

## Mandel hits hot topics with leaders

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Ohio leaders must be doing things right as the state of Ohio's economy is growing and expanding, the state's treasurer says.

Ohio State Treasurer Josh Mandel pointed to lower taxes and job growth, as well as an \$8 billion deficit now turned into a budget surplus. Mandel himself has created more transparency by posting state expenditures online so Ohio residents know where their tax dollars are being spent.

"We have created jobs because we've changed how state government works," Mandel said during a visit Friday to the Wigwam in downtown Wapakoneta to speak to local business owners.

During his hour-long discussion, he talked to business owners about issues that affect the community and provided updates on government programs.

Auglaize County Treasurer April Bowersock said she was most interested in hearing the issues and concerns brought up by local business owners and how Mandel would respond.

Bowersock said her biggest concern was what could be done to keep Ohio a strong economic state.

"I really think it is



State Treasurer Josh Mandel, at right, talks with GA Wintzer & Son President Gus Wintzer and state Sen. Keith Faber.

keeping people living and working in Ohio," Bowersock said. "I want to know what we are doing to make Ohio great."

Bowersock said she would like for there to be more discussions like this available to locals.

"I enjoy the opportunity to listen to business leaders," Bowersock said. "I would like to see more local businesses, government and municipalities conduct more forums to share and compare."

Bowersock said a lot of local businesses are flourishing, and she liked the idea of these discussions encouraging more businesses to learn from each other.

American Trim Vice President Clifford Falls said he came to the discussion with an open mind.

"I came out of a curiosity to hear the opinions of the state government," Falls said.