

info@oesca.org • **December 18, 2017**

This December 18, 2017, Legislative e-Update is provided by OESCA to Ohio's ESCs, their client school districts, and other key education stakeholders. The e-Update provides information on breaking news as well as the education bills of interest to Ohio's public education community introduced during the 132nd General Assembly. Bills are organized by bill number and include the full status updates with most recent activity listed first in descending order. There are also links to the state bill page for users to download any bills, analyses or fiscal notes. The document concludes with the latest news from Capitol Square.

Breaking News

BAC Standards Released

The Ohio Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation have released standards and guidelines for the operation of Business Advisory Councils as mandated in the HB 49, the FY 2018-2019 state operating budget. The standards can be found online at:

<https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Operating-Standards/Business-Advisory-Council-Operating-Standards.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>

Congress Set to Approve Tax Reform Package: Impact on K-12

Congressional Republicans have published the tax reform bill that emerged from the House/Senate conference committee. You can read the bill text [here](#), and find the joint explanatory statement [here](#), which goes through each provision describing current law, the House and Senate provisions, and what is in the conference agreement. The bill is expected to be voted on Tuesday, December 19. According to EdWeek, The final bill maintains the current \$250 deduction teachers and principals can take for spending their own money on buying supplies for their classrooms (see page 106 of the explanatory statement). The legislation previously passed by the House would have eliminated the deduction entirely, while the Senate bill would have doubled it to \$500. The bill also allows current 529 college savings plans to be used for up to \$10,000 in annual K-12 expenses, including private school tuition (see page 63 of the explanatory statement). The final legislation also allows taxpayers to deduct up to \$10,000 in either a combination of property and income taxes, or property and sales taxes (see page 81 of the bill's joint explanatory statement at the link above). Both the bills previously passed by the House and Senate would have allowed people to deduct up to \$10,000 in property taxes, but not income or sales taxes. You can read the full story at the following link: <http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2017/12/gop-tax-bill-teacher-deduction-deductions-state-local-deductions.htm?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news2&M=58314097&U=1709604>.

Legislative Tracking Report

BILL MONITORING

The following education bill of interest are monitored by OESCA on behalf of the membership and client districts:

- HB21** **COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION** (HAMBLEY S) Regarding verification of community school enrollments.
- Current Status:** 12/13/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 94-0
- All Bill Status:** 12/13/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration
11/28/2017 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fifth Hearing)
11/14/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing)
9/12/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
6/20/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
2/14/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
2/8/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
2/1/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-21>
- HB37** **SCHOOL SAFETY-STRUCTURES** (ARNDT S) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security.
- Current Status:** 5/23/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
- All Bill Status:** 2/14/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
2/8/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
2/7/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-37>
- HB47** **STUDENTS IN MILITARY** (BOCCIERI J) To enact the "Students to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges.
- Current Status:** 5/9/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
- All Bill Status:** 3/7/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
2/14/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
2/8/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, Military Affairs
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-47>

HB53 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (BECKER J) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.

Current Status: 2/14/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance

All Bill Status: 2/13/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Budget and Appropriations, Labor, Public Employees, State Government

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-53>

HB58 CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION (BRENNER A, SLABY M) To require instruction in cursive handwriting.

Current Status: 6/21/2017 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Fourth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 6/7/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Fourth Hearing)

5/3/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Third Hearing)

3/29/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing)

3/1/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)

2/21/2017 - Referred to Committee House Higher Education and Workforce Development

2/13/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-58>

HB80 SCHOOL FOOD-SUMMER INTERVENTION (LATOURETTE S, SMITH K) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions.

Current Status: 4/5/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform

All Bill Status: 3/15/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 90-4

3/15/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration

3/14/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)

3/7/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

2/28/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness

2/22/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, Health Care

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-80>

HB87

COMMUNITY SCHOOL PUBLIC MONEYS (ROEGNER K) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school.

Current Status: 11/29/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Fifth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 11/15/2017 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Fourth Hearing)
 11/1/2017 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Third Hearing)
 5/17/2017 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Second Hearing)
 3/29/2017 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (First Hearing)
 2/28/2017 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight
 2/22/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, State Government

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-87>

HB102

SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM (BRENNER A) To replace locally levied school district property taxes with a statewide property tax and require recipients of certain tax exemptions to reimburse the state for such levy revenue lost due to those exemptions; to increase the state sales and use tax rates and allocate additional revenue to state education purposes; to repeal school district income taxes; to require the Treasurer of State to issue general obligation bonds to refund certain school district debt obligations; to create a new system of funding schools where the state pays a specified amount per student that each student may use to attend the public or chartered nonpublic school of the student's choice, without the requirement of a local contribution; to eliminate the School Facilities Commission; to eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program, Pilot Project Scholarship Program, Autism Scholarship Program, and Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program; to eliminate interdistrict open enrollment; to require educational service centers to transport students on a countywide basis; and to permit school districts to enter into a memoranda of understanding for one district to manage another.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)

All Bill Status: 6/20/2017 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
 3/7/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance
 3/1/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, Taxation, Transportation & Infrastructure

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-102>

HB129

SCHOOL EXTERNSHIPS-GOVERNOR (SMITH K, KELLY B) To require the Governor to complete a forty-hour externship consisting of on-site work experience in city, local, and exempted village school districts in the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years.

Current Status: 3/28/2017 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 3/21/2017 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
 3/14/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Administration - Governor, Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-129>

HB134 SCHOOL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (HAMBLEY S, KICK D) To allow community improvements board grants to a school district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district.

Current Status: 5/16/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 5/9/2017 - House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing)

4/25/2017 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)

3/29/2017 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government

3/21/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, Local Government

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-134>

HB166 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM REVISIONS (REINEKE W, CUPP B) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week.

Current Status: 10/11/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Sixth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 9/20/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Fifth Hearing)

9/13/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Fourth Hearing)

6/21/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Third Hearing)

6/7/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing)

5/17/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)

5/1/2017 - Referred to Committee House Higher Education and Workforce Development

3/28/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Economic & Workforce Development, Education, Jobs, Mental Health & Disabilities

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-166>

HB170 COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION (CARFAGNA R, DUFFEY M) With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; to create a competitive technology grant program for the 2018-2019 school year; and to make an appropriation.

Current Status: 12/15/2017 - Sent to Governor for Signature

All Bill Status: 12/13/2017 - Consideration of Senate Amendments; House Does Concur, Vote 85-8

12/13/2017 - Consideration of Senate Amendments

12/5/2017 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 31-0

12/5/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration

11/8/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, Senate Education, (Fifth Hearing)

10/18/2017 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)

10/11/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

9/27/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
9/20/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
6/28/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
6/21/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 83-12
6/21/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration
6/6/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House
Education and Career Readiness, (Fifth Hearing)
5/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth
Hearing)
5/23/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House
Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
5/16/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness,
(Second Hearing)
5/9/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First
Hearing)
5/1/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and
Career Readiness
3/29/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, Science & Technology

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-170>

HB176

SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS (THOMPSON A) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations.

Current Status: 12/5/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 10/24/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
5/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
5/16/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
5/1/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
4/5/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-176>

HB181

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT STANDARDS (HOOD R, BRINKMAN T) With regard to the state academic content standards and primary and secondary education assessments.

Current Status: 6/20/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 6/13/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
5/23/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
5/1/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
4/10/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-181>

HB200

OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (KOEHLER K) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program.

Current Status: 11/28/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Eighth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 11/14/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Seventh Hearing)
 10/10/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Sixth Hearing)
 6/20/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fifth Hearing)
 6/13/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing)
 6/6/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
 5/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
 5/16/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
 5/9/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
 5/2/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-200>

HB203

YOUTH SUMMER JOBS INITIATIVE (BARNES, JR. J) To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth.

Current Status: 9/20/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing)

All Bill Status: 5/31/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)
 5/16/2017 - Referred to Committee House Higher Education and Workforce Development
 5/9/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Economic & Workforce Development, Jobs

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-203>

HB220

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDS (LELAND D) With regard to the use of funds by community schools and nonpublic schools.

Current Status: 6/20/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 5/23/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
 5/16/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-220>

HB224

RE-SERVING SCHOOL LUNCH ITEMS (INGRAM C) To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging.

Current Status: 10/24/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 5/23/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
5/16/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Children and Family Issues, Education, Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-224>

HB235

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT PROCEDURE (GAVARONE T) Regarding procedures for approval or disapproval of the state education plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

Current Status: 9/27/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
All Bill Status: 9/20/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 85-9
9/20/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration
6/20/2017 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
6/13/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
6/6/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
5/23/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-235>

HB242

SCHOOL RETIREMENT-COST OF LIVING (CARFAGNA R) Regarding School Employees Retirement System annual cost-of-living adjustments.

Current Status: 6/20/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Aging and Long Term Care, (Third Hearing)
All Bill Status: 6/14/2017 - House Aging and Long Term Care, (Second Hearing)
6/7/2017 - House Aging and Long Term Care, (Second Hearing)
6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Aging and Long Term Care
5/24/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Pension & Retirement System
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-242>

HB246

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY CLASSROOMS (BOCCIERI J, REZABEK J) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide funding to certain county boards of developmental disabilities to assist in the acquisition of classroom facilities.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 9/12/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
5/24/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Mental Health & Disabilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-246>

- HB262 INDEPENDENT BUDGET PROCESS** (BUTLER, JR. J, ROMANCHUK M) To provide for the preparation of a state biennial budget independent of that submitted by the Governor and to authorize the Legislative Service Commission, upon the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate, to arrange for an independent actuarial review of a proposed bill, specified analyses of economic policy initiatives and state benchmarking data, and a study of the state's long-range financial outlook.
- Current Status:** 6/20/2017 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight
- All Bill Status:** 6/8/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Budget and Appropriations, General Assembly
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-262>
- HB318 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINITION** (PATTERSON J, LATOURETTE S) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers.
- Current Status:** 10/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
- All Bill Status:** 10/10/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
9/12/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
8/9/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-318>
- HB320 LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK COUNCIL** (HAGAN C, ROEGNER K) To create the Long-range Financial Outlook Council for the purpose of informing the public and the General Assembly about the financial status of the state by studying financial and other conditions and issuing an annual long-range financial outlook report.
- Current Status:** 11/28/2017 - House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development, (Second Hearing)
- All Bill Status:** 9/19/2017 - House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development, (First Hearing)
9/12/2017 - Referred to Committee House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development
8/15/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Budget and Appropriations, Economy, General Assembly, State Government
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-320>
- HB322 SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANS** (MILLER A, KENT B) To revise the law regarding emergency management plans and school safety drills; to require each educational service center to employ an emergency response planner; to make an appropriation; and to declare an emergency.
- Current Status:** 9/12/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance
- All Bill Status:** 8/15/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education, Public Safety
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-322>
- HB338 BUS DRIVER MEDICAL EXAMS** (GINTER T) Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers.

Current Status: 12/13/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 93-0
All Bill Status: 12/13/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration
12/5/2017 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing)
11/14/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
10/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
10/10/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
9/19/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
9/11/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Health Care, Transportation & Infrastructure
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-338>

HB355 **SEXTING UNDER 21** (HILL B, REZABEK J) To generally prohibit sexting by a person under 21 years of age.

Current Status: 10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
All Bill Status: 9/21/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Crime & Punishment
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-355>

HB360 **ANTI-BULLYING AND HAZING** (GREENSPAN D) To enact the "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at public schools and public colleges.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
All Bill Status: 10/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
10/24/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
9/26/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Higher Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-360>

HB363 **CAMPUS FREE SPEECH** (GOODMAN W, BRENNER A) To enact the "Campus Free Speech Act" with respect to the freedom of speech and assembly at state institutions of higher education and the charging and allocation of student activity fees.

Current Status: 10/25/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)
All Bill Status: 10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Higher Education and Workforce Development
9/26/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Civil and Human Rights, Higher Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-363>

HB369 **PER PUPIL FUNDING GUARANTEE** (SWEENEY M) To prescribe a per pupil funding guarantee for certain school districts and to make an appropriation.

Current Status: 10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance
All Bill Status: 10/2/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-369>

HB377 **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE EDUCATION** (HAGAN C, RAMOS D) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 11/14/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
10/17/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
10/10/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Crime & Punishment, Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-377>

HB378 **OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT** (SMITH R, CERA J) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 11/28/2017 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
10/17/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance
10/10/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Energy & Utilities, Local Government, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-378>

HB383 **CHILD CARE HEALTH & SAFETY RISKS** (CARFAGNA R) Regarding parental notice of serious risks to the health or safety of children receiving child care.

Current Status: 12/13/2017 - House Community and Family Advancement, (Third Hearing)
All Bill Status: 12/6/2017 - House Community and Family Advancement, (Second Hearing)
11/1/2017 - House Community and Family Advancement, (First Hearing)
10/17/2017 - Referred to Committee House Community and Family Advancement
10/11/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Children and Family Issues, Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-383>

HB418 **SCHOOL RECORDS TRANSFER** (INGRAM C) To require a public or chartered nonpublic school to transmit a student's records within five business days when the student transfers to another school.

Current Status: 11/28/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
All Bill Status: 11/21/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-418>

- HB426 SCHOOL SEXUAL CONDUCT (HAGAN C)** To prohibit an employee of a school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with certain students.
Current Status: 12/5/2017 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)
All Bill Status: 11/28/2017 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
11/21/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Crime & Punishment, Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-426>
- HB438 ESC ANNEXATION (HAMBLEY S, KICK D)** To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards and to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions.
Current Status: 12/7/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-438>
- HB442 SCHOOL ATHLETICS-F1 VISA (ANTANI N)** To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents.
Current Status: 12/7/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Arts, Sports & Entertainment
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-442>
- HB443 MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION (SWEENEY M)** To require school district boards of education to incorporate mental health instruction into their health education curricula.
Current Status: 12/12/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Mental Health & Disabilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-443>
- HB449 CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR RATINGS-UNIVERSITIES (ROGERS J, PATTERSON J)** To require the Department of Education to attribute any community school sponsor ratings an entity received during its relationship with a state university board of trustees to that entity even if it no longer has a relationship with the university.
Current Status: 12/12/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Higher Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-449>
- HCR11 ESSA IMPLEMENTATION (GAVARONE T)** To approve Ohio's state education plan for implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.
Current Status: 6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
All Bill Status: 6/6/2017 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HCR-11>
- HJR3 SCHOOL DISTRICT OBLIGATIONS REFUND (BRENNER A)** To conditionally authorize the issuance of state obligations to refund pending school district obligations, to

conditionally waive, beginning in 2020, the requirement that schools levy property taxes to pay debt charges on their obligations, and to conditionally authorize a treasury fund that is restricted exclusively to educational purposes.

Current Status: 3/7/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance

All Bill Status: 3/1/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, Taxation

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HJR-3>

SB8

SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (GARDNER R, TERHAR L) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security.

Current Status: 12/14/2017 - Sent to Governor for Signature

All Bill Status: 11/29/2017 - Consideration of Conference Committee Report; House Accepts Conference Committee Report, Vote 88-4

11/29/2017 - Consideration of Conference Committee Report

11/15/2017 - Consideration of Conference Committee

Report; Senate Accepts Conference Committee Report, Vote 32-0

11/15/2017 - Consideration of Conference Committee Report

11/15/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, , (First Hearing)

10/2/2017 - House Appoints Managers; R. Smith, K. Schuring, J. Cera Named as House Conferees

9/26/2017 - Senate Appoints Managers; S. Oelslager, R. Gardner, S. Williams Named as Senate Conferees

9/20/2017 - The House insists on its amendments.

9/20/2017 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate Does Not Concur, Vote 0-32

9/20/2017 - Consideration of House Amendments

7/6/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Amended on Floor, Bill Vote 97-0

7/6/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration

6/20/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)

6/13/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)

6/6/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

5/23/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness

5/17/2017 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 33-0

5/17/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration

5/16/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)

4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

3/1/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)

2/15/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)

1/31/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-8>

- SB17** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND ALLOCATION** (TAVARES C) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the General Revenue Fund each month.
Current Status: 2/1/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
All Bill Status: 1/31/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Local Government, State Government, Taxation
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-17>
- SB34** **SCHOOL YEARS** (MANNING G) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day.
Current Status: 11/8/2017 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)
All Bill Status: 4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)
3/8/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
2/15/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
2/6/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-34>
- SB36** **AGRICULTURAL COMPUTATION** (HITE C) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type.
Current Status: 5/16/2017 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
All Bill Status: 5/10/2017 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 33-0
5/10/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration
5/10/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, Senate Ways and Means, (Sixth Hearing)
5/3/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Ways and Means, (Fifth Hearing)
3/8/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fourth Hearing)
3/1/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
2/22/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)
2/15/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
2/7/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Agriculture
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-36>
- SB39** **COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPERATION** (SCHIAVONI J) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools.
Current Status: 9/27/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 3/1/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
2/15/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
2/8/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-39>

SB54

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAMS (BROWN E, LEHNER P) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions.

Current Status: 6/6/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Fifth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 3/29/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Fourth Hearing)
 3/22/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Third Hearing)
 3/8/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing)
 2/22/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)
 2/15/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
 2/14/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Children and Family Issues, Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-54>

SB79

STATE DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW SCHEDULE (JORDAN K) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review.

Current Status: 9/12/2017 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight

All Bill Status: 6/28/2017 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 24-9
 6/28/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration
 6/28/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Third Hearing)
 3/29/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing)
 3/15/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)
 3/7/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
 3/2/2017 - Introduced

Categories: General Assembly, State Government

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-79>

SB82

SCHOOL ABSENCES-PARENTAL NOTIFICATION (WILLIAMS S, LEHNER P) To require a public school to place a telephone call within one hour of the start of the school day to a parent whose child is absent without legitimate excuse.

Current Status: 4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 3/29/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
 3/22/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
 3/7/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
 3/2/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Children and Family Issues, Education, Municipal Services

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-82>

- SB85** **OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION** (HUFFMAN M) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program.
- Current Status:** 4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 4/5/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
3/22/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
3/7/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
3/2/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education, Higher Education, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-85>
- SB104** **PROHIBIT SECLUSION USE-SCHOOLS** (TAVARES C) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools.
- Current Status:** 9/20/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
All Bill Status: 4/5/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
3/21/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-104>
- SB149** **ELECTION POLLING PLACES-SCHOOLS** (LAROSE F) Regarding the use of a school district building as a polling place for elections.
- Current Status:** 6/21/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)
All Bill Status: 5/17/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
5/11/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Campaigns & Elections
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-149>
- SB151** **SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS** (HITE C) To permit, rather than require, the School Employees Retirement System to grant annual cost-of-living adjustments to retirement, disability, and survivor benefit recipients and to reduce the maximum amount of the adjustment.
- Current Status:** 6/20/2017 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 6/13/2017 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (First Hearing)
5/24/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions
5/17/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education, Pension & Retirement System, Public Employees
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-151>
- SB154** **OPIOID ADDICTION RESPONSE** (SCHIAVONI J, YUKO K) To provide for the prevention and treatment of opioid addiction, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.
- Current Status:** 5/24/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
All Bill Status: 5/17/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Addiction & Narcotics, Budget and Appropriations, Health Care, Mental Health & Disabilities

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-154>

SB175 RECOVERED FUNDS-SCHOOL AUDIT (SCHIAVONI J) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school.

Current Status: 9/7/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform

All Bill Status: 8/7/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education, State Government

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-175>

SB191 ESTABLISH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS (SCHIAVONI J) To establish the Breakfast After The Bell Program for public schools.

Current Status: 10/25/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

All Bill Status: 9/14/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Children and Family Issues, Education

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-191>

SB196 AGGRAVATED BULLYING-OFFENSE CREATION (WILLIAMS S, BROWN E) To create the offense of aggravated bullying, a third-degree misdemeanor.

Current Status: 10/3/2017 - Senate Judiciary, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 9/27/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Judiciary
9/19/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Children and Family Issues, Crime & Punishment, Education, Justice & the Courts

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-196>

SB197 SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (WILLIAMS S, BROWN E) To require a tiered disciplinary procedure for harassment, intimidation, or bullying in school; to require annual student instruction about preventing such acts; and to create the offense of aggravated bullying as a third-degree misdemeanor.

Current Status: 10/11/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 9/27/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
9/19/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Children and Family Issues, Crime & Punishment, Education, Justice & the Courts

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-197>

SB199 OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (SCHIAVONI J, HITE C) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation.

Current Status: 9/26/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Budget and Appropriations, Science & Technology, State Government

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-199>

SB216 PUBLIC SCHOOL DEREGULATION ACT (HUFFMAN M) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs.

Current Status: 12/13/2017 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)
All Bill Status: 12/6/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)
11/8/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
10/18/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
10/18/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
10/10/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-216>

SB221 **RULE-MAKING AND REVIEW REFORM** (UECKER J) To reform agency rule-making and legislative review thereof.

Current Status: 11/29/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 11/1/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)
10/25/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
10/19/2017 - Introduced
Categories: General Assembly, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-221>

SB239 **REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS** (DOLAN M) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments.

Current Status: 12/5/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Local Government, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-239>

SB240 **REGARDING TEACHER EVALUATIONS** (LEHNER P) With regard to teacher evaluations.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Local Government, Public Employees, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-240>

SB241 **ACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY** (TERHAR L, THOMAS C) To establish a category of nonpublic schools called "accredited nonpublic schools" and to prescribe requirements and exemptions for such schools.

Current Status: 12/12/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education, State Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-241>

Capitol Square in Review

BALLOT ISSUES

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine on Friday certified the petition for a constitutional amendment that would lower the penalty for low-level drug offenses to misdemeanor probation and divert savings from reduced incarceration to drug treatment programs and related interventions. A group, the Ohio Safe and Healthy Communities Campaign, filed "The Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Amendment" petition with the AG's office on Friday, Dec. 1. Then the Ohio Ballot Board unanimously approved the proposed amendment as one issue on Tuesday.

Individuals aged 21 and older could legally produce, distribute and consume marijuana if the proposed "Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol Amendment" is approved by voters during the 2018 General Election. CannAscend Chairman and CEO Jimmy Gould, who has sharply criticized the Kasich administration's implementation of medical marijuana legalization measure 131-HB523 (Huffman) after failing to receive a cultivator license, insisted his company and other rejected applicants are not being "sore losers" by challenging the state's review process and pushing this amendment. The amendment would also allow local communities to approve how many commercial marijuana businesses are allowed to operate in their jurisdiction.

CHILDREN/FAMILIES

Reports released by the Health Policy Institute of Ohio (HPIO) and the Center for Community Solutions (CCS) examining the state of infant mortality in Ohio showed a trend of decreasing infant mortality in Ohio over the past three decades, but an increase in infant mortality over the past two years. The report from HPIO, "Social Determinants of Infant Mortality," looked at the possible reasons for the past two years' uptick in infant death rates, breaking those rates down into various demographics and giving recommendations to curb the social factors they suggested contribute to infant mortality, while CCS focused its report on state funding of programs designed to fight infant mortality.

EDUCATION

The State Board of Education's Accountability and Continuous Improvement Committee discussed Monday possible changes to two sections of Ohio's report cards for local schools, one of which could show up on report cards for the current year, the other up for long-term discussions and contingent on federal approval of Ohio's plan for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The State Board of Education's Educators and Student Options Committee Monday unanimously approved a waiver that would allow a Columbus college-prep school, the Columbus Africentric Early College, to begin hand-picking a portion of its students, as opposed to a random lottery process. It still must go to the full board.

The State Board of Education appears likely to grant more leniency to providers in the 22+ Adult Diploma Program after hearing last month from the organization that runs programs at a few community colleges about the program's first-year struggles. Based on discussions in the Accountability Committee, the substitute resolution would set a 10 percent threshold for 2016-2017. The committee also discussed whether to then jump up to 40 percent for the current year and beyond, or phase it in, with an intermediate benchmark of 25 percent for this year.

Leadership and members of the State Board of Education appeared to reach consensus Tuesday on a plan to recommend the classes of 2019 and 2020 be allowed to use the additional options for high school graduation created for the class of 2018, though a few tweaks are possible. But many on the board expressed hope for ultimately moving to a much different system of determining how students qualify for a diploma.

The State Board of Education approved two resolutions recommending elimination of state tests, following months of debate on the topic. The resolutions recommend elimination of the English

Language Arts I end-of-course exam, the WorkKeys job skills assessment, and any assessments developed solely to meet the state requirement for student data to be used in teacher evaluations.

Ohio debuted a new online resource for parents and teachers of preschool-age children to help support early learning and literacy development. Most of the materials available at the INFOhio Early Learning portal are free, with a few requiring a "minimal" fee. The portal is at <https://www.infohio.org/early-learning>.

Several kindergarten teachers and school administrators blasted the state requirement to administer the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) on Wednesday, telling the Senate Education Committee it's a waste of time and hampers their ability to effectively teach children.

ELECTIONS

Secretary of State Jon Husted sent a letter to Gov. John Kasich and legislative leaders Thursday urging them to include funds in the upcoming capital budget to cover the full replacement of Ohio's aging voting machines. Husted noted that the majority of Ohio's current voting equipment was purchased more than a decade ago using one-time federal funds made available through the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

ELECTIONS 2018

Ohio Supreme Court Justice William O'Neill announced he will step down from the bench on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018 and continue seeking the Democratic nomination for governor. In his resignation letter sent to Gov. John Kasich and Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor on Friday, O'Neill said, "It has been my privilege to serve as an associate justice. I am deeply grateful to the people of Ohio and to my colleagues on the Supreme Court." Kasich accepted O'Neill's resignation.

U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci (R-Wadsworth) introduced Cincinnati Councilwoman Amy Murray as his lieutenant governor pick Monday at events in Cincinnati and Cleveland, noting her strong business background and her support for pro-life and pro-Second Amendment issues.

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) became the latest to announce a campaign for the 12th Congressional District seat that will be vacant with the retirement of U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray announced Wednesday that he has hired Antonia Koch as the campaign's finance director, one day after the victory of Democrat Doug Jones' U.S. Senate campaign, for which she served as national finance director. Jones won a special election on Tuesday in a Republican state, defeating former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore.

EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT

The federal unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1 percent in November, while the nation added 228,000 jobs, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) said Friday.

FEDERAL

Following the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) vote to repeal net neutrality rules, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) has introduced a resolution to undo the agency's action. Republican commissioners outvoted Democrats 3-2 Thursday to gut the 2015 Open Internet Order, which prohibited Internet service providers (ISPs) from setting up Internet fast and slow lanes and banned them from blocking or slowing down traffic.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said his caucus will decide whether the Senate will remove Justice William O'Neill in January before the Democratic gubernatorial candidate officially resigns,

but said no decision has been made. O'Neill announced Friday that he is continuing his gubernatorial campaign and will step down from the bench on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018. He has been criticized for refusing to resign since he announced his campaign in October. The filing deadline for the election is Feb. 7, 2018.

The Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) convened Monday regarding a number of items, only two of which received further scrutiny but were cleared as well. They included a prescribing rule and one regarding inspection fees for inflatable amusement devices.

House Democratic Leader Fred Strahorn (Dayton) Tuesday evening announced changes to the caucus' leadership team, following Democratic Whip Rep. Nickie J. Antonio's (Lakewood) recent resignation from her leadership post due to her Senate run. Rep. Emilia Strong Sykes (D-Akron) replaces Antonio as Democratic whip. Sykes had been serving on leadership as assistant whip for the past year. Replacing Sykes as assistant whip is Rep. Brigid Kelly (D-Cincinnati). Rep. Nicholas J. Celebrezze (Parma) remains assistant minority leader.

The big news of the day was the emergence Wednesday morning of HB69 (Cupp) as a year-end "Christmas Tree" bill, when the Senate Ways and Means Committee amended it to include several new items including up to \$80 million to make up for some of the funding lost due to the elimination of the Medicaid managed care organization (MCO) sales tax. HB69 passed the full Senate 31-0 and then, later in the day, the House concurred in the Senate amendments, sending it on to Gov. John Kasich for his signature. Specifically, under the bill, counties and transit authorities would receive \$50 million in FY18, and could receive up to \$30 million in FY19. The deal was a result of negotiations among legislative leaders, the Kasich administration and the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO).

In other action, the Ohio Senate again passed legislation prohibiting abortion services for women seeking the procedure because of a Down syndrome diagnosis. HB214 (LaTourette-Merrin) passed the chamber 20-12 just like the identical SB164 (LaRose) did last month. The bill now heads to the governor for his signature.

Other bills passed by the Senate Wednesday in its closing session of 2017 include the following: SB223 (LaRose), which prohibits the installation of unsafe tires; HB196 (Lipps), designating October as "Ohio Chiropractic Awareness Month"; HB215 (Riedel), creating the Paulding County Municipal Court; HB223 (Dever), which deals with transfers of structured settlement payment rights; and SB230 (Obhof), which creates the "Medina County" license plate.

The Senate unanimously concurred with House amendments to the following bills, thus sending them on to the governor for his signature: SB134 (Gardner), which designates a number of roads and license plates in the state; and SB169 (Wilson-Eklund), which deals with the oversight of travel insurance sales.

The House, too, held its final session of 2017 on Wednesday, passing a total of 16 bills. They included the following: HB283 (Rezabek) modifying Ohio adoption law; HB336 (Barnes-Greenspan) which deals with driver's license and temporary instruction permit reinstatement fees; HB21 (Hambley), requiring verification of enrollments at community schools to be performed by the community school rather than the district; HB66 (Young), creating a study committee to exam how much tenured faculty members teach at state universities and colleges per semester; HB104 (Schaffer), allowing vendors to receive a refund of sales tax remitted for bad debts on private label credit accounts when the debt is charged off as uncollectable; HB202 (Thompson-Lanese) designating the first Saturday of May as "Veterans Suicide Awareness Day"; HB291 (Wiggam), addressing employee dishonesty insurance; HB307 (Gonzales) designating September as "We Card Month"; HB338 (Ginter) allowing chiropractors to perform medical exams for school bus drivers; SB62 (Yuko) designating July 8 as "Harrison Dillard Day"; SB134 (Gardner) containing various highway and license plate designations; SB169 (Wilson-Eklund) addressing the sale of travel insurance; and HCR16 (Thompson) urging Congress and the president to take certain actions to counter the manipulation of the oil market by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The lower chamber also concurred on Senate amendments to HB170, addressing computer science education; HB223 (Dever), addressing transfers of structured settlement payment rights; and HB69 (Cupp) which became the "Christmas Tree" bill. The bills now head to the governor.

In other legislative action, the House Finance Committee reported out HB3 (Duffey-Hagan) which creates the DataOhio Board; the House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development Committee reported out HB353 (Reineke) which exempts certain prepaid cards from the Unclaimed Funds Law; the House State and Local Government Committee reported out HB359 (Stein) which deals with the retirement of an Ohio flag; and HB370 (Perales) which adds the Wright Brothers' airplane to the Great Seal of the State of Ohio; the House Community and Family Advancement Committee reported out HB340 (Young) which addresses the release of information concerning public and medical assistance recipients; and HB309 (Gonzales-Rezabek) which generally prohibits a person's blindness from being used to deny or limit custody, etc.; the House Health Committee reported out HB172 which deals with access to a patient's medical records; and HB258 (Hagan-Hood), the heart beat bill; and the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee reported out naming bill HB347 (Kelly-Dever); HB190 (Lepore-Hagan-Schuring) which deals with railroad crossing requirements; and HB250 (Brinkman) which deals with electric bicycles.

GOVERNOR

Ohio Gov. John Kasich joined a bipartisan group of 11 other governors Tuesday in signing a letter urging Congress to continue funding the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The letter, addressed to the Republican and Democratic U.S. House and Senate leaders, requested bipartisan work to continue funding the program, which may end on Jan. 31, 2018 without legislative action. The letter, prepared by Kasich and frequent Democratic collaborator Gov. John Hickenlooper of Colorado, was also signed by the governors of Alaska, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Virginia, Massachusetts, Montana, Vermont, Nevada and Minnesota.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Tuition will be frozen over the four years of a student's enrollment at Youngstown State University (YSU) under the Penguin Tuition Promise approved by the YSU Board of Trustees on Friday.

The Youngstown State University (YSU) Board of Trustees and President Jim Tressel have agreed to extend Tressel's contract for another year through June 30, 2019. The pact includes no pay increase. His annual salary will remain \$300,000.

Bowling Green State University (BGSU) President Mary Ellen Mazey is stepping down at the end of the year, BGSU announced. Her last day as president will be Sunday, Dec. 31, though the university said she will continue to assist with the university's comprehensive fundraising campaign and help with the transition to her successor. She has been president since 2011.

Michael D. Johnson has been elected by the John Carroll University Board of Directors as the institution's 25th president. Johnson will join John Carroll on July 1, 2018, with an appointment that runs through 2023.

The Ohio Inspector General (OIG) issued a report of investigation Tuesday finding that Wright State University (WSU) had overpaid consultant Ron Wine of Ron Wine Consulting Group (RWCG) by \$1.8 million since 2009. According to the OIG, "Records reviewed during the investigation revealed that Ron Wine had been paid more than \$2.3 million by Wright State since 2009. Investigators determined that approximately \$1.8 million of the \$2.3 million received by Wine was identified as being overpayments, unsupported payments, unauthorized payments or questionable payments as detailed in the report of investigation."

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Nine Ohio cities and one county are showing signs of financial stress for calendar year 2016, according to a new report from Auditor Dave Yost's office. Nearly two-thirds of the state's county

governments have experienced an increase in the number of "critical" or "cautionary" warnings in the second annual "Financial Health Indicators" report, Yost told reporters at a Statehouse press conference Tuesday.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS/CHARITIES

While they are ranked 16th nationally, Ohioans are more charitable than residents of the neighboring states, according to a report by personal finance blog WalletHub. Trailing the Buckeye State were Pennsylvania, 24th; West Virginia, 36th; Indiana, 38th; Michigan, 39th; and Kentucky, 41st. The top five states were Utah, Maryland, Minnesota, Wyoming and Wisconsin.

PENSIONS

The head of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), Karen Carraher, returned Wednesday to the House Aging and Long Term Care Committee for an official presentation on HB413, the bill which changes the way OPERS currently applies an annual cost of living (COLAs) adjustment.

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This report is intended to provide updated information on the legislative issues of interest to Ohio's Educational Service Centers, their client OESCA members & interested parties.