



The Ohio School Board Association believes that the 2010 Local Impact Statement Report is a valuable tool provided by the Ohio Legislative Service Commission (LSC) to the members of the Ohio General Assembly, and to all Ohioans.

The 2010 Local Impact Statement Report shows that three Senate bills and 11 House bills passed in 2009 became law. Of those bills, only one was report as having a fiscal impact upon school districts in the "As Introduced" versions. OSBA believes it is of critical importance that the fiscal impact of bills upon school districts be clearly recognized. School districts have to address many unfunded and underfunded mandates from both federal and state legislation and it is essential to make certain that these costs are known throughout the legislative process.

A continuing concern that remains to be addressed is the section of law that exempts LSC from having to update a local impact statement for the biennial budget, capital appropriations bill, or any other budget correction bill. OSBA would support legislation that would require the General Assembly to include these bills that are now exempted in Division (F) of ORC 103.143 from such local impact statements. OSBA also believes that local impact statements should be required at each phase of the legislative process. This is particularly important as substitute versions and amended substitute versions are often enacted. Legislation often has a huge fiscal impact on school districts and the potential costs should be monitored and made known to all as introduced bills go through the legislative process.

OSBA would like to salute the Legislative Service Commission on a job well done and we look forward to working with you in the future.