

## STAROhio State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio

State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio STAR Ohio 30 E. Broad St. Columbus, Ohio 43215-3461 www.ohiotreasurer.gov





# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Honorable Kevin Boyce, Ohio Treasurer of State STAROhio 30 East Broad Street, 9th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditors' Report* of the State Treasury Reserve of Ohio (STAROhio), Franklin County, prepared by Cohen & Company, for the audit period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. STAROhio is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Saylor

December 16, 2010

#### A Message from Ohio Treasurer of State Kevin L. Boyce



August 2, 2010

Dear Public Fund Managers,

I am proud to present to you the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

Over the past year, financial markets nationwide have seen a slight rebound; however, investors still felt some economic uncertainty. Despite these conditions STAR Ohio has continued to remain safe. This positive outcome is due to thorough investment research completed by the Ohio Treasury and the support of our partners.

My administration is constantly looking for ways to cut costs without compromising services. In fiscal year 2010 we created a competitive bidding process, which will result in a 53% reduction in administrative fees for STAR Ohio participants during Fiscal Year 2011. This equals an estimated yield increase of 4 basis points, which would make STAR Ohio one of the highest yielding Local Government Investment Pools in the Nation.

We are committed to maintaining STAR Ohio as a top-rated option for our shareholders. I thank you for your continued participation and I look forward to your ongoing support of STAR Ohio. If you would like to discuss the ways STAR Ohio and the Ohio Treasury can assist your community, please feel free to contact me at 1-800-228-1102 or at treasurer@tos.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Boyce

Treasurer State of Ohio

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATION (UNAUDITED)

#### **Background**

The State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) is a statewide investment pool managed and administered by the Ohio Treasurer of State (the Treasurer). Participation is offered to Ohio political subdivisions as a means to invest in a portfolio of short-term investment securities and registered investment companies. The investment objective of STAR Ohio is to seek a high level of current income as is consistent with prudent investment management, the preservation of capital and the maintenance of liquidity. STAR Ohio seeks to achieve this objective by investing only in high-grade investment instruments and money market funds. STAR Ohio is similar in concept to a registered investment company using redeemable securities, commonly called a "money market mutual fund." Our discussion and analysis below is based upon currently known facts and conditions that we judge to have had a material effect on STAR Ohio's financial condition and results of operations.

The Ohio Treasurer of State is committed to maintaining STAR Ohio as a top-rated investment option for all government subdivisions of Ohio. As such, the additional level of safety in the fund is attributed to the constant monitoring of credit ratings for issuers of investments held by STAR Ohio as well as a modification to the custodial arrangement in which the fund's assets are now held in a specific trust account at the Depositor Trust Clearing Corporation designated for STAR Ohio. Both measures ensure that the underlying assets of STAR Ohio are highly rated, secure and readily available to the fund.

#### **Overview of Financial Condition**

STAR Ohio's net assets decreased by approximately \$1.6 billion or by approximately 26 percent during Fiscal Year 2010. This decline is due in part to general economic conditions of the STAR Ohio shareholders and the return STAR Ohio is able to generate in the current market while maintaining the objective of safety and liquidity. STAR Ohio continued to maintain its AAAm rating from Standard & Poor's, the highest rating possible for a Local Government Investment Pool.

#### **Overview of Operations**

STAR Ohio has continued to seek safety and liquidity for the STAR Ohio shareholders. We have achieved this by investing in high-grade government agency issuers, government money market funds, and in highly rated commercial paper. The Treasurer suspended its management fees on March 15, 2010 for the remainder of the 2010 Fiscal Year to increase yield for shareholders. This resulted in a .01% increase in yield. The Federal Funds target rate remained at 0% -.25% during STAR Ohio's entire Fiscal Year. During a time of minimal returns on investments portfolios, STAR Ohio was able to achieve a .12% total return for Fiscal Year 2010.

### STATE TREASURY ASSET RESERVE OF OHIO FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Data for each share outstanding throughout the year

	Year ended June 30,				
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Net asset value, beginning of year		\$1.00 .0130	\$1.00 .0383	\$1.00 .0516	\$1.00 .0407
Distributions from net investment income		(.0130)		(.0516)	
Net asset value, end of year	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Total return	.12%	1.30%	3.83%	5.16%	4.07%
Ratios/Supplemental Information  Expenses as a percentage of average net assets(1)	.089%	.078%	.084%	.097%	.102%
$assets(1) \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	.12%	1.30%	3.83%	5.16%	4.07%
Net assets, at end of year	\$4,713,903,434	\$6,354,772,711	\$6,570,253,325	\$4,821,138,575	\$4,151,966,416

(1) These percentages should not be construed as representative of the yield or expenses related to further investments in STAR Ohio.



#### **SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS**

June 30, 2010

Principal Amount/Shares		Maturity Date	Value (Note B)
	FEDERAL AGENCY ISSUES — 80.0%		
\$ 75,000,000	Federal Farm Credit Banks Callable Debentures, .3839%	12/1/10	\$ 75,000,000
125,000,000	Federal Farm Credit Banks Discount Notes, .0112%	7/1/10 - 8/31/10	124,994,917
125,000,000	Federal Home Loan Bank Callable Debentures, .5570%	7/1/10 - 6/10/11	124,996,329
150,000,000	Federal Home Loan Bank Debentures, .2839%	9/15/10 - 3/28/11	149,979,651
1,040,753,000	Federal Home Loan Bank Discount Notes, .0850%	7/2/10 - 12/17/10	1,040,550,726
1,219,492,000	Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. Discount Notes, .11-		
	.33%	7/12/10 - 12/7/10	1,219,072,890
1,038,620,000	Federal National Mortgage Association Discount Notes, .10-	7/7/10 19/90/10	1 000 007 506
	.36%	1/1/10 - 12/20/10	1,038,087,526
	Total Federal Agency Issues		3,772,682,039
	COMMERCIAL PAPER — 7.1%		
112,000,000	Chevron Funding Corporation, .1314%	7/8/10 - 7/13/10	111,996,597
70,000,000	General Electric Capital Corporation, .1827%	7/20/10 - 7/27/10	69,990,338
42,000,000	General Electric Capital Service, .29%	7/15/10	41,995,263
112,000,000	J.P. Morgan Chase Company, .1223%	7/12/10 - 7/20/10	111,992,972
	Total Commercial Paper		335,975,170
	MONEY MARKET FUNDS* — 12.9%		
100,325,311	Goldman Sachs Financial Square Government Fund, .03%		100,325,311
509,057,455	J.P. Morgan U.S. Government Fund, .06%		509,057,455
	Total Money Market Funds		609,382,766
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS — 100%		4,718,039,975
	Liabilities in excess of other assets		(4,136,541)
	<b>NET ASSETS</b> — <b>100</b> % — equivalent to \$1.00 per share for outstanding shares of 4,713,903,434 in the Pool		\$4,713,903,434

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>ast}$  Money Market Funds, the yield shown represents the rate at June 30, 2010.



## STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES JUNE 30, 2010

#### **ASSETS**

Investments	
Federal Agency Issues	\$3,772,682,039
Commercial Paper	335,975,170
Money Market Funds	609,382,766
Total Investments	4,718,039,975
Interest Receivable	216,924
Receivable for Fund Shares Purchased	191,934
Total Assets	4,718,448,833
LIABILITIES	
Payable for Fund Shares Redeemed	4,170,793
Accrued Custodian and Transfer Agent Fees	123,246
Accrued Co-Administrator Fees	112,500
Accrued Investment Consultant Fees	83,424
Accrued Audit Fees	43,500
Other Liabilities	11,936
Total Liabilities	4,545,399
NET ASSETS	\$4,713,903,434
Participant Net Asset Value, Price Per Unit	\$ 1.00

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.



#### STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	Year ended June 30,	
	2010	2009
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Interest Income	\$11,613,513	\$101,063,694
EXPENSES		
Custodian and Transfer Agent Fees	1,776,126	2,315,217
Co-administrator Fees	1,350,000	1,350,000
Investment Consultant Fees	1,135,395	1,322,080
Management Fees	350,000	500,000
Bloomberg and Pricing Service Fees	149,400	114,220
Postage and Printing Fees	44,955	50,275
Audit Fees	43,500	41,750
S & P Analytical Fees	36,500	36,500
Telephone Response Fees	29,425	28,625
Total Expenses	4,915,301	5,758,667
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 6,698,212	\$ 95,305,027

#### STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Year ended June 30,	
	2010	2009
DECREASE IN NET ASSETS		
Operations		
Net Investment Income	\$ 6,698,212	\$ 95,305,027
Distributions to Shareholders from		
Net Investment Income	(6,698,212)	(95,305,027)
Capital Share Transactions Net (Decrease) — Note ${\bf E}$	(1,640,869,277)	(215,480,614)
(Decrease) in Net Assets	(1,640,869,277)	(215,480,614)
Net Assets		
Beginning of Year	6,354,772,711	6,570,253,325
End of Year	\$ 4,713,903,434	\$6,354,772,711

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.



#### NOTE A — SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Section 135.45 of the Ohio Revised Code permits the State's political subdivisions to pool their public funds into an investment fund managed by the Ohio Treasurer of State. The State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) provides units of local government with an investment option for their public funds.

STAR Ohio is a statewide investment pool managed by the Ohio Treasurer of State. Participation is offered to Ohio political subdivisions as defined in Section 135.45(F)(2)(a) of the Ohio Revised Code. STAR Ohio offers these subdivisions a means of investing in a portfolio of investment instruments. STAR Ohio seeks to obtain as high a level of current income as is consistent with prudent investment management, the preservation of capital, and maintenance of liquidity. There can be no guarantee that this will be achieved.

Ohio Treasurer of State, Kevin L. Boyce, through the Treasurer's Investment Department, 30 East Broad Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3461, serves as investment advisor and administrator to STAR Ohio. The advisor manages the investment and reinvestment of STAR Ohio's assets in accordance with STAR Ohio's investment objectives and policies, subject to the general limitations of Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code. In addition, the advisor is responsible for the overall management of STAR Ohio's business affairs. STAR Ohio compensates the advisor with a flat management fee of \$500,000 per year. On March 15, 2010, the Treasurer suspended their advisory fee for the remainder of STAR Ohio's Fiscal Year.

Carnegie Capital Partners LLC, Cleveland, Ohio is the co-administrator for STAR Ohio and provides certain clerical and administrative services for STAR Ohio. Compensation to the co-administrator is based on a flat fee of \$1,350,000 per year.

PNC, Pittsburgh, is the dividend and transfer agent for STAR Ohio and also serves as custodian of its portfolio. Compensation is based on a percentage of daily net assets. As of July 26, 2010, Huntington National Bank succeeded PNC as the dividend and transfer agent and custodian of STAR Ohio.

United American Capital Corporation, Worthington, Ohio is the investment consultant for STAR Ohio. Compensation is based on a percentage of daily net assets.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and disclosure of both contingent assets and liabilities as well as amounts of income and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Pursuant to the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 20. Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities that use Proprietary Fund Accounting, STAR Ohio follows GASB guidance as applicable to proprietary funds and Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins issued on or before November 30, 1989, that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

STAR Ohio is not registered with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) as an investment company, but maintains a policy to operate as a "2a-7 like pool" in a manner consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statement No. 31, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools." Subsequent to the SEC's issuance of a revised Rule 2a-7, as promulgated under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, on June 24, 2010, GASB issued Statement No. 59, "Financial Instruments Omnibus." Statement No. 59 provides guidance that a "2a-7-like pool," as described in Statement No. 31, is an external investment pool, that operates in conformity with SEC Rule 2a-7, as amended. Statement No. 59 is effective for financial statements for periods beginning after June 15, 2010. STAR Ohio is presently evaluating the changes that would be required to its investment policy to continue to meet the definition of a "2a-7 like pool" and the resulting effects, if any, on its accounting policies and disclosures.

#### NOTE B — INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Investment securities other than money market funds are valued according to the amortized cost method (which approximates fair value) whereby a security is valued at cost adjusted for the amortization of any premiums or accretion of any discounts over the period until maturity. Investments in money market funds are valued at quoted market values.

Security transactions are accounted for on the trade date (day the order to buy or sell is executed). Interest income is determined on an accrual basis with earned discounts (including original issue and market discount) accreted and paid premiums amortized. Any realized gains or losses on sales of securities are calculated on the identified cost basis.

STAR Ohio is permitted to invest in commercial paper, but commercial paper holdings shall not exceed 25 percent of the average net assets which is defined as the 12 month rolling average of the total shares in the fund on the last day of the month. As of June 30, 2010, commercial paper holdings represented approximately 7 percent of the net assets.

All repurchase agreements are fully collateralized by United States Government or Federal Agency securities, pursuant to Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code, and such collateral is in the possession of STAR Ohio's custodian on a daily basis. STAR Ohio evaluates collateral daily to ensure its market value plus accrued interest exceeds the delivery value of the repurchase agreement at maturity. STAR Ohio does not enter into reverse repurchase (borrowing) agreements.

STAR Ohio maintains a stable net asset value per share by using the amortized cost method of portfolio valuation. STAR Ohio has established procedures to stabilize the net asset value per share, as computed for the purpose of purchase and redemption, at a single value of \$1.00. The mark-to-market of the portfolio is used to monitor the appropriateness of the amortized cost method and is calculated using available market quotations.

As of June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio had the following investments and maturities:

		Maturities (in Years)
Investment Type	<u>Value</u>	Less than 1
Commercial Paper	\$ 335,975,170	\$ 335,975,170
Federal Agency Issues	3,772,682,039	3,772,682,039
Money Market Funds	609,382,766	609,382,766
	\$4,718,039,975	\$4,718,039,975

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Interest Rate Risk. Through its investment policy, STAR Ohio manages its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates by limiting the final stated maturity on any investment to 397 days and limiting the weighted average maturity of the portfolio to 60 days. Federal Agency Issues include callable bonds which have maturity dates less than one year and callable dates ranging from July 1, 2010 through May 10, 2011.

Credit Risk. STAR Ohio's investment policy requires money market securities to be valued at AAAm or AAAm-G or better by Standard & Poor's Corporation, and all other securities held by STAR Ohio be rated the equivalent of A-1+ or A-1 and at least 50% of the Total Average Portfolio be rated A-1+ or better. As of June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio's investments in U.S. Agencies and the money market funds were rated AAA and AAAm, respectively, by Standard & Poor's and Aaa by Moody's Investor Services. Of the commercial paper, \$223,982,198 was rated A-1+/P-1 and the remaining \$111,992,972 was rated A-1/P-1.

Concentration of Credit Risk. STAR Ohio, through its investment policy, limits the amount invested in any single issuer to 2 percent of STAR Ohio's Total Average Portfolio, which is defined as the 12 month rolling average of the total shares in the fund on the last day of the month, with the following exceptions: U.S. Treasury Obligations (100 percent maximum), U.S. Agency Obligations (33 percent maximum), Repurchase Agreement Counterparties (10 percent or \$500 million, whichever is less), and Mutual Funds (10 percent maximum).

As of June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio had 5 percent or more of its Total Average Portfolio, in the following issuers:

Federal Home Loan Bank	24%
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	22%
Federal National Mortgage Association	19%
J.P. Morgan U.S. Government Fund	9%

Foreign Currency Risk. STAR Ohio does not have exposure to foreign exchange risk.

Custodial Credit Risk. STAR Ohio's investments are not exposed to custodial credit risk, as defined by GASB Statement No. 40. Securities in STAR Ohio are either insured, registered, held by STAR Ohio, or held in a specific trust account designated for STAR Ohio.

#### NOTE C — SECURITIES LENDING

Pursuant to Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Pool may lend up to 25 percent of its securities to any eligible financial institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System or any recognized United States government securities dealer.

The Pool follows strict levels of collateralization governed by daily mark-to-market analysis, a review of the credit worthiness of securities dealers and banks, and strict monitoring of their respective credit limits. This is done to control exposure due to possible credit loss resulting from a reduction in the underlying collateral value or non-performance by a security dealer or bank. Either the Pool or the borrower can terminate all security loans on demand.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio did not participate in security lending transactions.

#### NOTE D — INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS

Each business day STAR Ohio declares a distribution of its net investment income and realized capital gains, if any. All such distributions are automatically reinvested in additional shares.

#### **NOTE E — CAPITAL SHARES**

Transactions in capital shares (all at \$1.00 per share) were as follows:

	Year ended June 30,	
	2010	2009
Shares Sold	15,866,246,455 6,698,212	23,025,781,159 95,305,027
onares issued for receivestancia of Distributions	15,872,944,667	23,121,086,186
Shares Redeemed	(17,513,813,944)	(23,336,566,800)
Capital Shares Transactions Net (Decrease)	(1,640,869,277)	(215,480,614)

#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

The Honorable Mary Taylor Ohio Auditor of State

The Honorable Kevin L. Boyce Ohio Treasurer of State

We have audited the statement of assets and liabilities, including the schedule of investments, of the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio ("STAR Ohio") as of June 30, 2010, and the related statements of operations and changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of STAR Ohio's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of STAR Ohio as of June 30, 2010, and the results of its operations and changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 31, 2010, on our consideration of STAR Ohio's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on Page 2 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Cohen & Company, Ltd.

Colien & Company

Cleveland, Ohio August 31, 2010



#### **APPENDIX**

#### STANDARD & POOR'S RATING OF STAR OHIO

Standard & Poor's has assigned an AAAm money market rating, its highest rating, to STAR Ohio. By obtaining a triple-A rating, STAR Ohio is considered to have a superior capacity to maintain principal (\$1.00 per share value) and limit exposure to loss. The rating is based on an analysis of STAR Ohio's management, investment guidelines, portfolio holdings and market price exposure.

#### SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES & ALL PERMITTED & ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS

The investment objective of STAR Ohio is to seek as high a level of current income as is consistent with prudent investment management, the preservation of capital and maintenance of liquidity. STAR Ohio seeks to achieve this objective by investing only in certain high-grade short-term investment instruments, which are authorized for investment by the State of Ohio as specified in Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code. Instruments in which STAR Ohio may invest include:

- (1) United States Treasury bills, notes, bonds, or any other obligations or securities issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- (2) Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality;
- (3)(a) Written repurchase agreements with any eligible Ohio financial institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System or Federal Home Loan Bank or any recognized United States government securities dealer, under the terms of which agreement the Treasurer of State purchases and the eligible financial institution or dealer agrees unconditionally to repurchase any of the securities that are listed in items (1) or (2) above and that will mature or are redeemable within ten years from the date of purchase. The market value of securities subject to these transactions must exceed the principal value of the repurchase agreement by an amount specified by the Treasurer of State, and the securities must be delivered into the custody of the Treasurer of State or the qualified trustee or agent designated by the Treasurer of State. The agreement shall contain the requirement that for each transaction pursuant to the agreement, the participating institution or dealer shall provide all of the following information:
  - (i) The par value of the securities;
  - (ii) The type, rate, and maturity date of the securities;
  - (iii) A numerical identifier generally accepted in the securities industry that designates the securities.
- (b) STAR Ohio does not invest in reverse repurchase agreements, which are securities sold to a broker-dealer under the provision that they will be bought back at a predetermined date for a specified price.
- (4) The Ohio Treasurer of State also may sell any securities, listed in items (1) or (2) above, regardless of maturity or time of redemption of the securities, under the same terms and conditions for repurchase, provided that the securities have been fully paid for and are held in trust by the Ohio Treasurer of State at the time of the sale.
- (5) Securities lending agreements with any eligible financial institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System or Federal Home Loan Bank or any recognized United States government securities dealer, under the terms of which agreement the Ohio Treasurer of State lends securities and the eligible financial institution or dealer agrees to simultaneously exchange similar securities or cash, equal value for equal value;
- (6) Various forms of commercial paper, maturing in 180 days or less, issued by any corporation that is incorporated under the laws of the United States or a state, which such notes are rated in the two highest categories by two nationally recognized rating agencies, provided that the total amount invested in commercial paper at any time shall not exceed 25 percent of the average net assets which is defined as the 12 month rolling average of the total shares in the fund on the last day of the month;
- (7) Banker's acceptances, maturing in 270 days or less, which are eligible for purchase by the Federal Reserve System, provided that the total amount invested in banker's acceptances at any time shall not exceed 10 percent of the total average net assets, as determined and calculated by the Ohio Treasurer of State;
- (8) Certificates of deposit in eligible institutions applying for interim monies as provided in Section 135.08 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (9) No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in (1) or (2) of this section and commercial paper and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations.



## **STAR**Ohio

State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio

Investment Advisor and Administrator Kevin L. Boyce Ohio Treasurer of State

Co-Administrator Carnegie Capital Partners LLC Cleveland, OH

Custodian and Transfer Agent Huntington National Bank Columbus, OH

Co-Investment Advisor United American Capital Corporation Worthington, OH For more information, current yields or assistance in opening a STAR account call toll free: 1-800-648-7827 (STAR).

Additional information regarding STAR Ohio and other Treasurer of State Programs may be accessed through www.ohiotreasurer.gov

The Office of the State Treasurer, Carnegie Capital Partners LLC, Huntington National Bank, and United American Capital Corporation are Equal Opportunity Employers and Service Providers.





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The Honorable Mary Taylor Ohio Auditor of State

The Honorable Kevin L. Boyce Ohio Treasurer of State

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on
Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements
Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of assets and liabilities, including the schedule of investments, of the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio ("STAR Ohio") as of June 30, 2010, and the related statements of operations and changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and have issued our report thereon dated August 31, 2010. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered STAR Ohio's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of STAR Ohio's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of STAR Ohio's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.





#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether STAR Ohio's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported herein under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, Ohio Auditor of State, and Ohio Treasurer of State and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Cohen of Company

Cleveland, Ohio August 31, 2010

## STATE TREASURY ASSET RESERVE OF OHIO INVESTMENT TRUST FUND

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

JUNE 30, 2010





## STATE TREASURY ASSET RESERVE OF OHIO INVESTMENT TRUST FUND

JUNE 30, 2010

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Cohen & Company

Certified Public Accountants

**www.cohencpa.com** 800.229.1099

Akron Cleveland Columbus Westlake Youngstown

THE HONORABLE MARY TAYLOR OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE

THE HONORABLE KEVIN L. BOYCE OHIO TREASURER OF STATE

#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

We have audited the statement of assets and liabilities of the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio Investment Trust Fund ("Trust Fund") as of June 30, 2010, and the related statements of operations and changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio Investment Trust Fund and are not intended to present fairly the financial position of the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio, or the results of its operations and changes in its net assets in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust Fund as of June 30, 2010, and the results of its operations and changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on Page 4 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Ohio Treasurer of State, the Ohio Auditor of State, and the Ohio Office of Budget and Management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specific parties.

Cohen of Company

September 29, 2010 Cleveland, Ohio





### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)

#### BACKGROUND

- The State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio ("STAR Ohio") is a statewide investment pool managed and administered by the Ohio Treasurer of State (the "Treasurer"). Participation is offered to Ohio political subdivisions as a means to invest in a portfolio of short-term investment securities and registered investment companies. The investment objective of STAR Ohio is to seek a high level of current income as is consistent with prudent investment management, the preservation of capital and the maintenance of liquidity. STAR Ohio seeks to achieve this objective by investing only in high-grade investment instruments and money market funds. STAR Ohio is similar in concept to a registered investment company using redeemable securities, commonly called a "money market mutual fund."
- The Ohio Treasurer of State is committed to maintaining STAR Ohio as a top-rated investment option for all government subdivisions of Ohio. As such, the additional level of safety in the fund is attributed to the constant monitoring of credit ratings for issuers of investments held by STAR Ohio as well as a modification to the custodial arrangement in which the fund's assets are now held in a specific trust account at the Depositor Trust Clearing Corporation designated for STAR Ohio. Both measures ensure that the underlying assets of STAR Ohio are highly rated, secure and readily available to the fund.
- The External portion of STAR Ohio, the *State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio Investment Trust Fund* ("Trust Fund"), is the portion that belongs to legally separate entities that are not part of the State of Ohio's financial reporting entity. STAR Ohio does not have separate investments or activities for the external portion of STAR Ohio. As a result, the financial condition and results of operations of the Trust Fund have been prepared by prorating the assets and liabilities related to the external portion. Additionally, the statements of operations and changes in net assets are prepared by prorating investment income and expenses related to the external portion using average daily balances. Our discussion and analysis below is based upon currently known facts and conditions that we judge to have had a material effect on the Trust Fund's financial condition and results of operations.

#### **OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

STAR Ohio's net assets decreased by approximately \$1.6 billion or by approximately 26 percent during Fiscal Year 2010. This decline is due in part to general economic conditions of the STAR Ohio shareholders and the return STAR Ohio is able to generate in the current market while maintaining the objective of safety and liquidity. STAR Ohio continued to maintain its AAAm rating from Standard & Poor's, the highest rating possible for a Local Government Investment Pool.

#### **OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS**

STAR Ohio has continued to seek safety and liquidity for the STAR Ohio shareholders. We have achieved this by investing in high-grade government agency issuers, government money market funds, and in highly rated commercial paper. The Treasurer suspended its management fees on March 15, 2010 for the remainder of the 2010 Fiscal Year to increase yield for shareholders. This resulted in a .01% increase in yield. The Federal Funds target rate remained at 0%-.25% during STAR Ohio's entire fiscal year. During a time of minimal returns on investment portfolios, STAR Ohio was able to achieve a .12% total return for fiscal year 2010.

#### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

JUNE 30, 2010

#### **ASSETS**

Investments Federal Agency Issues Commercial Paper Money Market Funds Total Investments	\$2,414,071,160 214,984,449 <u>389,933,036</u> 3,018,988,645
Interest Receivable Receivable for Fund Shares Purchased	138,806 <u>122,815</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	3,019,250,266
LIABILITIES	
Payable for Fund Shares Redeemed Accrued Custodian and Transfer Agent Fees Accrued Co-Administrator Fees Accrued Investment Consultant Fees Accrued Audit Fees Other Liabilities	2,668,815 78,862 71,987 53,382 27,835 7,638
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,908,519
NET ASSETS	<u>\$3,016,341,747</u>
Participant Net Asset Value, Price Per Unit	<u>\$ 1.00</u>
Outstanding Shares	3,016,341,747

## STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2010 AND 2009

	2010	2009
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	3	
Investment Income Interest Income	\$ 8,278,022	\$ 76,927,18 <u>5</u>
Expenses Custodian and Transfer Agent Fees Co-Administrator Fees Investment Consultant Fees Management Fees Bloomberg and Pricing Service Fees Postage and Printing Fees Audit Fees S&P Analytical Fees Telephone Response Fees	1,257,938 951,288 802,509 252,316 105,335 31,695 30,656 25,722 20,712	1,737,933 1,012,546 992,083 375,017 85,373 37,684 31,314 27,376 21,556
Total Expenses	3,478,171	4,320,882
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	<u>\$ 4,799,851</u>	<u>\$ 72,606,303</u>
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET A	SSETS	
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS		
OPERATIONS – Net Investment Income	\$ 4,799,851	\$ 72,606,303
DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS - From Net Investment Income	(4,799,851)	(72,606,303)
CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS – NET	(1,661,208,108)	(280,498,338)
Decrease in Net Assets	(1,661,208,108)	(280,498,338)
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of Year	4,677,549,855	4,958,048,193
End of Year	\$3,016,341,747	<u>\$4,677,549,855</u>

#### 1. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION

#### **Description of Fund**

The State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio ("STAR Ohio" or "Pool") is a statewide investment pool managed by the Ohio Treasurer of State (the "Treasurer"). Participation is offered to Ohio political subdivisions as defined in Section 135.45(F)(2)(a) of the Ohio Revised Code. STAR Ohio offers these subdivisions a means of investing in a portfolio of investment instruments. STAR Ohio seeks to obtain as high a level of current income as is consistent with prudent investment management, the preservation of capital, and maintenance of liquidity. There can be no guarantee that this will be achieved.

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statement No. 31, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools," the State of Ohio ("State") reports the external portion of STAR Ohio as a separate investment trust fund. The external portion of STAR Ohio, the *State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio Investment Trust Fund* ("Trust Fund"), is the portion that belongs to legally separate entities that are not part of the State's financial reporting entity. The STAR Ohio investment pool does not have separate investments or activities for the external portion. The statement of assets and liabilities of the Trust Fund has been prepared by prorating the assets and liabilities related to the external portion. Additionally, the statements of operations and changes in net assets of the Trust Fund were prepared by prorating investment income and expenses related to the external portion using average daily balances.

#### Legal Authority

Section 135.45 of the Ohio Revised Code permits the State's political subdivisions to pool their public funds into an investment fund managed by the Treasurer and the Treasurer's staff of portfolio managers. STAR Ohio provides units of local government with an alternative investment option for their public funds.

STAR Ohio is not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as an investment company, but maintains a policy to operate as a "2a-7 like pool" in a manner consistent with GASB Statement No. 31. Subsequent to the SEC's issuance of a revised Rule 2a-7, as promulgated under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, on June 24, 2010, GASB issued Statement No. 59, "Financial Instruments Omnibus." Statement No. 59 provides guidance that a "2a-7-like pool" as described in Statement No. 31, is an external investment pool, that operates in conformity with SEC Rule 2a-7, as amended. Statement No. 59 is effective for financial statements for periods beginning after June 15, 2010. STAR Ohio is presently evaluating the changes that would be required to its investment policy to continue to meet the definition of a "2a-7 like pool" and the resulting effects, if any, on its accounting policies and disclosures.

#### 1. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATION (Continued)

#### Investment Advisor and Administrator

Ohio Treasurer of State, Kevin L. Boyce, through the Treasurer's Investment Department, 30 East Broad Street, Ninth Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3461, serves as investment advisor and administrator to STAR Ohio. The advisor manages the investment and reinvestment of STAR Ohio's assets in accordance with STAR Ohio's investment objectives and policies, subject to the general limitations of Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code. In addition, the advisor is responsible for the overall management of STAR Ohio's business affairs. STAR Ohio compensates the advisor with a flat management fee of \$500,000 per year. On March 15, 2010, the Treasurer suspended their advisory fee for the remainder of STAR Ohio's Fiscal Year.

#### Co-Administrator

Carnegie Capital Partners LLC, Cleveland, Ohio, is the co-administrator for STAR Ohio and provides certain clerical and administrative services for STAR Ohio. Compensation to the co-administrator is based on a flat fee of \$1,350,000 per year.

#### Custodian, Transfer Agent and Investment Consultant

PNC, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is the dividend and transfer agent for STAR Ohio and also serves as custodian of its portfolio. Compensation is based on a percentage of daily net assets. As of July 26, 2010, Huntington National Bank succeeded PNC as the dividend and transfer agent and custodian of STAR Ohio.

United American Capital Corporation, Worthington, Ohio is the investment consultant for STAR Ohio. Compensation is based on a percentage of daily net assets.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Pursuant to GASB Statement No. 20, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Proprietary Funds and Other Governmental Entities that use Proprietary Fund Accounting," the Trust Fund follows GASB guidance as applicable to proprietary funds and Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins issued on or before November 30, 1989 that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

#### Security Valuations

Investment securities other than money market funds are valued according to the amortized cost method (which approximates fair value) whereby a security is valued at cost adjusted for the amortization of any premiums or accretion of any discounts over the period until maturity. Investments in money market funds are valued at quoted market values.

#### Security Transactions and Related Investment Income

Security transactions are accounted for on the trade date (day the order to buy or sell is executed). Interest income is determined on an accrual basis with earned discounts (including original issue and market discount) accreted and paid premiums amortized. Any realized gains and losses on sales of securities are calculated on the identified cost basis.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### Mark-to-Market Procedures

The Pool maintains a stable net asset value per share by using the amortized cost method of portfolio valuation. The Pool has established procedures to stabilize the net asset value per share, as computed for the purpose of purchase and redemption, at a single value of \$1.00. The mark-to-market of the portfolio is used to monitor the appropriateness of the amortized cost method and is calculated using available market quotations.

#### Federal Income Taxes

STAR Ohio is not subject to income taxes.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and disclosure of both contingent assets and liabilities as well as amounts of income and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 3. INVESTMENT SECURITIES

#### Repurchase Agreements and Commercial Paper

STAR Ohio is permitted to invest in commercial paper, but the investment shall not exceed 25 percent of the average net assets which is defined as the 12 month rolling average of the total shares in the fund on the last day of the month. As of June 30, 2010, commercial paper holdings represented approximately 7 percent of the net assets.

All repurchase agreements are fully collateralized by United States Government or Federal Agency securities, pursuant to Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code, and such collateral is in the possession of STAR Ohio's custodian on a daily basis. STAR Ohio evaluates collateral daily to ensure its market value plus accrued interest exceeds the delivery value of the repurchase agreements at maturity. STAR Ohio does not enter into reverse repurchase (borrowing) agreements.

As of June 30, 2010, the Trust Fund had the following share of the Pool's investments and maturities:

Investment Type		Value	Inve	estment Maturities (in Years) Less Than 1
Federal Agency Issues Commercial Paper Money Market Funds	\$	2,414,071,160 214,984,449 389,933,036	\$	2,414,071,160 214,984,449 389,933,036
Total	<u>\$</u>	3,018,988,645	<u>\$</u>	3,018,988,645

#### 3. INVESTMENT SECURITIES (Continued)

#### Interest Rate Risk

Through its investment policy, STAR Ohio manages its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates by limiting the final stated maturity on any investment to 397 days and limiting the weighted average maturity of the portfolio to 60 days. Federal Agency Issues include callable bonds which have maturity dates less than one year and callable dates ranging from July 1, 2010 through May 10, 2011.

#### Credit Risk

STAR Ohio's Investment Policy requires money market securities to be valued at AAAm or AAAm-G or better by Standard & Poor's Corporation, and all other securities held by STAR Ohio be rated the equivalent of A-1+ or A-1 and at least 50% of the Total Average Portfolio be rated A-1+ or better. As of June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio's investments in U.S. Agencies and the money market funds were rated AAA and AAAm, respectively, by Standard & Poor's and Aaa by Moody's Investor Services. Of the commercial paper, 67% was rated A-1+/P-1 and the remaining 33% was rated A-1/P-1.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

STAR Ohio, through its investment policy, limits the amount invested in any single issuer to 2 percent of STAR Ohio's Total Average Portfolio, which is defined as the 12 month rolling average of the total shares in the fund on the last day of the month, with the following exceptions: U.S. Treasury Obligations (100% maximum), U.S. Agencies Obligations (33% maximum), Repurchase Agreement Counterparties (10% or \$500 million, whichever is less), and Mutual Funds (10% maximum). As of June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio had 5% or more of its Total Average Portfolio in the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Federal National Mortgage Association, and J.P. Morgan U.S. Government Fund. These investments are 24, 22, 19, and 9 percent, respectively, of the Pool's Total Average Portfolio.

#### Foreign Currency Risk

STAR Ohio does not have exposure to foreign exchange risk.

#### Custodial Credit Risk

STAR Ohio's investments are not exposed to custodial credit risk, as defined by GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures." Securities in STAR Ohio are either insured, registered, held by STAR Ohio, or held in a specific trust account designated for STAR Ohio.

#### 4. SECURITIES LENDING

Pursuant to Section 135.143 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Pool may lend up to 25 percent of its securities to any eligible financial institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System or any recognized United States government securities dealer.

#### 4. SECURITIES LENDING (Continued)

The Pool follows strict levels of collateralization governed by daily mark-to-market analysis, a review of the credit worthiness of securities dealers and banks, and strict monitoring of their respective credit limits. This is done to control exposure due to possible credit loss resulting from a reduction in the underlying collateral value or non-performance by a security dealer or bank. Either the Pool or the borrower can terminate all security loans on demand.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, STAR Ohio did not participate in securities lending transactions.

#### 5. INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS

Each business day, STAR Ohio declares a distribution of its net investment income and realized capital gains, if any. All such distributions are automatically reinvested in additional shares.

#### 6. CAPITAL SHARES

Transactions in capital shares of the Trust Fund (all at \$1.00 per share) were as follows:

	Years Ended June 30		
	2010	2009	
Shares Sold Shares Issued for Reinvestment	12,957,951,082	18,288,051,523	
of Distribution	4,799,851	72,606,303	
	12,962,750,933	18,360,657,826	
Shares Redeemed	<u>(14,623,959,041</u> )	<u>(18,641,156,164</u> )	
Capital Share Transactions - Net Change	(1,661,208,108)	(280,498,338)	





# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

#### **STAR OHIO**

#### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

#### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED DECEMBER 28, 2010