,982.90		Lucas	\$33,097.93
Athens	\$9,337.29		Madison	\$10,493.73
Auglaize	\$6,472.64		Mahoning	\$51,060.64
Belmont	\$5,221.85		Marion	\$12,064.72
Brown	\$15,861.39		Medina	\$21,607.86
Butler	\$41,856.29		Meigs	\$8,495.34
Carroll	\$2,114.19		Mercer	\$9,408.77
Champaign	\$9,674.65		Miami	\$6,189.60
Clark	\$31,102.39		Monroe	\$6,479.78
Clermont	\$42,605.33		Montgomery	\$25,001.42
Clinton	\$10,721.02		Morgan	\$5,593.51
Columbiana	\$15,624.10		Morrow	\$9,041.39
Coshocton	\$9,305.85		Muskingum	\$25,234.42
Crawford	\$5,873.69		Noble	\$2,801.76
Cuyahoga	\$6,113.84		Ottawa	\$9,664.64
Defiance	\$6997.25		Paulding	\$4,294.13
Delaware	\$21,978.09		Perry	\$7,235.97
Drake	\$8,877.00		Pickaway	\$15,202.41
Erie	\$17,581.04		Pike	\$10,250.72
Fairfield	\$32,250.26		Portage	\$24,971.40
Fayette	\$6,268.22		Preble	\$11,820.28
Franklin	\$26,835.43		Putnam	\$15,586.93
Fulton	\$15,369.65		Richland	\$27,703.11
Gallia	\$6,078.10		Ross	\$15,769.91
Geauga	\$27,575.89		Sandusky	\$5,895.13
Greene	\$24,932.80		Scioto	\$22,409.79
Guersney	\$7,501.85		Seneca	\$7,125.90
Hamilton	\$73,935.01		Shelby	\$10,608.09
Hancock	\$11,745.95		Stark	\$75,783.31
Hardin	\$6,586.99		Summit	\$45,284.16
Harrison	\$1,230.77		Trumbull	\$43,720.32
Henry	\$6,203.90		Tuscarawas	\$11,745.95
Highland	\$6,524.10		Union	\$5,164.67

<b>Summary of Educational Service Center (ESC) Disbursements</b>				
Hocking	\$8,832.69		Van Wert	\$3,988.22
Holmes	\$9,941.96		Vinton	\$5,316.20
Huron	\$8,862.71		Warren	\$19,852.47
Jackson	\$2,831.78		Washington	\$12,023.27
Jefferson	\$16,418.88		Wayne	\$23,506.19
Knox	\$8,965.63		Williams	\$7,940.70
Lake	\$22,268.27		Wood	\$18,301.50
Lawrence	\$17,465.26		Wyandot	\$2,523.01

As in prior bienniums, the Commission plans to continue its focus on unfunded mandates, and sustain a forum for local governments to discuss and seek resolutions to problems they encounter as a result of state government actions. The Commission will substantially increase its contacts with local officials in the upcoming biennium. While the SLC will experience an increase in its role relevant to identification of funding sources, this effort should only result in a reallocation of staff time and not in increased costs.

**Funding Source:** GRF

**Implication of the Executive Recommendation:** The Governor's recommendation would permit the Commission to continue its current activities and meet its statutorily required responsibilities, including publishing the next quadrennial report in December of 2001 and overseeing the disbursement of moneys from the Mandate Assistance Fund.

The Mandate Assistance Fund (MAF) provides temporary relief to local governments at a level of \$2 million annually. This fund was allocated as follows:

\$200,000 – Prosecution Costs

\$800,000 – Child Abuse Detection Training Costs

\$1,000,000 – Firefighter Training Costs

## PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY LAW

This section describes permanent and temporary law provisions contained in the executive budget that will affect the department's activities and spending decisions during the next biennium.

There are no permanent or temporary law provisions with direct fiscal effects on the State and Local Government Commission.

## REQUESTS NOT FUNDED

There were no unfunded requests.

## LSC Budget Spreadsheet by Line Item, FY 2002 - FY 2003

<i>Fund</i>	<i>ALI</i>	<i>ALI Title</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>Estimated 2001</i>	<i>Executive 2002</i>	<i>% Change 2001 to 2002</i>	<i>Executive 2003</i>	<i>% Change 2002 to 2003</i>
<b><i>SLG State and Local Government Commission of Ohio</i></b>								
GRF	046-321	Operating Expenses	\$ 219,760	\$264,713	\$ 242,441	-8.4%	\$ 251,052	3.6%
GRF	046-501	ESC Subsidy	\$ 1,429,468	\$0	\$ 0	N/A	\$ 0	N/A
<b>General Revenue Fund Total</b>			<b>\$ 1,649,228</b>	<b>\$ 264,713</b>	<b>\$ 242,441</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>	<b>\$ 251,052</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b>Total All Budget Fund Groups</b>			<b>\$ 1,649,228</b>	<b>\$ 264,713</b>	<b>\$ 242,441</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>	<b>\$ 251,052</b>	<b>3.6%</b>

## General Revenue Fund

### GRF 046-321 Operating Expenses

1998	1999	2000	2001 Estimate	2002 Executive Proposal	2003 Executive Proposal
\$239,858	\$205,936	\$219,760	\$264,713	\$242,441	\$251,052
	-14.1%	6.7%	20.5%	-8.4%	3.6%

**Source:** GRF

**Legal Basis:** ORC 105.45

**Purpose:** To pay operating expenses of the State and Local Government Commission

### GRF 046-501 ESC Subsidy

1998	1999	2000	2001 Estimate	2002 Executive Proposal	2003 Executive Proposal
\$0	\$0	\$1,429,468	\$0	\$0	\$0
	N/A	N/A	-100.0%	N/A	N/A

**Source:** GRF

**Legal Basis:** Am. Sub. H.B. 283 of the 123rd General Assembly, with transfers from the Controlling Board

**Purpose:** To reimburse counties for their expenses associated with their Educational Service Centers.