

info@oesca.org • **January 8, 2018**

This January 8, 2018, 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 and upcoming association events as well as the education bills of interest to Ohio's public education community introduced during the 132nd General Assembly. Bills listed 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.

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATES

January 25, February 22, March 15, April 3

OESCA and the Ohio Education Computer Network have teamed up with experts from **CauseImpact!** **CauseImpact!** helps nonprofits and government agencies be more innovative, entrepreneurial and fully prepared to realize their vision of the world. This workshop series will focus on 4 areas critical to the success of any ESC, ITC or regional service provider in today's face-paced educational environment:

1. Communicating Value
2. Strengthening Relationships
3. Understanding the Education Marketplace
4. Collaboration & Strategy in a Competitive Environment

Registration materials are available online at:

<http://www.oesca.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/56a27795b8c90/winternext2.pdf>

Legislative Tracking Report

BILL MONITORING

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

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

Position: Support

Priority: Tier 1 - High

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-438>

- 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
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 1 - High
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-216>
- 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
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 1 - High
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-239>
- 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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-37>
- 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

Position: Amend

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

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

Position: Oppose

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

Position: Oppose

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-181>

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

Position: Amend

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-246>

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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-318>

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

Position: Amend

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-338>

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-377>

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
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-443>

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

Position: Oppose

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-104>

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

- 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
- Position:** Undetermined
- Priority:** Tier 2 - Medium
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-240>
- SB246** **STUDENT SAFETY ACT** (LEHNER P, MANNING G) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades prekindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation.
- Current Status:** 12/21/2017 - Introduced
- Categories:** Education, Public Safety
- Position:** Monitor
- Priority:** Tier 2 - Medium
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-246>
- 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
- Position:** Undetermined
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-21>
- 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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-242>

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-262>

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-320>

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-369>

- 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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-426>

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-442>

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

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

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-149>

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

Position: Undetermined

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-199>

- 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
- Position:** Undetermined
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-221>
- 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
- Position:** Undetermined
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-241>

Capitol Square in Review

Friday, January 5, 2018

ADDICTION/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Until and unless the General Assembly enacts revised penalty enhancements for super-opioid fentanyl in SB1 (LaRose), courts will have no power to impose harsher sentences on criminals who possess large amounts of the potentially fatal drug, the Ohio Supreme Court announced Thursday. The Court pointed out that the Legislature has currently chosen to increase penalties for the possession of fentanyl and other Schedule II drugs up to a 1st degree felony based on varying multiples of the "bulk amount," as determined by the maximum daily dose in the usual dosage range specified in a standard pharmaceutical reference manual like the American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information (AHFS). Specifically, the bulk amount would be 20 grams or five times the maximum dose under the current language of R.C. 2925.01(D)(1)(d). The problem, said the Court, is that while the AHFS contains some guidance on fentanyl use, it does not specify the maximum daily dose in the usual dosage range as it does for other drugs.

CORRECTIONS

Saying it is outdated and costly to operate, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) announced Wednesday that it would be closing the Hocking Correctional Unit, a part of the Southeastern Correctional Complex outside of Nelsonville, by the end of March.

ECONOMY

The capital-area economy will continue to grow faster than the nation in 2018 at a pace of 1.8 percent, resulting in more than 19,000 new jobs and total employment of over 1.1 million in central Ohio, Regionomics economist Bill Lafayette announced Wednesday. The Columbus region will remain the outlier in the state as a whole, which he said should continue more sluggish performance from 2017. Lafayette, who contributes to *Hannah News*' "On the Money" publication, joined Ohio State University finance Prof. Emeritus Stephen Buser for the Columbus Metropolitan Club's Annual Blue Chip Economic Forecast.

EDUCATION

A ruling in the legal battle between Ohio's largest online charter school and the Ohio Department of Education appears to be at least several weeks away, now that the Ohio Supreme Court has scheduled oral arguments in February for the lawsuit. Justices will meet Tuesday, Feb. 13 for oral arguments in *Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, Jeremy Aker et al v. Ohio Department of Education*.

Jonathan Juravich, Ohio's 2018 Teacher of the Year, is one of four people named Thursday as finalists to be National Teacher of the Year. The Council of Chief State School Offices (CCSSO) identified Juravich as a finalist, following his designation in August as State Board of Education District 6 Teacher of the Year and in September as 2018 Ohio Teacher of the Year.

The Ohio Department of Education is reminding schools they have little more than a week to petition the state to recognize work credentials for use in achieving high school graduation requirements. Earning an industry-recognized credential and passing the WorkKeys job skills assessment is one of the pathways Ohio high school students can use to earn a diploma. More information about the application process is available at <http://education.ohio.gov/Media/Ed-Connection/Jan-3-2018/Deadline-to-recommend-industry-recognized-credenti>.

ELECTIONS

Secretary of State Jon Husted said that 29 local elections held during the 2017 General Election in November were decided by a single vote or tied, including 25 local races and four local issues.

President Donald Trump Wednesday signed an executive order that ended his Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, which included former Ohio Secretary of State Ken Blackwell as one of its members. Trump had formed the commission in May to investigate voter fraud and voting irregularities. The president had previously claimed that millions of illegal votes had been cast in the 2016 presidential election.

ELECTIONS 2018

Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) said Tuesday he's naming Stephanie Dodd, District 9 representative for the State Board of Education, as his running mate for the gubernatorial election.

Justice William O'Neill said on social media Tuesday that he will be hiring staff soon for his gubernatorial campaign that will begin on Feb. 1. Although O'Neill announced his bid for the Democratic nomination governor last October, he has not officially filed to run and has not hired staff. He is resigning from the court effective Friday, Jan. 26.

With Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) deciding to run for re-election rather than pursue a congressional seat, Strongsville City Councilman Gordon Short announced that he is withdrawing from the race.

Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Michael P. Donnelly announced Wednesday he will be running for the Ohio Supreme Court, becoming the first Democrat to declare his intentions for the two open seats on the Court. Both Justices William O'Neill and Terrence O'Donnell are unable to run again for their seats due to age limits.

ENERGY

Ohio State University (OSU) engineers are developing technologies that have the potential to efficiently convert fossil fuels into useful products without emitting carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, the university announced Tuesday. In the first of two papers published in the journal *Energy & Environmental Science*, the engineers report that they've devised a process that transforms shale gas into products such as methanol and gasoline -- all while consuming carbon dioxide. This process can also be applied to coal and biomass to produce useful products.

ENVIRONMENT

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio) EPA issued more than \$936 million in loans to finance projects upgrading drinking water infrastructure and improving the quality of Ohio's lakes, rivers and streams last year, according to the agency. The total dollar amount for 2017 is higher than any year in the 28-year history of the state's revolving loan programs, Ohio EPA said in a news release.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) said Thursday he's appointing Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) to sit on the House Finance Committee and chair the House Finance Transportation Subcommittee, following former subcommittee chair Robert McColley's appointment to the Senate.

GOVERNOR

Gov. John Kasich has received three names for his pending appointment to Justice William O'Neill's soon-to-be vacated Ohio Supreme Court post. They include one of the Ohio Republican Party's endorsed candidates for the Supreme Court, 7th District Court of Appeals Judge Mary DeGenaro. In addition to DeGenaro, Richard L. Johnson, a partner in the Toledo law firm of Eastman & Smith, and Carol M. Gottschling, an attorney currently serving as director of human resources for Lorain City School District, also have applied for the Supreme Court appointment.

HIGHER EDUCATION

A new report finds Ohio had a net gain in students attending college as freshmen in the fall of 2016 compared to the number of students in the state who left. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education, recently released its report on enrollment in postsecondary institutions around the nation that participate in federal student financial aid programs such as Pell Grants or Direct Stafford Loans during the 2016-17 academic year.

Procter & Gamble (P&G) announced plans give \$10 million to support cancer research and outcomes in support of the Cincinnati Cancer Center (CCC), a collaboration of the University of Cincinnati (UC), UC Health and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. The donation will support recruitment and research enhancements at the CCC as part of the process of accelerating cancer research in advance of the application for National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation, UC said.

Bruce and Nancy Beeghly have pledged \$1.5 million to Youngstown State University (YSU) for continued support of the Beeghly College of Education, including creation of a new endowment for the college and of two graduate fellowships -- the Bruce R. Beeghly Graduate Fellowship in Electrical and Computer Engineering and the R. Thornton Beeghly Graduate Fellowship in Business Administration, the university recently announced.

The U.S. Department of Education recently announced a new process for discharging loans for students who were ill-served by the institutions they attended, at the same time approving more than half of 20,000-plus pending requests for discharge submitted by former students of the defunct Corinthian Colleges. The new process institutes a tiered system of loan forgiveness, based on the relative earnings of students who graduated from gainful employment programs.

Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) President Bonnie L. Coe has announced that she will retire from the presidency effective Jan. 1, 2019. Coe assumed the role of president at the two-year

institution on May 24, 2004. She had previously served the college as vice president and dean of faculty from 2001.

Kent State University (KSU) Wednesday announced the selection of John M. Rathje as its vice president for information services and chief information officer (CIO).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

State Senate candidate Gene Krebs Wednesday outlined a proposal to create a new \$110 million fund to help counties that are seeing decreased revenue that would mirror how the state helps local school districts. Krebs, a former state representative and Ohio Consumers' Counsel Governing Board chair, said he came up with the idea based on work at policy groups Greater Ohio and the Center for Community Solutions and in response to a local prosecutor who wants to help create a drug court in his county.

MARIJUANA

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) on Thursday reversed its policy to refrain from enforcing federal marijuana laws against individuals or businesses in states where the drug is legal for medical or personal use. State officials said they would continue with the establishment of Ohio's medical marijuana program will monitoring federal policy changes.

POLITICS

The Ohio Democratic Party Thursday announced it has hired David DeWitt as deputy communications director. DeWitt previously worked as the associate editor of the *Athens NEWS* in Athens, Ohio, which he joined in 2009.

STATE GOVERNMENT

The Ohio Department of Commerce (DOC) is issuing the "Last Call" on hundreds of brands of high-proof spirits that will soon be disappearing from store shelves. As part of the Division of Liquor Control's "Last Call" list, nearly 700 liquor brands will be discounted up to 40 percent in order to clear stock and make way for new products in the future. While some products have been discontinued entirely in Ohio, others have only had certain sizes of bottles eliminated.

TAXATION

Starting in 2018, state tax deductions on contributions to an Ohio college savings plan double thanks to a provision in the current biennial budget, HB49 (R. Smith). This year, the state income tax deduction for contributions to an Ohio CollegeAdvantage 529 plan doubles from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per beneficiary per year.

actionTRACK - Hannah News Service, Inc.

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.