

info@oesca.org • **January 16, 2018**

This January 16, 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

REGISTER NOW – REGISTRATION EXTENDED UNTIL JANUARY 18, 2018

SAVE THE DATES

January 25, February 22, March 15, April 3

OESCA and the Management Council of 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>

SAVE THE DATES

April 18-19, 2018

29th Annual Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Awards Program

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Crowne Plaza – Columbus North-Worthington
6500 Doubletree Avenue, Columbus, OH 43229

OESCA Spring Conference

April 18-19, 2018

Crowne Plaza – Columbus North-Worthington
6500 Doubletree Avenue, Columbus, OH 43229

Legislative Tracking Report

BILL MONITORING

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

- 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
 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
 Priority: Tier 3 - Low
 State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-21>
- 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

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-338>

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

Priority: Tier 1 - High

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-216>

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: 1/17/2018 - House Community and Family
Advancement, (Fourth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 12/13/2017 - House Community and Family
Advancement, (Third Hearing)
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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-383>

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
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-378>

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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-360>

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
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-449>

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
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-241>

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: 1/16/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
All Bill Status: 12/12/2017 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
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
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-246>

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

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

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

Priority: Tier 1 - High

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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
Priority: Tier 1 - High
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-239>

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
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-176>

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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-87>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-221>

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: 1/16/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 11/28/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
11/21/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Education

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-418>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-320>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-34>

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

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation->

- 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
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-363>
- 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
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-224>
- 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
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-197>
- 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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-166>

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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-369>

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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-355>

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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-196>

- 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
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-235>
- 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
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-39>
- 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
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-199>
- 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
- Priority:** Tier 2 - Medium

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-322>

- 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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-175>
- 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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-58>
- 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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-149>
- 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

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-262>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-242>

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

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-151>

HCR11 ESSA IMPLEMENTATION (GAVARONE T) To approve Ohio's state education plan for implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

Current Status: 1/16/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
6/6/2017 - Introduced

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HCR-11>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

- 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
- Priority:** Tier 2 - Medium
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-154>
- 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
- Priority:** Tier 2 - Medium
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-37>
- 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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-36>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-85>
- 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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-80>
- 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
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-129>
- 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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

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

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>

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

Priority: Tier 3 - Low

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-17>

Capitol Square in Review

Friday, January 12, 2018

FY18-19 BUDGET

Tax revenues lagged slightly in December but are still a hair above expectations for the year so far, the Office of Budget and Management reported in its preliminary release of monthly budget numbers Friday. Non-auto sales taxes were the biggest driver of December's underperformance, coming in 1 percent or about \$8 million below estimates, yielding \$809.7 million versus an expected \$817.8 million. Auto sales taxes trailed by a lesser amount, generating a quarter million dollars less than expected, a 0.2 percent drop from projections.

CHILDREN/FAMILIES

Ohio's annual Statehouse gathering to mark Human Trafficking Awareness Day, spearheaded for years by Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) and co-hosted this year by Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron), drew hundreds Thursday to Capitol Square. In a panel discussion focused on legal and legislative perspectives, lawmakers and attorneys talked about recent efforts to stem trafficking and help victims, with much of the session focused on SB4 (Kunze-Oelslager). That bill is meant to allow victims to seek expungement of convictions for crimes they committed as a result of being trafficked.

EDUCATION

Electronic Classroom of Ohio (ECOT) warned repeatedly for months that the state's move to reclaim past funding and garnish ongoing payments could force it to close this year. But the end might instead be imposed by its sponsor, which wrote a letter Wednesday telling ECOT officials it wants to shutter the school next week. In an official notice of its intent to suspend school operations, the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Lake Erie West cites fiscal management problems, inability to follow the law and concerns about the disruptions that would result if ECOT has to shut down this spring in the middle of a semester. The sponsor gave ECOT until next Wednesday, Jan. 17, to submit a proposal to remedy the problems it raised.

Later this month or early in the next, Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington) hopes to introduce legislation to overhaul state report cards for local school districts, which he said suffer from arbitrary measures, questionable methodology and a lack of buy-in from local communities, among other problems. The bill would end the assignment of A-F letter grades.

Superintendent Paolo DeMaria and Ohio Department of Education accountability chief Chris Woolard gave State Board of Education members a broad overview Monday of the components of Ohio's A-F report card for local school districts, priming the pump for future discussions on how the accountability system can change in response to various public pressures and criticisms.

School districts could see improvements on their state report card grades under a change approved by a State Board of Education committee Monday that will modify how high school test re-takes affect local ratings. The Accountability and Continuous Improvement Committee voted to approve creation of a new end of course improvement indicator as part of the report card's Achievement component.

Meanwhile Tuesday, the board started discussions on but then tabled a proposal from member Lisa Woods to form two special workgroups to review and recommend changes to the state report card. Board members debated at length whether the solution should come through workgroups, the existing committee structure, ongoing strategic planning discussions or other means. Board President Tess Elshoff eventually tabled the matter for a month, saying she would huddle with Superintendent Paolo DeMaria to come up with some options for tackling the report card debate.

Students in the graduating classes of 2019 and 2020 could get the same flexibility on graduation requirements as those in the class of 2018 after a vote Tuesday by the State Board of Education. But

the move ultimately requires action by the General Assembly, and one key legislator said Tuesday the House is already working on its own plan. Rep. Andrew Brenner (R-Powell), chairman of the House Education Committee, showed up near the end of Tuesday's debate in the board's Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee and quickly dumped cold water on a proposal to extend the 2018 options for two more years.

The State Board of Education stretched its monthly meeting into an unusual third day Wednesday to check in on strategic planning discussions being facilitated by the Ohio Department of Education. Several board members are participating in development of the plan. The board spent the bulk of its time debating the state-level vision and overarching goal identified in strategic planning discussions. The board also reviewed draft lists of strategies identified by the early learning and literacy workgroup and the student supports, school climate and culture workgroup. Both lists are subject to further changes.

ELECTIONS

Secretary of State Jon Husted was on hand in Washington, D.C. Wednesday when the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute*, in which the state is defending its practice of removing voters from the rolls if they do not vote for two federal cycles in a row. Justices are considering the case after the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals found parts of Ohio's voter roll maintenance process violates the National Voter Registration Act. Husted and the state argue Ohio's practices are needed to maintain the integrity of the voter rolls and the elections process.

Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent), a candidate for secretary of state, outlined two new bills that she will be introducing soon with the goal of securing Ohio's elections from cyber hacking and foreign interference, including converting all counties to voter-marked and voter-verified paper ballots.

ELECTIONS 2018

Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel Friday announced he was dropping his bid to unseat U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) in November, saying his wife has an unspecified medical issue that will require his time and attention. Mandel announced his decision in an email to supporters. He said he plans to serve out the remainder of his term as state treasurer, and that he hopes "to have the opportunity to serve my state and country again in the future."

With nearly a month to go until the filing deadline, gubernatorial campaigns came more into focus this week as candidates selected their running mates, dropped out or switched races. Here is a summary of the week's developments:

- Ohio Supreme Court Justice Bill O'Neill said Tuesday that has chosen an elementary school principal to run with him as he pursues the Democratic nomination for governor. Larkmoor Elementary School Principal Chantelle Lewis of Lorain County is a former member of both the East Cleveland Council and East Cleveland Board of Education, according to a news release from O'Neill's campaign.

- Democrats put together a power ticket of their own as former Attorney General Richard Cordray added his formal rival Betty Sutton as his running mate in a move that sees Sutton dropping her gubernatorial bid.

- Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor added former Procter and Gamble executive Nathan Estruth as her running mate.

- On Thursday, U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci (R-Wadsworth) announced he was dropping his gubernatorial campaign in favor of running for the U.S. Senate. His entry in the race puts him in a primary with Cleveland businessman Mike Gibbons, small business owner Melissa Ackison and Legislative Service Commission analyst Don Eckhart. Gibbons released a statement saying he is the outsider candidate that can beat incumbent U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown. Earlier, Gibbons had announced that he will be

pledging \$5 million of his own money to fund his campaign if needed to win in the wake of Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel's ending his campaign.

- Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley's campaign announced an event for Friday where she is expected to drop out of the gubernatorial race and endorse Democrat Richard Cordray.

- Former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich, the former Cleveland mayor and eight-term congressman, Monday filed a designation of treasurer form with the secretary of state, setting up a campaign committee. By creating "Kucinich for Ohio," he can now begin raising money for a run for governor. He has also invited supporters to an event next week where he is expected to announce the official launch of his gubernatorial campaign.

Both candidates running for secretary of state this year addressed the annual conference of the Ohio Association of Election Officials Wednesday, discussing current and upcoming election issues. Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) and Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley) promised to have a good working relationship with elections officials if they are elected as the next secretary of state. Clyde said even if they may not agree, she will listen to them, while LaRose said he trusts election officials. Both addressed looming issues of funding new voting machines and cybersecurity.

With U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi (R-Columbus) officially stepping down on Tuesday, Jan. 16, to become the head of the Ohio Business Roundtable, Gov. John Kasich Friday set the primary and special election to fill the seat. Kasich set the primary election for the 12th Congressional District for Tuesday, May 8, and the special election on Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018. The May date coincides with the state's 2018 primary election, and the August date has already been set as a special election date by the secretary of state for local entities looking to put ballot issues before voters.

EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT

The nation added 148,000 jobs in December, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) said Friday, and the unemployment rate remained at 4.1 percent for the third consecutive month. BLS said the number of unemployed persons was 6.6 million in December, essentially unchanged over the month. Over the year, the unemployment rate and the number of unemployed persons were down by 0.6 percentage points and 926,000, respectively.

FEDERAL

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) listed favorable corporate actions related to passage of the federal tax bill in a call with reporters Tuesday. Portman said that around 120 companies have announced new investments, higher wages, better benefits, bonuses and/or increased charitable giving, including Fifth-Third Bank, Western & Southern Financial Group and Sheffer Corporation in Cincinnati; RPM International in Cleveland; and Nationwide Insurance and Wolf Metals in Columbus.

Portman also thinks there will be a "spirited primary" for the Republican nomination to run against U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH). He said he thinks "a lot of people" will enter the race due to the surprise announcement that Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel was leaving the race due to an unspecified issue affecting his wife. Portman said he knew a close friend with the same illness, which has not been disclosed, and that his prayers were with the Mandel family. While Portman had endorsed Mandel, he told reporters that there were no other contenders at the time and that he does not now have a preferred candidate, nor does he see "a consensus candidate" for the party. He's fielded calls from five people who said they may be interested, and was asked about reports that U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci (R-Wadsworth) or *Hillbilly Elegy* author J.D. Vance may enter the race. (Later in the week, Renacci did enter the race.)

GAMING/GAMBLING

Ohioans spent more on gaming at Ohio's four casinos in 2017 than they did the year before, according to figures released by the Ohio Casino Control Commission. According to the commission, Ohio's four casinos earned nearly \$819 million in 2017, up from \$798 million in 2016. Hollywood

Casino Columbus was the top earner with nearly \$221 million, followed by JACK Cleveland Casino at \$201 million, Hollywood Casino Toledo with nearly \$199 million, and JACK Cincinnati Casino, at nearly \$198 million.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

House Republican Caucus Chief of Staff Mike Dittoe is taking his talents to the campaign trail, House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) announced Monday. Dittoe will resign Friday, Jan. 26 and begin working full-time for the Ohio House Republican Organizational Committee (OHROC) and Sen. Troy Balderson's (R-Zanesville) congressional campaign. House GOP Deputy Chief of Staff Shawn Kasych will be promoted to chief of staff effective Monday, Jan. 29.

Former Rep. Jim Hoops will return to the House to fill the vacancy left by now-Sen. Robert McColley's (R-Napoleon) appointment to the Ohio Senate while the son of former Rep. Jeff McClain, Riordan McClain, will fill the vacancy left by the resignation of former Rep. Wes Goodman (R-Cardington) over sexual misconduct charges, House Republicans announced Wednesday. Screening panels were led by Speaker Pro Tem Kirk Schuring (R-Canton). They are expected to be sworn in during the Wednesday, Jan. 17 House session.

Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) and Rep. Bob Cupp (R-Lima) are working toward merging their bills clarifying that drug offense penalties also apply to compounds containing a detectable amount of any illegal drug, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Kevin Bacon (R-Columbus) told *Hannah News* Friday.

The House Finance Committee "may very well" hold a vote on legislation establishing a broadband Internet expansion program next week, Chairman Ryan Smith (R-Gallipolis) told *Hannah News* Tuesday. The committee added five amendments to HB281 (Carfagna) during its fourth hearing, many of which were the result of interested party meetings held by Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Westerville), Smith said.

The Ohio House announced Tuesday the following changes in assignments on the House Finance Committee: remove Anielski, McColley; appoint Greenspan, Lang; remove Anielski from the House Finance Subcommittee on Higher Education; and appoint Greenspan chair of the House Finance Subcommittee on Transportation.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The 2017-18 flu season is hitting the U.S. hard this winter, and Ohio is no exception. According to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), the state has seen 2,104 flu-associated hospitalizations this season, far more than the 389 hospitalizations reported at this time last year. There were 925 hospitalizations in the final week of 2017, up from 157 in 2016.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Ohio University (OU) announced Friday that Elizabeth Sayrs is the university's new interim executive vice president and provost. She will begin her new role on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Sayrs will lead OU's academic core during the next few months while the university works to identify a permanent executive vice president and provost, the university said.

The University of Toledo (UT) has named Phillip "Flapp" Cockrell vice president of student affairs. He had served in the role in an interim basis since last June. The appointment was effective Jan. 1.

Ohio State University's online bachelor degree programs were ranked number one in the 2018 rankings released by *U.S. News & World Report*. Ohio State's online graduate nursing program was ranked second best out of 159 programs. The University of Toledo (UT) also said its online programs were ranked 125th out of 357.

INSURANCE

A national study shows Ohioans pay among the lowest average premiums in the nation for auto and homeowners insurance, Director Jillian Froment of the Ohio Department of Insurance (ODI) announced Tuesday. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners found Ohioans paid an average of \$819 (ninth lowest) for homeowners insurance and \$703 (14th lowest) for auto insurance in 2015, the most recent data available, compared to respective national averages of \$1,173 and \$889.

REDISTRICTING/REAPPORTIONMENT

The first congressional redistricting proposal to emerge out of a bipartisan legislative working group was not well received by Democrats or members of the coalition seeking to address the issue at the ballot. The Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee heard a presentation from Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) on Wednesday, during which the veteran lawmaker summarized his proposal, which likely will not be formally drafted until next week. Huffman was joined at the meeting by House Speaker Pro Tempore Kirk Schuring (R-Canton). Huffman and Schuring offered a similar but shortened presentation to the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee after being hastily added to that committee's agenda Wednesday morning. Huffman's full presentation is available at www.hannah.com >Important New Documents>Library.

In a relevant federal court ruling, a panel of three judges on Tuesday ruled that North Carolina's congressional districts were unconstitutional due to partisan gerrymandering carried out by the state's legislature. The panel ruled that the map, which divided the state into 13 districts of which 10 are Republican, violated the First Amendment, the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and Article I, Sections 2 and 4 of the U.S. Constitution. The judges have given the state's legislature until Wednesday, Jan. 24 to enact a new congressional map for the 2018 election.

STATE GOVERNMENT

The Controlling Board Monday approved funding for the operation of the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System (OAKS) requested by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS), though lawmakers asked the agency why funding was not included in the FY18-19 budget. Jennifer Leymaster, chief financial officer for DAS, said the agency provides the services through OAKS and charges other state agencies for its use. She said the expected charges were included in DAS' executive budget but that other costs were not in the budget, including services she said will enhance the system, such as security. She said some of the programs they're requesting funding for were in development, and the agency knew there would be costs but could not say how much actual costs would be.

TAXATION

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Thursday released Notice 1036, which updates the income tax withholding tables for 2018 to reflect changes made by the federal tax reform legislation enacted last month. This is the first in a series of steps the IRS said it will take to help improve the accuracy of withholding following major changes made by the new tax law. The notice can be found online at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/n1036.pdf>.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Legislation concerning changes in unemployment compensation law, HB382 (Schuring), received testimony for the first time since its third hearing on Nov. 1, when two witnesses offered interested party testimony. Wednesday marked the seventh hearing for the bill, with opponent testimony offered by the Ohio AFL-CIO and the Ohio Poverty Law Center, while interested party testimony was given by Policy Matters Ohio and Advocates for Ohio's Future. The bill has yet to receive any proponent testimony.

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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.