



OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION

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The Honorable Kris Jordan, Chair
Senate State & Local Government & Veterans Affairs Committee
Ohio Senate
Ohio Statehouse
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: SB 4 Performance Audits

Dear Chairman Jordan:

On behalf of the Ohio Township Association (OTA), I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 4, which permits local governments to request a performance audit and creates a fund to help local governments pay for such audits.

The OTA supports the use of performance audits, as many schools and local governments have taken advantage of this service offered by the Auditor of State. Performance audits help identify cost savings and efficiency measures through peer comparisons and benchmarking to industry standards.

Included in Senate Bill 4 is the creation of the Leverage for Efficiency, Accountability, and Performance (LEAP) Fund, which is proposed to be funded by transferring \$1.5 million from the Uniform Accounting Network Fund. As you are aware, the UAN is funded through mandatory contributions from local governments that use the software and support system.

While we do have reservations about the source of the funding for the LEAP Fund, we are willing to agree to all aspects of the bill. We have been informed that Auditor Yost will institute a rate holiday for all UAN users and he has committed to reviewing the UAN rate structure and user fees.

The Ohio Township Association thanks Sponsor Schaffer, Auditor Yost and staff for their willingness to work with us on this legislation. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at (614) 863-0045 or by e-mail at fought@ohiotownships.org.

Sincerely,

Heidi M. Fought
Director of Governmental Affairs

cc: Committee Members
Sponsor Schaffer
Mary Amos Augsberger

"Serving Ohio since 1928"

