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MEDIA ADVISORY – March 15, 2007

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CHANCELLOR ILLUSTRATES SIGNIFICANT POINTS OF GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut today released several charts (attached) to illustrate significant points of the higher education portion of Governor Strickland's executive budget for FY 2008 - 2009.

CHART 1: Gov. Strickland proposes more support for public higher education:

Governor Strickland's budget proposes a Higher Education Compact in which the state will increase funding for the basic instructional subsidy by 5 percent next year, and 2 percent the following year and public universities and colleges will agree to no tuition increase in 2008 and less than a 3 percent increase in 2009.

CHART 2: Strickland budget narrows the state's gap in instructional support:

Today, the state spends *less* on instructional support for our universities than it did in 2001. This level of support leaves Ohio trailing such states as Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Kentucky. Governor Strickland's budget allocates an increase of 5 percent in the first year, narrowing the gap between Ohio and the national average.

CHART 3: Executive budget continues implementation of stronger grant

program: Governor Strickland's budget will continue the third and fourth years of implementation of the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) program, which is replacing the former Ohio Instructional Grant program by 2010 and the Part-Time Student Grant Program by the end of the current fiscal year. The new program will defray college expenses for an estimated 100,000 low-income students, increasing the maximum grant for students attending public institutions from \$2,190 to \$2,496, nearly 14 percent.

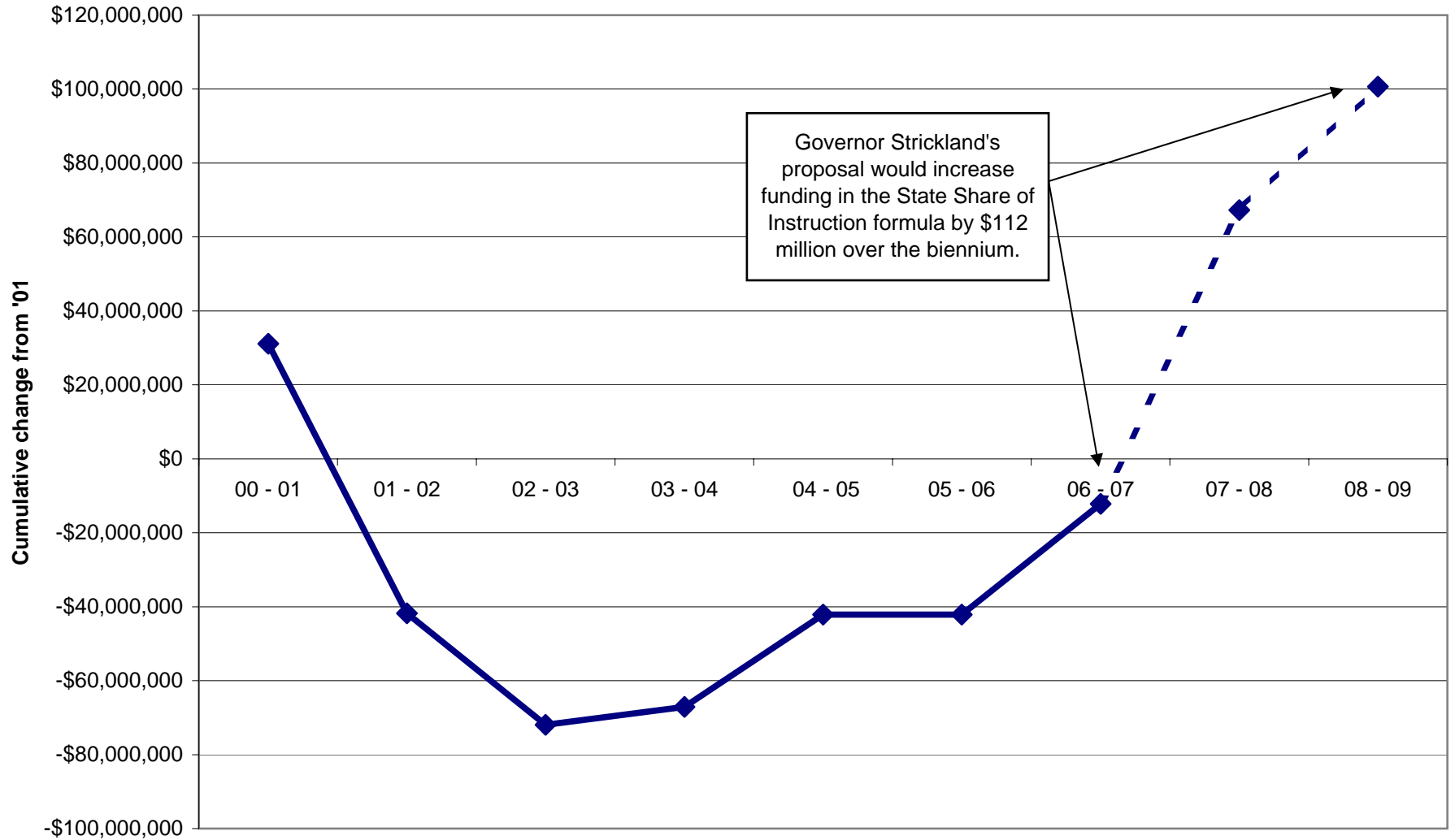
CHART 4: Governor retains additional aid for needy private college students:

Under Governor Strickland's budget, the maximum Ohio College Opportunity Grant awarded to students attending private schools will reach \$4,992, twice the maximum award for students attending public institutions. The budget also retains Student Choice Grants for students attending private schools and meeting the family needs standards of the OCOG program.

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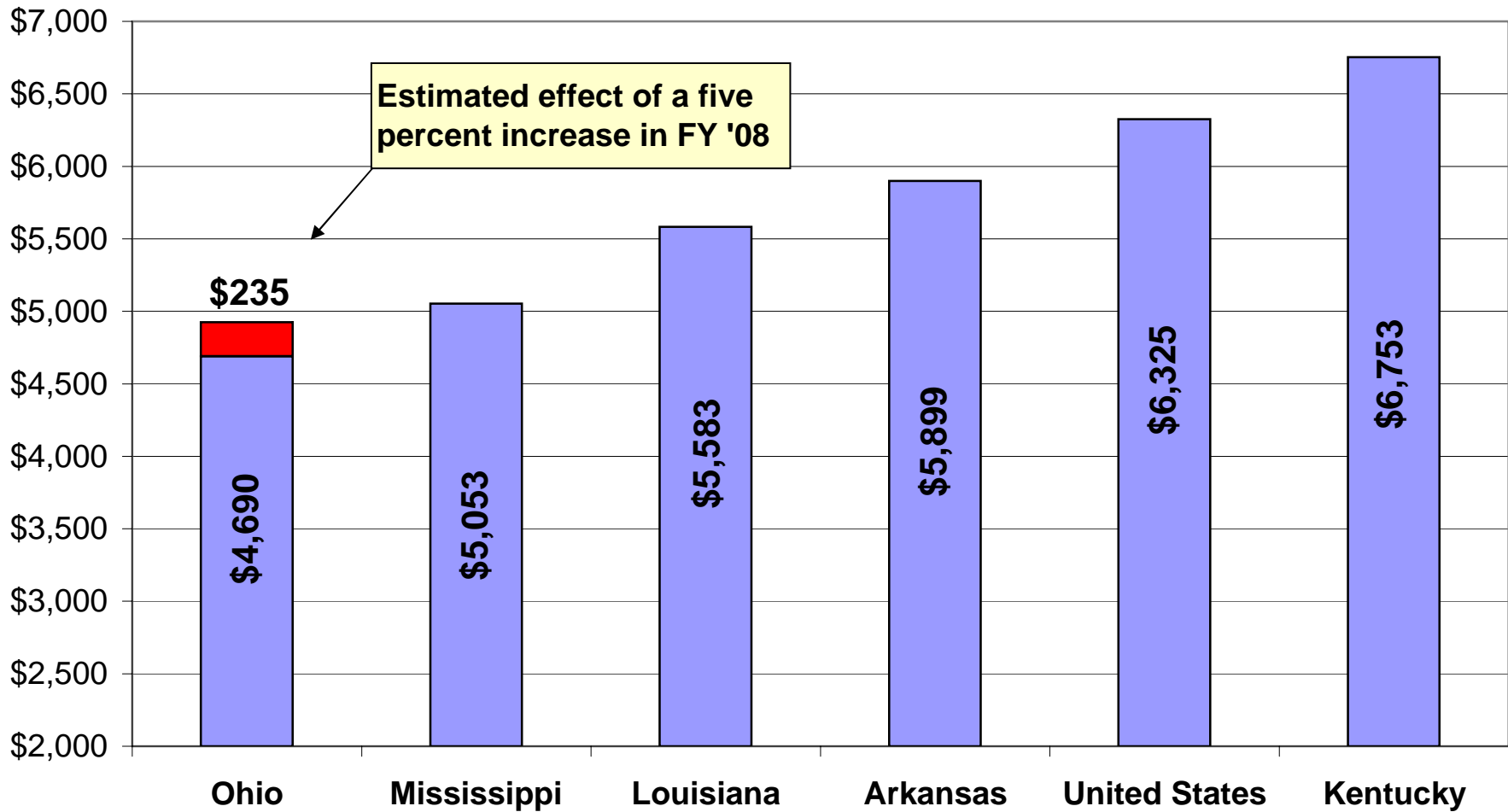
The Ohio Board of Regents is a geographically representative coordinating body for higher education in the state. Created in 1963 by the General Assembly, the 11-member public board has a direct, non-governing relationship with all of Ohio's colleges and universities.

Gov. Strickland proposes more support for public higher education



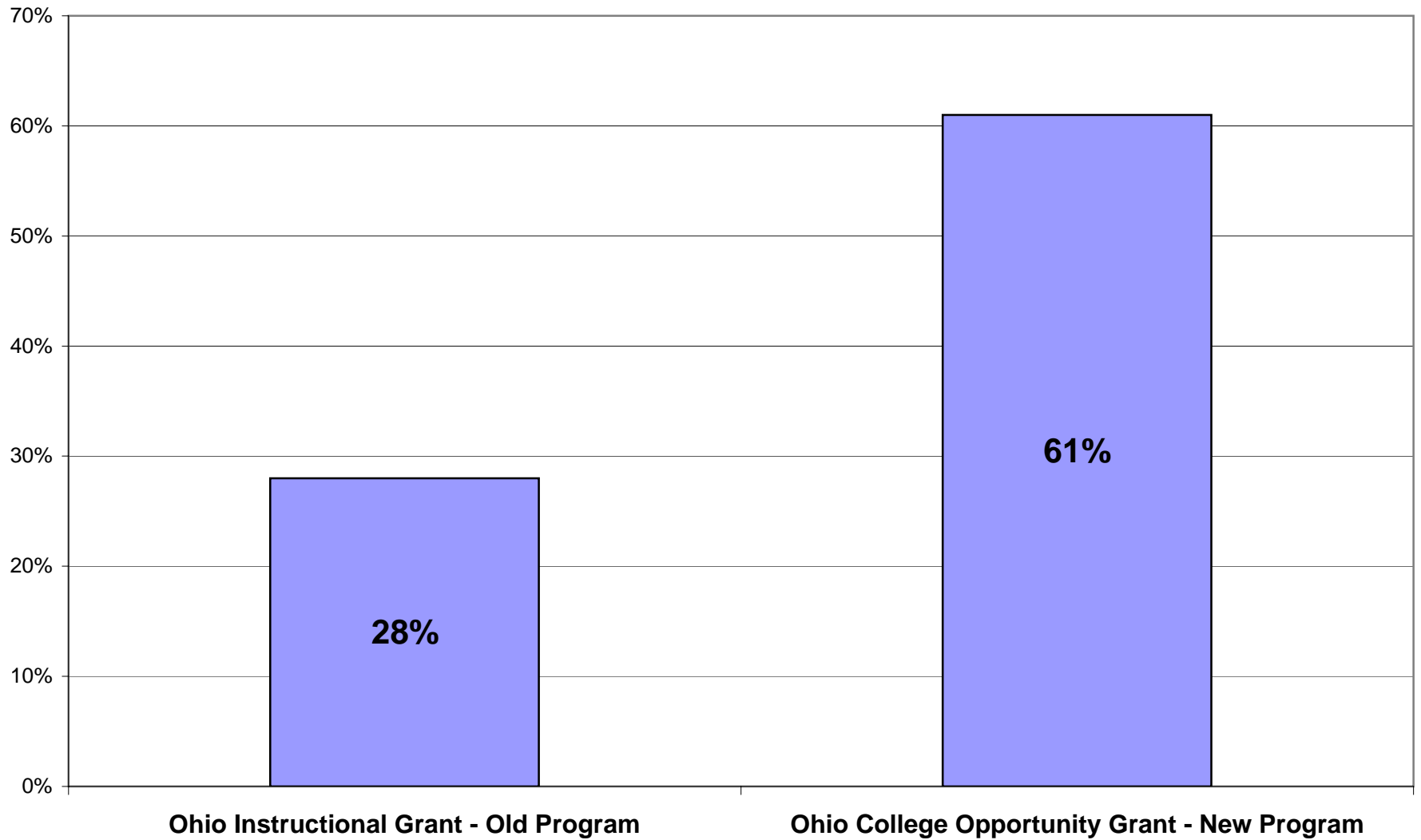
Strickland budget narrows the state's gap in instructional support

State and Local Operating Appropriations per Public Full-Time Student
FY 2006 Data from SHEEO Finance Survey



Exec. budget continues implementation of stronger grant program

Percent of needy students who qualify for the maximum state grant



Governor retains additional aid for needy private college students

State need-based and related student financial aid
for students enrolled in public and not for profit colleges, FY 2008

