



PRESS RELEASE
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Welcome investment, more is needed

Policy Matters Ohio reacts to Gov. DeWine's budget proposal

Policy Matters Ohio welcomes Governor DeWine's statement in presenting his executive budget proposal today that, "We're saying in this budget, it's time to invest." The governor's proposals to increase state support for a variety of programs, from children's services to mental health, is a refreshing development.

"Indeed it is time to invest," said Wendy Patton, Policy Matters senior project director. "However, Ohio needs investments beyond the governor's proposals to make up for years of underinvestment. That includes support to education, local governments and human services beyond what is included in the governor's proposal."

"To make these investments, Ohio needs to overhaul its tax system to generate more revenue from those who can afford to pay," Patton said. "While there are good things in DeWine's first budget, he needs to strengthen state revenues and improve the fairness of the tax system. Until then, the structural deficit in investment caused by years of tax cuts and breaks will limit his ability to invest in Ohio's children and families."

Policy Matters will review the governor's proposal closely and provide analysis of it in forthcoming reports.

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Policy Matters Ohio is a nonprofit, nonpartisan state policy research institute with offices in Cleveland and Columbus.