

## **Governor Kasich's Statement on the House Budget**

"Governor Kasich is energized from all that Ohio has accomplished over the past two years – cutting taxes while at the same time filling an \$8 billion budget imbalance, bringing about \$2 billion in Medicaid savings through reform, adopting new energy regulations to protect resources and keep people safe, improving K-12 education with the Cleveland Plan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Guarantee and A-F Report Card – but he knows there's a lot more work to do. He remains deeply committed to advancing his proposals to build a jobs-friendly economy that will keep Ohio among America's top job-creating states. Encouraged by the progress made on parts of his plan so far, the governor looks forward to continued work with the General Assembly to pursue reforms we need to keep Ohio moving forward."

**Higher Education Funding Reform:** "We are pleased that the Ohio House supports our reforms to higher education. Ohio needs more college graduates and the new funding plan developed by our college presidents helps change the culture of higher education to achieve that."

**Tax Cuts and Reform:** "The tax cuts the governor has enacted over the past two years have helped Ohio create 135,000 new jobs and increase the personal incomes of Ohioans. We appreciate the House's income tax cut and we're hopeful that there's more to come so that we can keep this job creation momentum going. The governor will continue to pursue tax reform and a larger tax cut—especially a small business tax cut—to help make Ohio more competitive."

**Medicaid Reform:** "It's clear that support isn't there right now among House Republicans to extend Medicaid coverage, but it's the right decision for Ohio. Not doing so will hurt our economy, make Obamacare's impacts worse and hurt vulnerable Ohioans who need care. The House's proposed funds for mental illness and addiction addresses part of the problem but it's not enough. Ohio's support for this needed change is diverse and broad and the governor will see this through to get it done."

**Education:** "We agree on investing significant new resources in Ohio's schools, and our approaches have similarities, but there's more work to do to make sure those resources get to schools based on the needs of students in the classroom. This will remain a key priority for the governor."