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## **EDUCATION GROUPS ISSUE STATEMENT ON STATE BUDGET**

COLUMBUS — The leaders of three statewide education management organizations issued the following joint statement on the recently passed state budget legislation, House Bill (HB) 166.

“We appreciate the priority placed on Ohio’s children in the biennial budget bill, HB 166. By investing \$675 million in the new Student Wellness and Success Funds, Gov. Mike DeWine and the Ohio House and Senate recognize the nonacademic barriers that are facing our students. These deeply needed resources will go a long way to help students overcome these challenges.

“We also welcome the additional \$38.5 million for school districts that have experienced enrollment growth but have not seen correlating funding increases from the state for these new students. We applaud the state’s dedication to this issue.

“We also are pleased that Gov. DeWine vetoed three property tax-related provisions that would have had a negative impact on school districts. The vetoes will help preserve districts’ ability to effectively manage their local share of funding.

“Our organizations pledge to work with state leaders to ensure the state’s new investment in education moves Ohio forward, and we offer our assistance in the effort to reform our school-funding system while also continuing to address the nonacademic barriers our students face.”

- Richard C. Lewis, chief executive officer, Ohio School Boards Association
- Dr. R. Kirk Hamilton, executive director, Buckeye Association of School Administrators
- Jim Rowan, executive director, Ohio Association of School Business Officials