



Senator Tom Patton
24th Ohio Senate District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATEMENT FROM STATE SENATOR TOM PATTON ON PASSAGE OF
STATE BUDGET**

COLUMBUS— State Senator Tom Patton (R- Strongsville) issued the following statement today regarding the Ohio Senate’s passage of House Bill 153, the state’s operating budget.

“Now having dealt with my fifth state operating budget as a member of the Ohio General Assembly, I can say in full confidence that I commend the work displayed by my colleagues in their efforts to eliminate a multi-billion state deficit. Without placing added tax burden on our state residents, we have closed the shortfall while also reducing spending by more than \$5 billion over the next two fiscal years.”

“In our recent work, my colleagues and I have restored the final stage of the 21-percent income tax cut that originated in 2005, while also effectively eliminating the job-crushing estate tax that slowed Ohio’s economic growth for nearly fifty years. In addition, we have put in place a plan to reward school districts who earn the status of ‘excellent’ and ‘excellent with distinction’, as well as increased the level of school choice for our children and families.”

“Again, I must applaud my Senate colleagues for taking a giant step in restoring Ohio’s commitment to its citizens and businesses.”