



JOHN R. KASICH
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

FACT SHEET

THE FIRST 100 DAYS IN OFFICE

Since taking office 100 days ago, Governor John R. Kasich, Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor, and members of the Cabinet have worked with the General Assembly to address serious problems plaguing Ohio and ailing our economy. Below is a snapshot of the progress Ohio has made in just 100 days.

CREATING JOBS AND REVIVING THE ECONOMY

- **JobsOhio:** On February 18, Gov. Kasich signed House Bill 1 to establish JobsOhio, a non-profit economic development corporation that will work more effectively than Ohio's current state-centered efforts to retain and attract businesses. JobsOhio will be managed by a board of directors who are leaders in the business world, and because it is not a government entity, it will move at the speed of the market rather than at the speed of statute.
- **Keeping Ohio Companies in Ohio—American Greetings, Bob Evans, Diebold and Goodyear:** Gov. Kasich, the Dept. of Development, and the General Assembly were actively involved in crafting various incentive packages to keep major Ohio companies in Ohio. With other states seeking to steal Ohio jobs and Ohio companies, Gov. Kasich made it clear that another "NCR incident" was not an option and he has moved quickly to keep Ohio companies. In March, Gov. Kasich signed House Bill 58, which allowed the state to craft the tax incentive packages used to keep American Greetings and Diebold in Ohio. Both deals have a positive return on investment in the first year. Incentive packages for Bob Evans and Goodyear will help them build new headquarters in Ohio and deepen their roots. In helping these companies succeed in Ohio, more than 5,500 jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in tax revenue are saved.
- **Engaging Ohio Business Leaders Statewide:** Since taking office, Gov. Kasich and Lt. Gov. Taylor have met and spoken with more than 40 meetings of chambers of commerce, Rotary Clubs and other groups of business and community leaders.
- **Preserving the Income Tax Cut:** In January, Ohio's maximum personal income tax rate fell below 6 percent. This tax cut not only helps working families but also provides significant relief for many small businesses that pay their business taxes through a personal income tax return. Gov. Kasich's budget preserves this income tax cut.

FISCAL STRATEGIES TO GET OHIO BACK ON TRACK

- **The Jobs Budget:** In March, Gov. Kasich introduced a balanced budget that returns Ohio to fiscal stability by closing an \$8 billion shortfall without raising taxes while preserving an \$800 million tax cut for Ohio families. The Jobs Budget brings significant, much-needed reforms to Ohio's Medicaid program (the largest expense in the state budget), provides important new tools for schools and local governments to better manage their resources and strengthens Ohio's competitive position to retain and create jobs – all while preserving the social safety net for the most vulnerable Ohioans. In a recent report, Moody's Investor Services cited the savings and reforms in the budget as important to helping Ohio keep a good bond rating.
- **Collective Bargaining Reform:** On March 30, Gov. Kasich signed Senate Bill 5, legislation that re-levels the playing field between taxpayers and the government workers who serve them, while maintaining government employees' ability to collectively bargain on wages and working conditions. This legislation is one of many budget-balancing tools Gov. Kasich is providing local governments and schools across the state. Had SB 5 been in place last year, it would have saved Ohio taxpayers \$191 million and local taxpayers up to \$1.1 billion.

BRINGING COMMON SENSE TO GOVERNMENT

- **Common Sense Initiative (CSI):** On his first day in office, Gov. Kasich signed his first Executive Order creating the “Common Sense Initiative” (CSI) and putting Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor in charge of leading the effort. On March 4, Gov. Kasich signed Senate Bill 2, legislation codifying the creation of CSI and creating a new authority for JCARR to consider business impact in agency rulemaking.
- **State Agency Accountability:** Gov. Kasich signed Senate Bill 4 into law, which encourages efficiency by allowing the Auditor of State to conduct performance audits of state agencies.
- **Reducing Burdens on Small Manufacturers:** Senate Bill 73 is the first legislative victory for CSI Ohio and corrects an illogical and unnecessarily burdensome regulation. The bill passed out of the General Assembly unanimously and will allow food manufacturers to purchase alcohol wholesale for use in recipes – soups/sauces, ice cream, jellies, etc.
- **Grand Lake St. Marys--Collaboration Among State Agencies:** During their first week in office, Directors Zehringer, Mustine, and Nally, with the Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency travelled to Grand Lake St. Marys to meet area officials and learn more about locally-developed solutions to problems plaguing the state’s largest inland lake. Since then, the three directors have met several times with local officials and worked together to implement solutions, including dedicating a single state point-of-contact to coordinate efforts, conducting a whole-lake alum treatment this year, increasing dredging, removing “rough” fish, installing water quality conditioners in tributaries and working to develop a farmer-led watershed improvement group.
- **Cutting Barriers to Environmental Permitting:** On January 14, Gov. Kasich joined EPA Director Scott Nally for the signing of the first permit of the Kasich administration. The permit had languished for 20 months and Director Nally resolved the issue in his first two days on the job.

BETTER CARE FOR VULNERABLE OHIOANS

- **Creating the Office of Health Transformation:** On January 13, Gov. Kasich created the Office of Health Transformation (OHT) by Executive Order. OHT is charged with leading an initiative to address Medicaid spending, plan for the long-term efficient administration of the Ohio Medicaid program and improve overall health system performance. OHT is coordinating the activities and policies of the six state agencies involved in Medicaid and is working closely with other key state agencies, families, consumers and a variety of other stakeholders to advance Medicaid modernization and cost-containment priorities, initiate and guide insurance market exchange planning, engage private sector partners to set clear expectations for overall health system performance, and recommend permanent health and human services organization structure and oversee transition to that structure.
- **Re-Tooling the Medicaid System:** In the Jobs Budget, Gov. Kasich introduced proposals to re-tool the Medicaid system by prioritizing the types of services that people prefer, requiring the system to better coordinate the care it provides to individuals and paying for quality rather than volume. These changes put the needs of taxpayers and Medicaid beneficiaries first and will challenge providers and administrators to make more efficient use of valuable resources. Medicaid modernization proposals included in the Jobs Budget will save the state \$1.4 billion and lead to better health, better care and cost savings through improvement.
- **Treating the Whole Person by Integrating Physical and Behavioral Health Services:** Adults with serious mental illness (SMI) represent about 10 percent of Ohio’s Medicaid population, yet they account for 26 percent of total Ohio Medicaid expenditures. The lack of coordination between service providers often fails to result in positive health outcomes for these individuals. Past state practice has been to coordinate the Medicaid budget and policy for treating people with SMI in separate systems—physical health benefits have been administered by the Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), and behavioral health services have been administered by the Departments of Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services. New reforms place an emphasis on treating the whole person by elevating behavioral health funding, managing behavioral service utilization, and consolidating the Residential State Supplement (RSS) program.
- **Transitioning Medicaid Practitioners to Electronic Records:** In March, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced federal approval of Ohio’s Medicaid Provider Incentive Program (MPIP), an

incentive program designed to encourage Medicaid providers to adopt electronic health record (EHR) systems. MPIP will open by June. EHRs can enhance health care outcomes and reduce overall health care costs by consolidating a patient's health information and making it available to medical professionals, while still ensuring the patient's privacy. This expedites diagnosis and treatment; improves safety through system checks that ensure multiple prescriptions are safe when taken together, such as e-prescribing; and saves money by eliminating paper and reducing duplication of testing.

- **Expanding Waiver Options for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities:** The Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) has been working with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on an application for a new self-directed waiver, called SELF. This waiver will be another option beyond the current Individual Option (IO) and Level One Waivers, which have a combined waiting list of over 27,000 people. The SELF waiver option has spending caps for children and adults, but it offers flexibility for families and individuals to tailor services to their needs. This combination would give the system fiscally safe and predictable tools to expand services, while giving individuals the ability to create service packages that they want.

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF OHIOANS

- **Statewide Coordination in the Fight against Opiate Abuse:** Gov. Kasich has created a new Cabinet-level Opiate Task Force to coordinate addiction prevention efforts across the state. The Task Force is chaired by Ohio Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Director Orman Hall and former Attorney General Betty Montgomery assisting with law enforcement efforts. Attorney General Mike DeWine, the Supreme Court of Ohio, several state agencies, local law enforcement leaders, and other states are involved in this effort. The task force has already led to the raid of two pill mills where importance evidence was collected that may assist in this effort.
- **Expanding Treatment Options for Drug Addiction:** In February, Gov. Kasich signed an Executive Order allowing the state's addiction treatment partners to use new medications approved by the federal government to assist with opiate addiction recovery.
- **New Funds for Drug Treatment:** Gov. Kasich announced that \$36 million in new funding will be available through the Recovery to Work initiative to help Ohioans receive addiction treatment services and employment skills training to become healthy, productive citizens. The Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services is partnering with the Ohio Rehabilitative Services Commission, Ohio Department of Mental Health, and the County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Boards to create an Ohio fund that will draw down federal rehabilitation dollars at a 3 to 1 ratio.
- **Improving Education Opportunities for Our Children:** Gov. Kasich has signed three significant pieces of legislation impacting education. These bills will relieve Ohio's public schools from burdensome unfunded mandates, increase the number of calamity days and provide schools with more flexibility when making up missed days, and open Ohio's doors to Teach for America – an effective teaching program that will bring some of the country's brightest college graduates into Ohio's poorest school districts.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY STATE AGENCIES

Adjutant General (ADJ)

- **Improving Organization and Efficiencies:** ADJ's Executive Board, a senior level management team, identified eight strategic objectives that will increase efficiencies and improve the organization, including diversity initiatives, soldier/airman well-being, and defining and clarifying key organizational relationships.
- **Answering the Call to Support Freedom and Democracy:** The Ohio National Guard continues to support Operations New Dawn, Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle by providing ready, trained and equipped soldiers and airmen. Currently more than 500 service members supporting operations abroad.

Administrative Services (DAS)

- **Merging Departments to Improve Communication:** DAS has merged the Office of Collective Bargaining and DAS Human Resources Division together to better coordinate the Department's relationship with the state

employees and their representation. This merging allows for direct and immediate communication between the Office of Collective Bargaining and DAS Human Resources Division.

- **E-Mail Consolidation:** DAS has successfully consolidated many of the state agencies into one system which allows for a more accessible and convenient way for state employees from different agencies to locate each other via a statewide email database. Efforts will continue to consolidate additional agency email systems.

Aging

- **Providing User-Friendly Services:** The Administrative Rules webpage underwent a redesign, providing user-friendly access to the agency's rules-making process, consistent with the goals of the Common Sense Initiative. The webpage now offers easily-navigable, clear choices to learn of newly-introduced rules and opportunities to comment on proposed rules and express concerns about overly burdensome rules.
- **Leading The Way In Addressing Workforce Shortages:** The Unified Long-Term Care System Stakeholder Workgroup was established and the Cultivating a Workforce for Person-Centered Long-Term Services and Supports Summit was held to identify ways to create a direct care career path that can cross agency boundaries and address the problems direct-care providers face regarding staffing shortage and retention issues. As a result, Ohio's unified approach to addressing health care issues continues to pique interest nationally.
- **Enhanced Community Living - A Common Sense Approach to Person-Centered Care:** The Dept. of Aging gained approval to offer the Enhanced Community Living (ECL) PASSPORT service, which puts the needs of our elders living in subsidized housing in the forefront while bringing value and efficiency to the way we deliver PASSPORT services to consumers. ECL allows us schedule providers to more efficiently while improving responsiveness to the consumer with supportive services that better meet the elders' service needs that are unscheduled and do not necessitate a full hour of service.
- **Using Technological Solutions to Improve Efficiency and Reduce Costs:** The agency successfully completed a pilot of the Hospital Exemption Notification System (HENS), an online system for hospitals to complete and submit a prescreening exemption form to the PASSPORT Administrative Agency (PAA) for hospital in-patients who require Nursing Facility (NF) admission, providing a direct link hospital discharge planners and PAAs. When completely implemented, HENS will drastically decrease the current administrative stress, providing an estimated \$685,000 reduction in administrative costs to the PAAs and also serving as a model for other electronic management solutions to further reduce costs.

Agriculture (ODA)

- **Budget Priorities and Savings:** ODA's budget proposal cuts General Revenue Fund spending by nine percent while assuring the Department's primary focus on food safety protection and rebuilding the consumer protection staffing in the Division of Weights & Measures.
- **Ohio Means Agribusiness:** By launching the Ohio Means Agribusiness program ODA has established an advisory board consisting of 25 of the state's top farmers and agribusiness leaders who are working together in suggesting policy improvements for the state's business climate and in helping to develop agribusiness opportunities.
- **Establishing Care Standards for Livestock:** Since taking office, Director James Zehringer has led, as chairman, the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board in making recommendations for all major species of livestock, and in working through numerous emotionally-charged issues such as the standards for veal calves. His leadership in moving forward with implementing the voter-approved, statewide ballot initiative has earned positive response from the state's major farm organizations, veterinary medical associations, and humane societies.
- **Agriculture Week:** Director Zehringer worked with the legislature to pass House Bill 89 which designates the second full week of March as "Ohio Agriculture Week."

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS)

- **Fighting Opiate Abuse:** Ten new Community Opiate Task Forces will be funded and initiated at ADAMH Boards covering 23 counties. Support and technical assistance will be provided for the new and existing Task Forces so

that communities can learn how to mobilize and educate stakeholders to reduce opiate use and diversion. The Ohio Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiction Services and the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities are partnering on the Task Forces, along with additional funding and support from Cardinal Health and the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The Faith-Based Office is providing \$1 million to support individuals in recovery with adult mentoring and family stability assistance. Some of the Faith-Based Office funding will help with prevention of opiate abuse through public and prescriber education.

- **Medicaid Elevation:** ODADAS worked with the Coalition for Healthy Communities, including dozens of behavioral health care advocacy organizations, on a one-to-one basis to help ensure that Ohio's behavioral health system would support Medicaid elevation to ODJFS. The behavioral health field has publicly supported this initiative.
- **Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) State Incentive Grant (SIG):** In April, ODADAS announced that \$6.2 million will be distributed to 13 County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health (ADAMH) Boards over the next three years to ensure that communities have the capacity to provide addiction prevention services for young adults ages 18-25. For the 37 ADAMH Boards that did not receive SPF-SIG grants, an additional \$53,400 is being made available to each Board to help with capacity building at the local level.

Office of Budget and Management (OBM)

- **Crafting the Jobs Budget:** OBM's director and staff worked quickly to write the state budget for FY2012 and 13—the Jobs Budget—and get it ready for submission to the General Assembly. The complex document not only closed Ohio's \$8 billion budget gap, it brought Ohio back into structural balance and provided for significant reforms to major state programs.
- **Providing Relief from State Mandates:** OBM gave Ohio's local school districts flexibility to achieve significant savings on the construction of new school facilities by ending a state mandate that limited the competitive bidding process and often made schools more expensive to build than they otherwise would have been.
- **Providing Construction Cost Relief to Local Schools:** As chairman of the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission (OSFC), OBM Director Timothy Keen led the effort to rescind the previous administration's directive that OSFC projects be subjected to prevailing wage requirements, saving schools money and increasing fairness and competition during the bidding process.

Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC)

- **Protecting Injured Workers:** BWC has been reviewing data regarding the use of prescription pain medicine in treatment for injured workers. With assistance from state and local law enforcement, BWC executed search warrants on the Portsmouth and Plymouth offices of a physician who provides medical services to injured workers. The search was part of an ongoing investigation into workers' compensation fraud, aimed at ensuring Ohio's injured workers are getting only the highest level of care so they can return to living healthy and productive lives.
- **First Time Forgiveness:** In response to Gov. John Kasich and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor's Common Sense Initiative and its emphasis on eliminating red tape and barriers for businesses, BWC is allowing a one-time waiver of lapsed coverage penalties. This initiative gives BWC employees the flexibility to waive penalties and interest that accumulates when an employer misses the deadline for reporting payroll. It can be used once and also helps employers meet the continuous coverage requirements necessary for certain BWC programs.
- **Expansion of Safety Council Rebates:** BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer announced the continuation and expansion of the Safety Council Rebate Incentive, which allows employers to receive a 2 percent rebate for attending a specific number of safety council programs and an additional 2 percent for demonstrating a reduction in the frequency and/or severity of workplace incidents. Buehrer is also recommending to the BWC Board of Directors that the program be expanded to allow group-rated employers to participate in safety councils and earn a 2 percent performance rebate, on top of their group rating discount, for demonstrating improvements in workplace safety.

Commerce (DOC)

- **Using Technology to Move at the Speed of Business:** The Ohio Department of Commerce is increasing speed, accuracy and compliance through electronic submission and automation. In the first 100 days, DOC has allowed for automation of field reporting of building code inspections which enables the Department to get inspections done in hours, rather than days. The Real Estate Division brought annual renewal and assessment payment for real estate brokerages on-line for the first time. The Division of Securities started an online express filing program, which allows for more efficient and convenient electronic filing and fee processing of mutual fund notice files. And more electronic submission and automation are planned in the coming months for the division within the Department of Commerce.
- **Giving Local Governments Tools to Control Costs:** DOC is raising thresholds for prevailing wage to give local governments across Ohio another tool to control their costs. Additionally, DOC has proposed a rule change to streamline the process for the investigation of prevailing wage complaints and avoid duplication of effort between the DOC and the Judiciary as it relates to investigating prevailing wage complaints.
- **Increasing Outreach and Focusing on the Customer:** Through more effective outreach and a focus on customer service, the Unclaimed Funds Division paid 11,688 claims to reunite Ohioans with more than \$15.6 million of abandoned property. That's 2,233 more claims paid than the same period in 2010, a 23% increase.
- **Greasing the Gears of Government:** Rules for Buried Underground Storage Tanks [BUSTR] were first proposed in 2007. After being stalled for 4 years, and with federal funding at risk, the Ohio Department of Commerce facilitated stakeholder input on key issues and barriers have been removed allowing for implementation this year.

Development (ODOD)

- **Bringing *The Avengers* to Ohio:** ODOD moved quickly to capitalize on a misstep by the state of Michigan and was able to attract the filming of *The Avengers* to Cleveland. Not only with this bring new revenue to the city and state, but the film is expected to create 100 new jobs.
- **Refundable Job Retention Tax Credit:** Ohio has lost 600,000 jobs over the past decade in part because its job retention incentives are outdated and other states have developed new retention tax credits that are more competitive. The new refundable job retention tax credit housed in House Bill 58 helps keep jobs in Ohio. In order to be eligible for the credit, companies must retain a minimum of 1,000 jobs and maintaining operations at the determined Ohio site. The tax incentive is a 75 percent, 15-year credit with a program cap of \$8 million annually. The Department's budget proposal includes the expansion of the refundable job retention tax credit from \$8 million to a total of \$25 million over the biennium, allowing for an additional \$17 million annually to be awarded in extreme job retention cases. American Greetings and Diebold were two examples of how customizing incentives kept more than 3,250 Ohioans employed.
- **Helping Existing Businesses Thrive:** Since January 10th, ODOD has been focused on not only incentivizing companies that are creating jobs, but also concentrated on Ohio's existing workforce. We have awarded incentives to 50 projects, leveraging more than \$767 million in capital investment, which will assist in creating 4,548 jobs and retaining 9,871 positions in Ohio. These projects demonstrate our commitment to Ohioans and the companies that choose to do business in the buckeye state. All told, more than 14,000 jobs will be created and retained through approved projects.
- **Holding Companies Accountable for Promised Job Growth:** ODOD is holding companies and future business partners accountable for the committed job creation and retention numbers agreed upon. Focusing on clawbacks holds companies to a level of standards, while allowing the state to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. If companies do not uphold their end of the negotiated agreement and do not create the necessary jobs, we are clawing back the financial incentives offered. We have recommended 12 clawbacks, totaling more than \$1.6 million, which is considerably more than the previous four years. We are also concentrating on giving being more creative in the way we structure our incentives, providing more loans and less grants, (ex. Bob Evans was more than 50 percent loans). We are calculating a Return on Investment analysis on every deal, with an emphasis on recouping our investment within the first 2-3 years.

- **Increasing Job Creation through the Ohio Third Frontier:** Since Governor Kasich took office, the Advisory Board and Commission have been focusing more on short term investments for organizations that are closer to commercialization, creating much needed Ohio jobs within three to five years rather than longer-term research and development projects that can often take seven to 10 years to yield job creation. Also, laying the groundwork for sustainable funding alternatives, the Ohio Third Frontier Commission recently took the unprecedented action of making GEM Energy Management, LLC's program award a loan rather than a grant. Unlike a grant, this loan model establishes the terms for shared risk between the company and Ohio Third Frontier, providing for a guaranteed minimum level of repayment to the Ohio Third Frontier and the potential to share in a company's success with royalty payments exceeding the loan principal.

Developmental Disabilities (DODD)

- **Increasing Employment Opportunities for People with Developmental Disabilities:** Targeted federal funding from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG) has been secured to provide training people with developmental disabilities to increase their ability to provide and gain access to meaningful employment opportunities. Additionally, DODD's *Employment First* initiative is providing 10 interested service providers an opportunity to work with national consultants on identifying and assisting individuals who wish to transition to community employment.
- **Expanding Access to Services for Ohio's Spanish and Somali Populations:** Federal funding has been secured from the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council to translate the "Children's Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument" and the "Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument" (C/OEDI) for Spanish and Somali-speaking individuals, assisting them in gaining access to developmental disability services.
- **Providing More Choices for Services:** DODD will file administrative rules allowing for additional services under the Individual Options Home and Community-Based Services waiver. Services include Remote Monitoring, a cost-effective alternative for families rather than hiring staff for around-the-clock monitoring, and the Community Respite and Adult Family Living service, which offers individuals more flexibility in accessing support services in the settings they prefer.

Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)

- **Reducing Permit Backlog:** Since January 1, 2011, the Division of Surface Water (DSW) has reduced the number of permit-to-install (or construction permit) applications pending for greater than the statutory review timeline of 180 days by 35-40% (from 78 to 50 projects). This reduction is from a heightened awareness and focus on "aging" projects. A number of additional projects pending greater than 180 days will be eliminated within the next one to two months.
- **Streamlining Operations and Creating Cost Savings through Consolidation:** Since January, the Division of Hazardous Waste Management (DHWM), the Division of Emergency and Remedial Response (DERR) and the Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM) worked together to determine if combining the three divisions would improve efficiency and save money. Based on the evaluation, the three divisions will be combined into two and the responsibilities of DHWM will be divided between DERR and DSIWM. The consolidation, which occurs on April 18, will streamline operations, create efficiencies and offer cost saving opportunities for OEPA.
- **Revamping the Agency's Small Business Compliance Outreach Program:** OEPA is re-tooling the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) and implementing a detailed marketing plan to make businesses aware of OCAPP's services, including: a toll-free hotline for regulatory questions, plain-English publications, workshops/training and assistance with permit applications and other forms. Initial outreach has gone out to business and trade associations and Ohio's small business development center network. Future communication will target local chambers of commerce and other government agencies – both state and local.
- **Implementing an Agency Streamlining and Efficiency Task Force:** Within the first three weeks of the new Administration, a Streamlining and Efficiency Task Force was created at OEPA. The internal cross-program task force was initiated to review and make recommendations about how the Agency can improve operations. The

group reported to Director Scott Nally at the 90 day mark and is currently evaluating more than 1,400 suggestions before meeting with the director again on April 29.

Health (ODH)

- **Improving Ohio's Health Care Workforce:** The Ohio Primary Care Workforce Collaborative completed a planning process to address Ohio's current and future primary care workforce needs. Recommendations will be made in three main areas: development of a statewide primary health care workforce data system; ensuring the adequate supply, distribution, and diversity of Ohio's primary care workforce; and promotion and widespread adoption of the patient-centered medical home practice model in Ohio.
- **Cancer Prevention Care for Low Income Individuals:** ODH's Breast and Cervical Cancer Program is in the process of providing breast and cervical cancer screenings to an additional 3,500 low income, uninsured Ohio women ages 40 and older, as a result of the receipt of tobacco Master Settlement Agreement funds and a statewide recruitment campaign. This brings to more than 17,000 the number of Ohio women who may receive these crucial services this program year.

Insurance (DOI)

- **Engaging Industry Leaders:** Gov. Kasich and Lt. Gov./DOI Director Mary Taylor met with CEOs of Ohio Insurance Companies to discuss how they could work together to grow the insurance industry in Ohio. Ohio ranks 6th overall in the number of employees in the insurance industry, and insurance companies write about \$54 billion in premiums in Ohio, which ranks our state 9th in terms of largest volume in the country.
- **Addressing the Workforce Needs of Ohio's Insurance Industry:** The Insurance Education Task Force was created to work with the Board of Regents, Columbus State Community College and other interested parties to recommend solutions to address workforce needs of the insurance employers in the state. These efforts include developing insurance curriculum and degree programs to be offered at Ohio's vocational schools, two- and four-year colleges.
- **Improving the Regulatory Climate for Insurance Companies:** In conjunction with CSI-Ohio, ODI has already reduced some burdens on insurers by eliminating a previous policy that required insurers to offer three versions of certain policies. The Business Development and Regulatory Reform Task Force is currently reviewing suggestions submitted by a wide array of insurance industry sources (companies and trade associations) with the goal of developing formal business development and identifying additional regulatory reform recommendations.

Job and Family Services (ODJFS)

- **Workforce Development Partnership:** OhioMeansJobs.com gives Ohio employers free access to the Monster.com resume database, which normally costs \$10,000 per year, and gives businesses easy access to online hiring tools like job posting and resume screening. Currently only 2,525 of Ohio's approximately 221,000 employers utilize the site, but through a new partnership with the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), OhioMeansJobs.com will reach 24,000 additional employers. OhioMeansJobs.com and NFIB will also create a task force of independent small business owners that will enhance the website in order to serve the specific needs of the small business community.
- **Employer Resource Information Center:** On March 24, ODJFS launched the Employer Resource Information Center (ERIC) – a self-service, web-based system that allows employers to easily manage their unemployment tax accounts, immediately file and pay unemployment taxes online, and upload tax return data directly into the system. While employers can still choose to file their returns on paper, the ERIC system will offer secure, easy-to-use, online filing options that have even greater accuracy and faster processing capabilities.
- **Helping Families and Children:** ODJFS expanded the Differential Response program to eight additional counties, bringing the total number of participating counties to 33. This gives caseworkers the option of using an alternative approach when investigating reports of child abuse and neglect. That freedom helps keep families together and reduces the number of children placed in out-of-home care, which improves outcomes and saves taxpayers money.

Mental Health (DMH)

- **Prioritizing Funds to Improve Treatment Options:** Mental health treatment in the community rather than in a hospital setting can vastly improve recovery and is a more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. In February, Director Tracy Plouck announced that the consolidation of two state-administered hospitals in Northeast Ohio would offer the same amount of inpatient hospital capacity to the region at \$4 million less per year. That's \$4 million that DMH can spend on community services. The decision ensures valuable taxpayer dollars are funding services to people with mental illness rather than unnecessary capital improvements.
- **Streamlining Functions to Improve Financial Predictability:** Beginning next year, the State of Ohio will fund community mental health Medicaid services rather than requiring the local ADAMH boards to do so. This provides more financial predictability for the local boards and enables them to focus local resources on local priorities such as housing and services for children.

Natural Resources (ODNR)

- **Shale Development and New Economic Opportunities in Eastern Ohio:** Shale development promises to dramatically improve Ohio's economic landscape as long as there is public confidence in the state's ability to effectively regulate the industry on safety and environmental issues. Director David Mustine has actively engaged stakeholders on multiple levels in an effort to inform citizens, landowners, businesses and local governments on the opportunities and challenges that are arising with Utica and Marcellus shale development. These basic steps are the building blocks to ensuring Ohio receives the maximum benefit of this newest boom in clean-energy technology.
- **Grand Lake St. Marys Watershed:** In January, ODNR took unprecedented action by designating the Grand Lake St. Marys Watershed as distressed. This designation requires agricultural operators to submit nutrient management plans specific to reducing the amount of nitrates and phosphates they generate into the watershed. Nutrient loading is responsible for last year's harmful algal blooms at Grand Lake St. Marys. However, this algal plagued 13,000-acre lake is a microcosm of the impact phosphorous is having elsewhere in Ohio. Distressed watershed designations are one of the tools the State of Ohio can use in its approach to other troubled watersheds, such as the Maumee River Watershed, which drains into the Western Basin of Lake Erie.
- **Improving Services for Hunters:** The ODNR Division of Wildlife launched a new license and game check system in March that provides hunters added flexibility of checking harvested deer or turkey online or by telephone as well as at the traditional check station. Each year, more than \$840 million is generated in hunting expenditures. The system offers one-stop shopping for licenses, stamps, and hunter education courses from the convenience of home via the Internet.

Public Safety (DPS)

- **United Effort to Combat Drug Abuse:** The Ohio State Highway Patrol joined forces with state and local law enforcement agencies in Scioto County on February 24 – 25 and March 3 – 4, in an ongoing effort to combat the rising drug abuse problem that faces that county. These successful enforcement saturation patrols netted 1,082 traffic stops and 382 arrests – of which 21 involved impaired driving – and initiated 87 cases, including 38 felony cases. The Scioto County Sheriff's Office and the Patrol's Special Response Team served a total of 18 high-profile warrants and officers conducting traffic stops apprehended an additional 34 wanted felons. During one traffic stop, a trooper arrested a pharmacist who was in possession of 904 pills, along with crushed pills and liquid morphine.
- **Improving Administrative Efficiencies:** The Ohio Traffic Safety Office recently merged with the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services, resulting in more streamlined operations. Additionally, more flexibility in scheduling is now permitted for lieutenants and above so that time is spent operationally instead of administratively. Command-level officers now have the ability to enter into an operational capacity as soon as they begin driving to work, and post commanders have the option to designate one administrative sergeant at the post to handle administrative duties. This means more officers are involved with core traffic safety services including targeting impaired and dangerous drivers while concentrating on criminal patrol efforts and major crimes occurring on Ohio's highways.

- **Criminal Patrol Structure:** The Ohio State highway Patrol has elevated Criminal Patrol to the same emphasis level as traffic safety. In so doing, troopers are tasked with stopping more vehicles and looking beyond the traffic stop to detect and interdict criminal activity. Without adding positions, five new regional lieutenants are managing the criminal patrol units to ensure sergeants can focus on operations and investigations instead of administrative duties. Regional training has been developed to bolster criminal patrol efforts throughout the state.
- **Common Sense Changes at the BMV:** The transportation budget, House Bill 114, includes funding for the Department of Public Safety. This bill contained provisions that eliminate the late fee for renewing a driver's license and gives trucking companies the ability to register commercial vehicles online using a credit card which makes Ohio more competitive with other states.

Rehabilitation and Corrections (DRC)

- **Launching of Ohio Risk Assessment System:** DRC recently launched the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS). The system is one of the nation's most comprehensive, state-specific offender evaluation and behavioral predictor tools. Developed in conjunction with the University of Cincinnati's Center for Criminal Justice Research, ORAS gives judges, law enforcement and parole officials the ability to scientifically determine appropriate sanctions for criminal offenders. The system will aid in pretrial sentencing recommendations, parole supervision, and societal reentry preparation. ORAS's comprehensive data will determine offenders' risk level, assist in more efficient allocation of supervision and treatment, and predict likelihood of re-arrest and recidivism. ORAS is currently operational at 10 sites throughout Ohio. Full statewide implementation will be completed by July 1.
- **Seeking Staff Input to Solve Budget Problems:** Facing a massive budget deficit due to the expiration of over \$300 million in federal stimulus funds, the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections solicited cost-savings suggestions from staff. Employees responded with over 1,000 recommendations resulting in more than \$30 million in savings. Strategies to increase energy efficiency, outside partnerships for bulk food service purchasing, and competitively bid pharmaceutical purchasing were a few of the common sense suggestions that saved tax dollars and improved operations.

Taxation (ODT)

- **Untangling Red Tape:** ODT has taken steps to vastly improve the processing of tax appeals and is working to eliminate a major backlog of appeals waiting to be resolved. The new system will lead to better tracking, faster results, lower average cost per case and less storage, boxes, paper and handling. The goal is to reduce the current backlog of 13,000 cases by more than 95 percent or no more than a 300- to 400-case backlog. The cost savings is estimated to be \$98 a case or more than \$1 million overall.
- **Helping Business Taxpayers:** ODT has launched the Use Tax Education Program to educate an estimated 300,000 small and mid-sized Ohio businesses on their responsibilities to pay Ohio use tax – a tax not well known or understood by taxpayers and, thus, not often paid. The program offers an incentive to those business taxpayers who come forward to register and pay any use tax they owe. The incentive offers to reduce the number of years that a business would have to look back and compute how much use tax it owed. The program is expected to benefit state and local governments by collecting back taxes and ensuring future use, while also promoting equity by making sure all Ohio businesses are fulfilling their use tax obligations.
- **Using Technology to Streamline Operations:** With the increased use and impact of technology – the growth of online tax filing, the expansion of a centralized telephone system to provide efficient and consistent taxpayer service, and expanding the telecommuting business model for tax auditors and enforcement agents – fewer customers than ever were visiting ODT's taxpayer service centers located around the state. Recognizing the ability to streamline operations, ODT will now save more than \$9 million a year and has reduced its budget for Fiscal Years 2012-13 by 8.9 percent.

Transportation (ODOT)

- **Responding to the Needs of Business:** ODOT will break ground in early 2012 to improve State Route 18 in North Baltimore, home of the new CSX Intermodal Freight Yard. This project was originally slated to start no sooner than 2018 but Director Wray and his team recognized the vital nature of these improvements, and they are working to complete the project by late 2012. These improvements will increase highway access for not only

trucks entering the CSX facility, but will accommodate new logistics and distribution businesses expected in the area.

- **Focus on Economic Development:** ODOT will open an Office of Economic Development and regional representatives across the state will work closely with the Department of Development to ensure that transportation needs are taken into account at the early stages of economic development.
- **Enlisting the Resources of the Private Sector:** On March 30, Gov. Kasich signed the \$6.8 billion transportation budget bill into law. This legislation contained language granting new authority allowing ODOT to enlist the help of the private sector to move projects forward more quickly and efficiently instead of waiting years on traditional state and federal funds. ODOT will take a comprehensive look at all projects statewide that could benefit from Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) throughout the rest 2011 and is hopeful to start entering into agreements with the private sector in early 2012.

Veterans' Services (DVS)

- **Using Technology to Connect Veterans with Services:** On April 6, DVS launched a major social media outreach campaign to connect veterans statewide with their County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) and apply for the benefits they have earned. These efforts are aimed at ensuring veterans know professional assistance is available in their local communities when applying for their benefits. Historically, veterans receive 40 percent more in federal benefits when they receive help in applying. This in turn is a huge economic engine for the state – the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) spent a total of \$5.2 billion in Ohio in 2010.
- **More Efficient Claims Service to Veterans:** In March, Ohio became the first state accredited by the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), opening the door to improved claims service for many veterans. When a veteran files a claim for benefits from the VA at a CVSO, they can select a veterans organization to be their power of attorney and advocate on their behalf. The DAV has recognized the training that the department provides to CVSO's that, in conjunction with a short block of training offered by the DAV, accredits both the department and CVSO's to be an advocate for claims filed through the DAV. Accredited CVSO's will now be able to access these claims on both the VA's online and telephone systems. This is a powerful tool to provide more efficient claims service to veterans, which in turn brings funding from the VA into Ohio's communities.

Youth Services (DYS)

- **Expansion of Video Conferencing Capability:** DYS expanded the capacity for communication throughout the juvenile justice system by amending an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant that had been awarded by the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services. Initially, funds were awarded to purchase and install videoconferencing equipment in 15 courts. That number grew to 46 total sites by April 2011. The equipment is used to facilitate communication between youth, their families and the juvenile courts. In addition to the ongoing use of this technology, DYS will continue to provide the support needed to maintain this valuable and cost saving communications tool.
- **Providing Education Opportunities for Youth:** Senate Bill 86 has passed the Ohio Senate to allow Franklin County youth released from DYS to enroll in the WinWin Academy if they do not already have a high school diploma. This community school is an innovative dropout recovery and reentry program designed to provide an education for youth ages 18 – 21. Individuals who complete this program earn a high school diploma as well as develop skills for both interpersonal and academic achievement. Additionally, DYS operates the Buckeye United School District, and over the course of the past 100 days, 32 youth earned a GED, and 9 youth earned a high school diploma.
- **Improving Youth Release Reviews:** Within the past 100 days, U.S. District Court agreed to terminate the Court's supervision of a youth's access to an attorney required under *J.P. v. Taft*, as well as to dismiss the *J.J. v. Ohio Department of Youth Services* case focusing on the Release Authority. DYS has made significant progress in both areas, including full implementation of face-to-face release reviews done by the Release Authority and more inclusion of family members during release reviews and implementation of the Legal Assistance Program – something that has been described as a national model. With the Court's recognition of the progress made comes the commitment to continue providing the same quality service to youth.

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