

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

Ohio Civil Rights Commission

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July 2025

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LBO Greenbook

Ohio Civil Rights Commission

Quick look...

- The primary responsibility of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (CIV) is to investigate and resolve charges of discrimination.
- Biennial appropriations total \$22.5 million: \$11.1 million for FY 2026 and \$11.4 million for FY 2027.
- Source of the budget: GRF (67.6%) and federal and non-GRF (32.4%).

| Fund Group | FY 2024 Actual | FY 2025 Actual | FY 2026 Appropriation | FY 2027 Appropriation |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| General Revenue (GRF) | \$6,965,487 | \$7,821,693 | \$7,464,880 | \$7,763,235 |
| Dedicated Purpose (DPF) | \$0 | \$0 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Federal (FED) | \$3,290,236 | \$3,724,508 | \$3,614,239 | \$3,676,006 |
| Total | \$10,255,723 | \$11,546,202 | \$11,084,119 | \$11,444,241 |
| % change | -- | 12.6% | -4.0% | 3.2% |
| GRF % change | -- | 12.3% | -4.6% | 4.0% |

Agency overview

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission is charged with enforcing R.C. Chapter 4112, which prohibits discrimination in employment, places of public accommodation, housing, granting of credit, and higher education because of certain characteristics. The Commission's duties can be summarized as follows: (1) enforcing Ohio's anti-discrimination laws through the investigation of complaints and the determination of whether or not discrimination has occurred, (2) educating the public, employers, housing providers, and places of public accommodation about Ohio's anti-discrimination laws, and (3) offering alternative dispute resolution and mediation services to parties who have filed charges with the Commission.

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoints five members to the Commission, not more than three of whom can be of the same political party, and at least one member of whom must be at least 60 years of age. As of July 2025, the Commission is served by 81 full-time employees.¹

¹ Source: [State of Ohio Employee Headcount Trends](#) (visited July 29, 2025).

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget

Operating Expenses (ALIs 876321, 876604, and 876601)

| FY 2022 Actual | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Actual | FY 2025 Actual | FY 2026 Appropriation | FY 2027 Appropriation |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| GRF ALI 876321, Operating Expenses | | | | | |
| \$6,241,302 | \$6,745,701 | \$6,965,487 | \$7,821,693 | \$7,464,880 | \$7,763,235 |
| % change | 8.1% | 3.3% | 12.3% | -4.6% | 4.0% |
| DPF Fund 2170 ALI 876604, Operations Support | | | | | |
| \$0 | \$2,964 | \$0 | \$0 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| % change | -- | -100.0% | -- | -- | 0.0% |
| FED Fund 3340 ALI 876601, Federal Programs | | | | | |
| \$3,087,540 | \$3,465,550 | \$3,290,236 | \$3,724,508 | \$3,614,239 | \$3,676,006 |
| % change | 12.2% | -5.1% | 13.2% | -3.0% | 1.7% |

The table above shows the appropriation line items that together support the operating expenses of the Commission. The budget provides a total appropriation of \$11.1 million in FY 2026 and \$11.4 million in FY 2027 for a combined total of \$22.5 million for the biennium.

Money appropriated from the GRF to line item 876321, Operating Expenses, provides 67.6%, or \$15.2 million, of the Commission's biennial budget. Relative to this ALI's expenditures for the FY 2024-FY 2025 biennium, the budget increases its FY 2026-FY 2027 appropriation by \$440,935 (3.0%).

Nearly all of the remaining funding (32.4%, or \$7.3 million) will be appropriated from the Federal Programs Fund (Fund 3340) and the Civil Rights Commission General Reimbursement Fund (Fund 2170) whose revenues are derived from fees for copies of documents and other goods and services furnished by the Commission, and litigation-related expense reimbursements received by the Commission or awarded by a court. Annual revenues to Fund 2170 are variable and typically comparatively small. At the close of FY 2025, the cash balance for Fund 2170 was around \$12,000.

Fund 3340 consists of reimbursement payments from the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which are then used to offset the cost of investigating cases. However, these reimbursement payments do not cover the full cost of processing the cases; the remainder of those costs must be absorbed by GRF funds.