Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger, representing Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks and 3,600 member agencies.
HEALTH
• ~$5M increase to infant vitality line in 2022, but reduced to the 2021 amount in 2023
• 1.3M/year for public health technology innovation
• Flat funded harm reduction line (still only $50,000)
• Lots of fed money still coming in for PHE in 2022
• $7.15M for lead abatement in each year
  o 1M/year for Cleveland Lead Safe Home Fund
• $50M for NF bed reduction in 2022, zeroed out in 2023

JFS
• Over 50% increase to child welfare line-Kinship Support Program-no funding for Family First
• Flat funding in Adult Protective Services
• Hard to know anything on TANF yet without TANF services spending plan
• New UI Admin system
MEDICAID
- The state increase in funding reflects the shift after the eFMAP
- Voluntary work requirement
- Supports procurement
- Supports more home and community based services
- Increase of $4M each year for Multi System Youth

AGING
- Big increase for LTC ombudsman ($1.6M to $3.1M in each year)
- $14M and $9M for Statewide Aging Initiatives-to incentivize quality improvement initiatives in or regarding long-term care facilities
- 33% increase to Senior Community Services

MHAS
- $4.5M for young adult early intervention
- Recovery Housing increased to 3M (from 2.5M)
Additional Resources

Blue Books and Fact Sheets

Budget Language (# expected Tuesday)

HHS Directors Testimony
Senate Bill 17: The Latest and Most Alarming Attack Yet on Basic Household Security
What proponents will tell you about SB17

COLUMBUS—State Senator Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster) today gave sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 17 in front of the Ohio Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee. This legislation will make sweeping changes to several of Ohio’s public assistance programs including Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP/food stamps), unemployment compensation and Medicaid.

“I am proud to sponsor this long overdue piece of legislation,” Schaffer said. “Many Ohioans have lost jobs, health insurance, and are suffering food insecurity. They need help, and as long as we ignore the fraud and abuse, these crimes drain our programs of resources from those who need them.”
The true intent & impact of Senate Bill 17

• To make it harder for Ohioans to qualify for and stay enrolled in basic assistance programs

• To mischaracterize people with low-incomes and prey on longstanding, harmful, and untrue stereotypes and biases

• To distract from the real challenges facing Ohio families by proposing solutions in search of a problem

• To gain political points with out-of-state lobbyists
How did we get here?

Different iterations of these attacks have been driven by outside interest groups for several General Assemblies in Ohio and in many other states across the country – in fact, right now, similar measures are popping up again in other states.

HB 50 (2017)
Ohio House passes bill that would put ID photos on food stamp cards

SB 165 (2019)
Ohio Senate Delays Vote To Require Photo ID On SNAP Cards

HB 200 (2019)
The Columbus Dispatch

Opinion

Here's the truth: Our welfare system needs reform. And there has never been a better time than now. Ohio's economy is strong, and we have hundreds of thousands of open jobs waiting for workers. Yet, despite employers across the state being desperate for workers, we're telling people it's OK to sit on the sidelines — and making it easy for them to do so.

That's why we need to pass HB 200. All able-bodied Ohioans deserve the opportunity to break free from dependency and live independently.

Victoria Eardley, Foundation for Government Accountability, Columbus
This bill goes further than its predecessors

• It includes harmful provisions concerning Medicaid work requirements and unemployment insurance

• It includes even more anti-SNAP provisions

• It is being fast-tracked during a pandemic and economic recession and amid the greatest hunger crisis in modern times
The most concerning SNAP provisions in SB 17
“Change Reporting”

- Currently, most SNAP households report changes every 6 months, or any time their gross income exceeds the limit for their household size (making them ineligible).

- Moving back to change reporting would require SNAP households to report—and county offices to process—every small fluctuation in wages, even though the household remains eligible.

- No other state in the country uses change reporting because it is much more costly, results in higher payment error rates, & creates significant churn for working families.

- Ohio has not used change reporting since Republican Governor Bob Taft adopted simplified reporting in 2002.

- This measure tells Ohioans: Do your hours at work change from week to week? Is your income variable because you work a contingent, temporary, or gig job? You have to tell us every time your paycheck is different or lose food benefits.
“Categorical Eligibility” & Asset Tests

• Currently, all but 11 states use “broad-based categorical eligibility” (BBCE) to simplify access to SNAP – including Ohio

• Eliminating BBCE would:
  • Require a return to asset testing in Ohio, creating an asset cliff
  • Bar future efforts to raise gross income limit for SNAP eligibility to counter benefit cliff effect & support working Ohioans

• Asset testing requires counties to collect bank statements, vehicle valuations, etc. – wasting limited administrative resources and deterring seniors from accessing SNAP due to fear about sharing bank account numbers

• This measure tells Ohioans: Lose your job? Sell your car before you can get basic food assistance. Trying to build up modest emergency savings for the next crisis? Too bad, we’ll cut off your benefits.
Important to Remember:

• SNAP benefits are 100% federally funded and allow people to buy food.
  • It makes no fiscal or moral sense to reject federal food assistance for Ohioans, especially during a public health and economic crisis.
  • It makes no fiscal sense to force State and County agencies to spend tens of millions more dollars on administrative options, that almost no other states exercise, during state and local government budget shortfalls.

• SNAP is an entitlement program. The nearly 1.5 million Ohioans that use SNAP to buy food will never lose food benefits because of a few individual cases of fraud, as the sponsor states. Some will, however, lose food benefits if Senate Bill 17 is implemented.

• Fraud rates in SNAP are less than 1%, primarily exist at the retailer level, and are already caught and prosecuted under the law.
Ohio CSEA Directors' Association

Cooperation with child support agencies

Requires ODJFS to mandate that, as a condition of SNAP eligibility, these individuals must cooperate with ODJFS regarding (1) establishing paternity and (2) establishing, modifying, and enforcing a child support order. Applies both to “custodial parents” and “noncustodial parents”

Cost/benefit

• No Feasibility study has been done in Ohio regarding mandatory cooperation requirements against custodial parents and non-custodial parents and the cost to implement and maintain such a program
• While many of these parents are already in the child support system, we would likely see an influx of over 100k children (pre-pandemic) into the child support caseload
• Agencies would need additional worker(s) to handle these cases, which would increase administrative costs when agency budgets are already strained.
• Cost savings would likely be at the federal level, not at the state/local level.
Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger, representing Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks and 3,600 member agencies.

Ohio CSEA Directors' Association
Cooperation with child support agencies

Technology
• The bill specifically mandates cooperation from both custodial and non-custodial parents as a condition of eligibility; at present our systems do not have the ability to communicate with one another in a way that is necessary to implement the provisions of this bill.
• Cooperation with child support has never been a requirement for a noncustodial parent to participate in any program.
• This would require significant system updates in SETS and OB systems.

*Establishment of child support does not guarantee child support payments.
*Fraud - Cooperation with child support is not correlated with the goal of this bill, which is to deter/decrease fraud.
*Could result in needy families getting reduced SNAP benefits due to lack of cooperation (this could include custodial parents, caretaker relatives, or non-custodial parents with a second family)
SB17
Impact on Ohio Medicaid

Loren Anthes

February 12, 2021
Contact Information

Loren Anthes, MBA, CSSGB
William C. and Elizabeth M. Treuhaft Chair for Health Planning
Public Policy Fellow, Center for Medicaid Policy
The Center for Community Solutions
lanthes@communitysolutions.com
Impact Guide

Expensive
Could Increase Cost to State and Local Government

Illegal
Not Compliant with Federal Law

Punishing
Creates Challenges for Families

Bureaucratic
How Would This be Operationalized?
Data Checks

• Data Matching Agreements 🎁😢❓
  • State Lottery, casino control have to provide ODM Dir. Searchable list of individuals with winnings
  • ODH must provide searchable death record list

• ODM Must Check 🎁😢
  • Quarterly, changes in income
  • Monthly, changes in residence
Eligibility Checks

- Must conduct post-enrollment verification
- Cannot conduct presumptive eligibility
- Accept self-attestation
- Seek federal approval to not exercise
  - Compatible income data check
  - To comply with public notice requirements
• Must conduct redeterminations despite MOE
  
• In 60 days, complete an audit involving
  • Completes redeterminations for all due within last 12 months
  • Must re-check all information on eligibility
  • Develop a report and submit to the GA
Work Requirement Waiver

- Add parents and caretaker relatives
- Adds requirements
  - 20 hours a week of work
  - Must be at a higher ed institution
  - Must receive medical certification or unfitness
  - Parents of children under 1 or disabled exempted
- Must check eligibility against Marketplace
- Prohibit reenrollment for 6 mos. if individual fails to report changes
- Increase determinations to biannual schedule

Expensive  Illegal  Punishing  Bureaucratic
CALL TO ACTION

SB17 may have an opponent/interested party committee hearing next week.

How can you get involved?

SIGN ON TO OUR OPPOSITION LETTER

Call Senator Roegner (Committee Chair): 614-466-4823  Roegner@ohiosenate.gov
Call Senator Schaffer (Bill Sponsor & Committee Member): 614-466-8076  Schaffer@ohiosenate.gov
Call Senate President Matt Huffman: 614-466-7584  Huffman@ohiosenate.gov
AOF @Advocates4OH · 2h
@GovMikeDeWine has said he wants a recovery for all Ohioans. Instead, members of @OhioSenateGOP are fast-tracking legislation that would worsen food security & health outcomes & forfeit federal funds. SB 17 will hurt Ohio's recovery. #OhioCanDoBetter #OhioansAgainstSB17

Ohio Association of Foodbanks @OhioFoodbanks · 2h
Today, we're joining #OhioansAgainstSB17 to shed light on the real harm SB 17 would do to our fellow Ohioans & our state & local communities & economies. Let's be clear: SB 17 would worsen food security & health outcomes & forfeit federal $, hurting our recovery. #OhioCanDoBetter

CDF-Ohio @CDF_Ohio · 2h
Eligibility & access restrictions for essential programs disproportionately harm Black & Brown children & their communities. We want to create a more equitable world for our kids, where all can live in dignity & thrive. SB 17 is not the answer. #OhioCanDoBetter #OhioansAgainstSB17

S.B. 17 would disproportionately impact Ohioans of color and perpetuate racist, classist stereotypes

Hunger Network in Ohio @HungerOhio · 1h
Faith leaders are limited in what we can do to help our neighbors. We need leaders like @Rob_McColley to stop legislation that will make it harder for us to serve our communities & make sure all have their daily bread. #OhioansAgainstSB17

S.B. 17 would force workers to make impossible choices between stable housing, transportation, and food
COHHIO Homeless @COHHIO · 2h
Even before the pandemic 400k Ohio households spent over half their income on rent. SB17 would make it even harder to get the food & healthcare people need to raise healthy families that have hope for a better future. #RealityNotRhetoric #OhioansAgainstSB17

Ohio Children's Budget Coalition @BudgetOhio · 1h
Creating thriving Ohio communities means that all children must grow up w/ opportunities to be healthy & well - yet even during a pandemic, 1 in 14 OH families is uninsured. SB17 would only make it harder for families to get covered. #OhioCanDoBetter #OhioansAgainstSB17

Groundwork Ohio @GroundworkOhio · 54m
Ohio children deserve better:
- 1 in 5 OH kids live in poverty
- >130K children are uninsured
- approximately 25% of kids are experiencing food insecurity

SB17 does not create the vision of whole child wellbeing in Ohio that our children deserve. #OhioansAgainstSB17

Policy Matters Ohio @PolicyMattersOH · 2h
Everyone deserves to be able to make ends meet. It's already difficult for ppl to apply for SNAP, Medicaid, & unemployment. SB 17 would put up more barriers to ppl getting food & health care. We urge Sen. @kristinaoegner & committee to stop this bill. #OhioansAgainstSB17

S.B. 17 WOULD WORSEN HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN BY RESTRICTING ACCESS TO CARE DURING A PANDEMIC

S.B. 17 WOULD DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACT OHIOANS OF COLOR AND PERPETUATE RACIST, CLASSIST STEREOTYPES
Ohio Poverty Law Center @OhioPovertyLaw · 1h
Here's what SB 17 tells Ohioans:

“Lose your job? You have to sell your car before we'll let you get help w/ food.”

“Find work? You can't save for the next emergency or we'll take away your benefits.”

#OhioCanDoBetter #OhioansAgainstSB17

S.B. 17 WOULD FORCE WORKERS TO MAKE IMPOSSIBLE CHOICES BETWEEN STABLE HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, AND FOOD

JJC Ohio @ohiojjc - 2h
Black, brown and Indigenous Ohioans have been harmed disproportionately by the pandemic & recession and SB 17 would make it even worse. Poverty is a condition of injustice, not a character flaw. #OhioCanDoBetter #OhioansAgainstSB17 @GovMikeDeWine @TimSchaffer @kristinaroegner

Ready, Set, Soar OH @ReadySetSoarOH · 53m
Many infants & toddlers in Ohio are food insecure, housing insecure, underinsured, & trying to cope with stress & economic instability. The last thing our kids need is more barriers to their families' access to food, Medicaid, & other essential programs. #OhioansAgainstSB17

American Heart Association Ohio @AmHeartOhio · 2h
We're calling on Ohio's leaders to be sensible & sound in policymaking. SB 17:
- Costs Ohio $$$
- Harms low-wage workers
- Discourages workers
- Increases hardship
@GovMikeDeWine & @OhioSenateGOP - stop this bill. #OhioCanDoBetter #OhioansAgainstSB17

S.B. 17 WOULD COST OHIO TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO IMPLEMENT AND MAKE OHIOANS HUNGER AND SICKER IN THE PROCESS
Questions?

Next Webinar: Friday February 26, 10:30am

Sign up for Weekly Newsletter & Events: HERE

Follow us on Twitter: @Advocates4OH

AOF Steering Committee | www.advocatesforohio.org

kberglfeld@communitysolutions.com