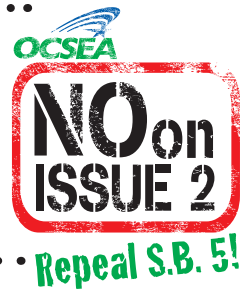




# Talking Points: Budget



## Two key points are **JOB**s and **SERVICES**

- There are no jobs in the “jobs budget.” This is a “**no jobs**” budget. You don’t create jobs by cutting jobs. Taking a \$20 dollar an hour job and creating two \$10 dollar an hour job with no benefits is not creating jobs. It’s a race to the bottom.
- The budget will kill our communities by cutting off the lifeline on essential **services**.
- Budget is **passing the buck** to local governments. Cuts at the state will mean local mandates for counties and cities that are getting cut too. More local levies.
- This budget will **kill small businesses**, forcing them to layoff or close.
- Plan to privatize prisons, Lottery, Liquor amounts to a “**fire sale**” that will leave taxpayers and communities holding the bag for corporate profits. Their bottom line is profit, our bottom line is healthy communities and a strong middle class.

## Pension talking points on 12/12 split

- This is not about fixing the pension fund. This is about **cost shifting** to public employee and another swipe at the middle class. OPERS is recognized as a **responsible plan** that has made incremental changes through the years to ensure solvency.
- It’s **not necessary**. The current recommendations by the Ohio Retirement Study Council were done in an effort to have the least impact on employees and current retirees and did not call for this kind of drastic measure. That group worked on this for over a year to ensure that the changes they recommended would sustain the fund, and they will.
- This change is not being used to shore up the fund; it’s being used to shore up the budget. This is just more **cost shifting to public employees**.
- First it’s our wages and our health care, then it’s the terms and conditions of our employment, and now it’s our **retirement**.
- Public employees **don’t receive Social Security**. This is their only retirement.
- This is another increase that will be borne by **middle class** workers.

Printed in-house at

