

info@oesca.org • **March 15, 2018**

This March 15, 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 as well as the education bills of interest to Ohio's public education community introduced during the 132nd General Assembly. Bills are organized by last action date and include the full status updates with most recent activity listed first in descending order. There are also links to the state bill page for users to download any bills, analyses or fiscal notes. The document concludes with the latest news on ESCs and from Capitol Square.

Breaking News

SB226 was passed yesterday making a three-day sales tax holiday during each August permanent. The bill included an amendment adding Mental Health and School Safety to the list of allowable purposes for educational service centers (ESCs), through County School Finance Districts, to put a levy on the ballot. See "ESCs in the News" later in this report for more information.

Legislative Tracking Report

BILL MONITORING

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

SB226 **PERMANENT SALES TAX HOLIDAY** (BACON K) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax.

Current Status: 3/14/2018 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House Ways and Means, (Fourth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 3/13/2018 - House Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
3/6/2018 - House Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)
2/27/2018 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
2/20/2018 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
2/7/2018 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 31-0
2/7/2018 - Bills for Third Consideration
1/24/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
1/17/2018 - Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)
11/29/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
11/15/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Ways and Means
10/31/2017 - Introduced

Categories: Business & Corporate, Education, Taxation
Position: Support
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-226>

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: 3/14/2018 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/28/2018 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
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>

HB512 **CONSOLIDATE CAREER-EDUCATION GOVERNANCE** (REINEKE W) To establish the Department of Learning and Achievement; to abolish the Department of Higher Education, the position of the Chancellor of Higher Education, and the Ohio Board of Regents; to transfer, with exceptions, the duties regarding the administration of primary and secondary education programs and all duties regarding the administration of higher education programs to the Department of Learning and Achievement; and to prescribe certain duties regarding educator licensure, community school sponsorship, and other education programs for the State Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Department of Education.

Current Status: 3/14/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Fourth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 3/7/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Third Hearing)
2/27/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Second Hearing)
2/20/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight
2/20/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (First Hearing)
2/14/2018 - Introduced

Categories: Education, State Government

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 1 - High

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-512>

HB529 **CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS** (RYAN S) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020.

Current Status: 3/13/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance

All Bill Status: 3/13/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
3/7/2018 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 92-3
3/7/2018 - Bills for Third Consideration
3/6/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Finance, (Third Hearing)
2/28/2018 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)
2/27/2018 - Referred to Committee House Finance
2/27/2018 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
2/26/2018 - Introduced

Categories: Budget and Appropriations

Position: Monitor

Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-529>

HB540 **TEACHER EVALUATIONS** (GAVARONE T, MANNING N) With regard to teacher evaluations.

Current Status: 3/13/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
All Bill Status: 3/6/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Education
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-540>

HB549 **SCHOOL OPENINGS-AFTER LABOR DAY** (ARNDT S) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day.

Current Status: 3/13/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Education
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-549>

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 pre-kindergarten 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: 3/13/2018 - Senate Finance, (Second Hearing)
All Bill Status: 3/6/2018 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
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>

HB491 **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS-SPECIFIED SERVICES** (EDWARDS J) To require the State Board of Education to issue a substitute license to specified pupil services personnel.

Current Status: 3/13/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
All Bill Status: 2/27/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
2/20/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
2/14/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
1/31/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Education
Position: Support
Priority: Tier 1 - High

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-491>

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: 3/13/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/13/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
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>

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

Current Status: 3/13/2018 - House Criminal Justice, (Second Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/13/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)
10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
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: 3/13/2018 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fifth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/27/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing)
12/12/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
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>

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: 3/7/2018 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, Senate Education, (Seventh Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/28/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Education, (Sixth Hearing)
2/7/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Education, (Sixth Hearing)
1/31/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Education, (Fifth Hearing)
12/13/2017 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)
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: 3/7/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/27/2018 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Third Hearing)
2/21/2018 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing)
1/31/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)
1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
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>

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: 3/7/2018 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 96-0

All Bill Status: 3/7/2018 - Bills for Third Consideration
2/20/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing)
2/13/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)
1/30/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness,

(Second Hearing)
1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
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>

HB338 **BUS DRIVER MEDICAL EXAMS** (GINTER T) Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers.

Current Status: 3/7/2018 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/20/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
12/13/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 93-0
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>

SB34 **SCHOOL YEARS** (MANNING G) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day.

Current Status: 3/7/2018 - Senate Education, (Sixth Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/28/2018 - Senate Education, (Fifth Hearing)
11/8/2017 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)
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>

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: 3/7/2018 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 94-2

All Bill Status: 3/7/2018 - Bills for Third Consideration
1/24/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Sixth Hearing)
11/29/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Fifth Hearing)
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>

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: 3/7/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Seventh Hearing)
All Bill Status: 10/11/2017 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Sixth Hearing)
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>

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: 3/7/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Third Hearing)

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

HB526 VOLUNTEER SCHOOL SECURITY (DEVITIS A, SWEENEY M) To authorize a public or chartered nonpublic school to enter into an agreement with a volunteer law enforcement officer to patrol school premises to prevent or respond to a mass casualty event, to provide the parties with a qualified immunity from civil liability, and to provide a tax credit for volunteer service.

Current Status: 3/6/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
All Bill Status: 2/26/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Public Safety
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-526>

HB508 OHIOCORPS PILOT PROJECT (RYAN S, REINEKE W) To establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project and to make an appropriation.

Current Status: 3/6/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Finance, (Fourth Hearing)
All Bill Status: 2/28/2018 - House Finance, (Third Hearing)
2/27/2018 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)
2/20/2018 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
2/14/2018 - Referred to Committee House Finance
2/13/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Higher Education, Jobs, Labor, Occupations & Professions
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 1 - High
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-508>

HB318 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINITION (PATTERSON J, LATOURETTE S) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers.

Current Status: 3/6/2018 - Re-Referred to Committee
All Bill Status: 2/27/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, 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)
9/12/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
8/9/2017 - Introduced
Categories: Education

Position: Amend
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-318>

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

Current Status: 3/6/2018 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Finance, (Seventh Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/28/2018 - House Finance, (Sixth Hearing)
2/27/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Finance, (Fifth Hearing)
2/20/2018 - House Finance, (Fourth Hearing)
2/6/2018 - House Finance, (Third Hearing)
12/12/2017 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)
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>

HB21 **COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION** (HAMBLEY S) Regarding verification of community school enrollments.

Current Status: 2/28/2018 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/21/2018 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)
2/7/2018 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
12/13/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 94-0
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>

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: 2/28/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)
All Bill Status: 1/24/2018 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)
1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Higher Education and Workforce Development
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>

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: 2/28/2018 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, Senate Education, (Seventh Hearing)
All Bill Status: 2/21/2018 - Senate Education, (Sixth Hearing)
2/7/2018 - Senate Education, (Fifth Hearing)
1/31/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)
4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)
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>

SB221

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

Current Status: 2/27/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Third Hearing)
All Bill Status: 11/29/2017 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing)
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>

HB502

YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING-PUBLIC (ANIELSKI M) With regard to educator in-service training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in public schools.

Current Status: 2/27/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)

All Bill Status: 2/20/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
2/13/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Public Safety
Position: Monitor
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-502>

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: 2/20/2018 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
All Bill Status: 10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance
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>

HB487 **RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL-COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** (INGRAM C) To eliminate the right of first refusal for community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics schools in the acquisition of school district real property.

Current Status: 2/14/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
All Bill Status: 1/30/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Education, Land Use
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-487>

HB58 **CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION** (BRENNER A, SLABY M) To address the teaching of cursive handwriting.

Current Status: 1/31/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Seventh Hearing)
All Bill Status: 1/24/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Sixth Hearing)
1/23/2018 - Re-Referred to Committee
6/21/2017 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Fourth Hearing)
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>

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: 1/30/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 12/12/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
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>

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

Current Status: 1/30/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)

All Bill Status: 1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)
1/16/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)
6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
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>

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: 1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)

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

- 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 - **REPORTED OUT**, 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
- 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:** 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
- Position:** Undetermined
- Priority:** Tier 3 - Low
- State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-418>
- 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:** 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness
- All Bill 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>
- 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
Position: Amend
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
Position: Amend
Priority: Tier 2 - Medium
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-102>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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>

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
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-17>

HB553 EXPAND THEFT IN OFFICE PENALTIES (CUPP B) To expand the increased penalties for theft in office based on the amount of property or services stolen and to include as restitution certain audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss involved in the offense.

Current Status: 3/13/2018 - Introduced
Categories: Crime & Punishment, Local Government, State Government
Position: Undetermined
Priority: Tier 3 - Low
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-553>

ESCs in the News

New School Safety Levy Option Proposed; Amendment Eyed For Sales Tax Holiday Bill

The latest legislative response to concerns over school safety would provide Educational Service Centers authority to seek districtwide tax issues to pay for security upgrades and mental health services.

Detailed Tuesday by [Rep. Kirk Schuring](#) (R-Canton) for members of the House Ways & Means Committee, the proposed new levy option follows a spate of recent school shootings, including the deadly rampage in Florida, and comes as Ohio lawmakers are stepping up efforts to review school safety and related issues.

The lawmaker said the idea is to offer local taxing authorities another tool to address security concerns. "There are no simple solutions to the school safety issue here," he said.

The amendment eyed for committee action Wednesday would be expedited since the target legislation, which would make the August sales tax holiday for school supplies and other items permanent ([SB 226](#)), is expected to advance to [Gov. John Kasich](#)'s desk in short order.

Rep. Schuring said the language would amend state law on County School Financing Districts by allowing ESC's to seek tax revenue for the upgrades only if every school district served by the center adopts resolutions in support. If approved, the ESC's plans would be placed on the ballot, he said.

"The voters would ultimately decide if they want to underwrite these additional expenses," he said.

Barb Shaner, a consultant with the Ohio Association of School Business Officials, said in an interview her group has not seen the amendment language but would likely be supportive. The Ohio ESC Association also reported it hadn't seen the language, although Executive Director Craig Burford said the group was supportive of the concept.

"We applaud Representative Schuring's efforts to bring another tool to the table for schools and local communities to address the health, well-being and safety of Ohio's students," he said.

"The County School Finance District is an under-utilized financing mechanism for schools. We support any efforts to maximize these efforts and provide districts and ESCs the resources they need to address critical support services for students and schools. We look forward to working with the General Assembly to find even more ways to utilize the vast regional delivery system of wrap-around and other support services through ESCs."

Responding to questions from the committee, Rep. Schuring said the restrictions on the new levy would require a "unanimity of cause" from ESC member districts. One reason to provide the option for ESCs, he added, is that the larger "umbrella" nature of the districts could provide for the equipment and services to be accessed while getting "the best value for the dollar."

The legislator said all member districts, even those that may be in a different county from the ESC, must sign on to the proposed levy.

Rep. Schuring's amendment follows similar options provided to districts in past legislation.

For example, language in a prior biennial budget measure ([HB 59](#), 130th General Assembly) allowed individual districts to seek levies exclusively for safety and security purposes. Ms. Shaner said only three such levies have been sought and one passed.

Schools can also include funding for such purposes as part of Permanent Improvement levies, she said.

Permanent Sales Tax Holiday Heads to House Floor with ESC Levy Amendment

A Senate bill that would make a three-day sales tax holiday during each August permanent left the House Ways and Means Committee Wednesday with an amendment allowing educational service centers (ESC) to put a levy on the ballot for safety and general health.

The amendment to SB226 (Bacon) had been previewed during Tuesday's meeting by Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton), who said that it would apply to any district that is a member of a particular ESC. (See *The Hannah Report*, 3/13/18.) It came on the day as students around the state rallied for better school safety. (See separate story, this issue).

Members of the committee did not object to the amendment, but some of the lawmakers on the panel said it is not enough.

"This cannot be the end of the conversation," Rep. Wes Retherford (R-Hamilton) said.

Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) said the amendment lets the students participating in the walk-outs around the state know that the General Assembly is taking their safety as a priority and isn't just passing legislation that is symbolic. Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Heights) said she supports the amendment, but said the Legislature has failed to provide funding for mental health as well.

The bill itself makes the sales tax holiday permanent after temporary sales tax holidays over the past three years. Sponsor Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) said data out of the previous holidays show the success of the idea and that it was important to permanently extended.

No witnesses testified on the bill, but the committee received written interested party testimony by Greg Lawson of the Buckeye Institute, who said that sales tax holidays "represent more of a gimmick than fundamental reform" and called for a flatter tax without special exemptions.

Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) said he still has a concern about the sales tax holiday and introduced an

amendment that would require the tax commissioner to issue a report in 2020 that would show the affect the holiday is having on counties that have high sales taxes compared to those with lower sales taxes. His amendment would have also made the holiday temporary until the report was released in 2020.

Committee Chairman Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster) said he believes Ramos' concerns have merit, but said he believes the Ohio Department of Taxation already has much of that data. The amendment was then tabled, and the bill was reported out with Ramos voting against it.

Capitol Square in Review

ADDICTION/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Opioids prescribed to Ohio patients declined for the fifth consecutive year in 2017, according to a newly released report from the State Board of Pharmacy's Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS). Between 2012 and 2017, the total number of opioids dispensed to Ohio patients decreased by 225 million doses or 28.4 percent, explained the pharmacy board. That meant that doses of opioids dispensed went from a high of 793 million in 2012 to 568 million in 2017.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Steve Wagner of the Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio (UHCAN) was the sole witness Wednesday to weigh in at a public hearing on the state's request to waive the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) requirement that everyone obtain health care coverage. This hearing was one of two scheduled for the Ohio Department of Insurance's (ODI) waiver request, which the agency was required to submit per the state budget, HB49 (R. Smith). Wagner said ODI fails to meet a basic requirement for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to grant a 1332 waiver -- demonstrating that comparable numbers of people will be covered with the wavier versus without.

ARTS, SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The state would be authorized to award \$100 million -- up from \$40 million -- in motion picture tax credits every fiscal year under new legislation from House Speaker Pro Tempore Kirk Schuring (R-Canton). During sponsor testimony on HB525, Schuring told the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee that the bill would also expand the credit to include certain live theater productions, such as those scheduled for presentation in New York City's Broadway Theater District after it is performed in Ohio. The tax credits would be awarded in two rounds -- one in July and one in January -- each fiscal year beginning in FY19.

BALLOT ISSUES

Gov. John Kasich brought former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to the Statehouse Friday to help celebrate the legislative passage of congressional redistricting reform, and Schwarzenegger brought the schnapps. The governors and legislators gathered in the State Room of the Statehouse to toast the passage of SJR5 (Huffman-Sykes), which changes the way the state draws congressional lines. It is now up to Ohio voters to approve of it as Issue 1 on the May primary ballot.

FY19-20 CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS

Total community project funding of \$147 million represents between 5 percent and 6 percent of the total capital budget appropriations proposed in SB266 (Oelslager) and HB529 (Ryan). Among Ohio's three largest counties, Cuyahoga County stands out for the number of community projects, though its share of funding is not significantly higher than those for Franklin and Hamilton counties.

The committee approved HB529 (Ryan) unanimously at its Tuesday hearing with no changes. The Senate version, SB266 (Oelslager), also was up for a hearing Tuesday, but the House measure is expected to be the primary vehicle. It was passed by the full House on Wednesday.

The Buckeye Institute released its report on the "Top 10 Worst Capital Budget Requests of 2018", which total more than \$18 million in spending. The institute also said its review of the capital budget found more than \$85 million in pork barrel or highly localized projects "that should be paid for with private donations or through local efforts."

FY18-19 BUDGET

Ohio's revenues continue running above estimates for the year-to-date by over \$200 million, but February revenues came in nearly \$20 million below estimates. A total of nearly \$1.6 billion was collected in February -- \$10.6 million more than was collected in February 2017. The total so far for FY18 is nearly \$14.7 billion, nearly \$222 million more than had been collected at this time last year.

CHILDREN/FAMILIES

According to a study released recently by nonprofit think tank Child Trends, 49 percent of Ohio children under age 18 have undergone at least one adverse childhood experience (ACE) from which lasting negative effects into adulthood could result, leading the group to classify ACEs as a "critical public health issue."

Health policy analysts and advocates told members of the state Commission on Infant Mortality Wednesday that without stable housing, it can be difficult to provide further assistance to mothers and their infant children who may run the risk of becoming another contributing statistic to Ohio's infant mortality problem.

EDUCATION

Brian Benyo, the chairman of the Youngstown Academic Distress Commission, and fellow member Jennifer Roller have resigned. State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria, who now must appoint new members to the five-person commission and designate a new chair, said in he is assigning Deputy Superintendent John Richard to support the work of the commission until a new chair is named.

Great River Connections Academy (GRCA), a full-time public virtual charter school, has been authorized by the Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS) to serve students in grades K-12 throughout the state beginning in the 2018-19 school year. Enrollment opened Thursday, March 1, and interested families can attend an information session to learn more about the program. Great River Connections Academy is permitted by state law to serve 1,000 students in its first year.

Opponents of legislation that would consolidate several education-related agencies into the Ohio Department of Learning and Achievement (DLA) packed the Statehouse Wednesday, telling lawmakers HB512 (Reineke) wouldn't improve the state's education system and would likely damage it.

The Senate Education Committee Wednesday passed Sen. Matt Huffman's (R-Lima) SB216, a school deregulation measure which addresses topics from teacher licensure to testing to College Credit Plus and beyond, after a series of changes which included an exemption to textbook cost-sharing between families and schools for students at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level; a replacement of teacher evaluation language in SB216 with language from SB240, which is sponsored by committee Chair Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering); and creation of a provisional license for teaching in early college high schools.

The Senate Education Committee also passed HB98 (Duffey-Boggs), which deals with giving groups access to schools to present career information, after adding four amendments on un-related topics. Among them was an amendment from Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) to provide funding to partially offset massive tax revenues losses in Benton-Carroll-Salem schools from devaluation of the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant in Ottawa County. Gardner also attached an amendment that he

said would restore the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) funding model used for the past 10 years, in response to a re-interpretation of the OCOG funding statute by the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The committee also accepted two amendments from Sen. Gayle Manning (R-North Ridgeville) regarding career-technical education licensure.

The State Board of Education is developing a new evaluation for the state superintendent that aims to provide helpful feedback and would be aligned closer to the board-approved goals for the education chief. What form that evaluation will take is still under discussion, as evidenced in a meeting of the board's executive committee Thursday.

The Ohio Department of Education has released a revised draft of its proposed strategic plan for education ahead of a series of public meetings that start soon to gather feedback and suggestions for additional changes to the plan. Recent edits were made after several State Board of Education members suggested changes at the February board meeting. The most recent version is available at <http://tinyurl.com/y7138g9n> .

ELECTIONS 2018

Democratic candidates for secretary of state and attorney general, Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent) and Steve Dettelbach respectively, released their plan for the state to implement congressional redistricting reform should voters adopt Issue 1 in May. Calling it the "Keep it Open, Keep it Honest" plan, they said it will force redistricting out of the shadows of backroom deal-making and into the sunshine of open and transparent map-drawing.

Technically, Wednesday's Democratic gubernatorial debate was the fourth since the 2018 campaign began. But the debate, hosted by the Ohio Democratic Party in partnership with WTOL, which moderated and broadcast it, was very different from the first three. Only Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) returned after the first three debates. Gone were former U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton, now the running mate of Richard Cordray, as well as former Rep. Connie Pillich and Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley. It was the first debate that saw Cordray, former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich, and former Justice William O'Neill, on the debate stage. And it was less cordial.

Secretary of State Jon Husted Thursday broke a tie vote in Summit County that will allow Democrat Casey Weinstein to appear on the ballot despite problems with his petitions.

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor launched the first video advertisement of her gubernatorial campaign Thursday.

Billionaire hedge fund manager Tom Steyer announced he is launching a series of town halls calling for the impeachment of Donald Trump in Ohio. The founder of "Need to Impeach," Steyer said the first of the 30 town halls planned across the country will be held in Columbus on Thursday evening, March 15, with another from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Cincinnati on Friday, March 16. He said the events will make the case about the need to impeach the president.

The following endorsements were made over the week:

- Democratic Progressives of Ohio endorsed Shawna Roberts for the Sixth Congressional District.
- U.S. Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT) endorsed Mary Taylor for Ohio governor.
- Republican Melanie Leneghan announced the endorsement of U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Urbana) for the 12th Congressional District.
- The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) Action Fund and the NRDC Action Fund endorsed Sherrod Brown for U.S. Senate.
- According to the Cordray-Sutton gubernatorial campaign, they were endorsed by the Ohio AFL-CIO.
- According to her campaign, Mary Taylor was endorsed for governor by U.S. Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT).
- The re-election campaign of Rep. Dave Greenspan announced the endorsement of the Ohio-Kentucky Administrative District Council of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers.

FEDERAL

President Donald Trump officially imposed a 25 percent tariff on steel imports and a 10 percent tariff on aluminum imports, earning praise from Ohio's top Democrat, disapproval from the state's top Republican and a more middle-of-the-road response from Ohio's Republican junior U.S. Senator.

GAMING/GAMBLING

Ohio's casino revenues were up month-to-month in February while also slightly exceeding statewide totals from the same time last year, and racino revenues remain up as well. The Ohio Casino Control Commission reported the state's four casinos earned \$67.6 million in February, up from \$67.2 million in February 2017 and \$63 million in January 2018.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

The Ohio House passed six bills plus agreed to Senate amendments to another on Wednesday, including sending the capital budget bill on to the Senate. Besides HB529 (Ryan), the House also approved HB366 (Gavarone); HB87 (Roegner) addressing public money returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school; HB347 (Kelly-Dever) designating a portion of Interstate 71 in Hamilton County as the "Sonny L. Kim Memorial Highway"; HB438 (Hambley-Kick) addressing educational service centers; and HB453 (Greenspan) addressing charter county hospital rights. The House informally passed HB345 (Butler) adopting the Solemn Covenant of the States.

The Ohio House agreed to Senate amendments to HB194 (Johnson-Craig) establishing a program for the issuance of specialized license plates, thus sending the bill on to the governor for his signature.

Sen. Charleta Tavares (D-Columbus), who was joined by Sens. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) and Cecil Thomas (D-Cincinnati) at a Wednesday news conference, announced the introduction of SB270 to reform the culture on Capitol Square by revising sexual harassment policy and training standards for House and Senate staff, troopers, agencies and lobbyists and by laying out a process for reporting incidents.

In other action, the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee reported out HB189 (Roegner-Reece) which revises the state's cosmetology licensing law; and the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee reported out license plate bills SB170 (LaRose), HB357 (Miller-Boggs) and HB521 (Boggs).

GUNS

While state and national lawmakers are debating gun safety legislation in the wake of the Parkland, FL school shooting, one national legal organization seeking to reduce gun violence says Ohio could do much more to save lives. According to an annual report, the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence gave Ohio a "D" for the strength of its gun safety laws. Despite the low rating, that ranking makes Ohio the state with the 21st strongest laws while having the 25th most gun deaths per capita.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) will refile an administrative rule regarding children services intake procedures after a lengthy debate was held among county administrators, department officials and legislators at Monday's meeting of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR). The rule concerns what information is allowed to be accessed by public children services agencies (PCSAs) prior to "screening in" a case, thus opening an official investigation, or "screening out" a case after a referral is made to an agency.

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) is searching for representatives of disability advocacy groups, business representatives, individuals with disabilities and others to fill the seats on the newly created OOD Council, according to OOD. The OOD Council is the result of the recently passed SB144 (Burke), which merged the OOD commissioners, Consumer Advisory Committee and the Governor's Council on People with Disabilities into a single OOD Council that will meet quarterly

to examine and advise OOD regarding specific aspects of the vocational rehabilitation program as outlined in the federal regulations.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Ohio technical centers would be recognized as institutions of higher education under a change made to a workforce development bill Wednesday, though some legislators had concerns. The House Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee accepted a substitute version of HB166 (Reineke-Cupp), which had focused on various changes to Ohio's workforce development system. Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) told the committee that the substitute version of the bill contains new language that addresses Ohio technical centers, which he said provide labor market-driven post-secondary training to adults. He said they are the adult education component at career centers, with students often taking classes at night and on the weekends, and the centers are highly responsive in meeting the needs of employers.

PENSIONS

Bethany Rhodes, director of the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC), said Thursday she'd advocate sticking with the current practice of checking pension system investment return assumptions against actual market results every five years, responding to questions raised by Auditor Dave Yost. Directors of Ohio's five public employee pension funds said they'd received similar letters earlier in 2017 to the one Yost sent to ORSC in late November on rates of return. The council did not publicly address the letter more quickly because it has not met since November.

PEOPLE

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio (CDF-Ohio) announced that Tracy Najera has been selected as the organization's new executive director.

'STATE OF THE STATE'

Gov. John Kasich delivered his final "State of the State" address Tuesday evening in Westerville, his adopted hometown. In the speech, he turned philosophic, focusing on values rather than accomplishments or policy issues. He did announce the creation of new state park to be named for Olympic great Jesse Owens and the proposed rebuilding of the Central Ohio hospital for the mentally ill that is in the proposed FY19-20 capital appropriations bill.

Kasich also hinted at the future, saying he is not slowing down in this, his final year in office, but "the race is not over. The finish line is so far in the future," he added, saying that with family, friends and the team who have surrounded him through the years, "we have a world to change."

Leaders of the House and Senate Democrats reacted to Gov. John Kasich's final "State of the State" speech by saying Ohioans should strive to do many of the things the governor said to do, including love one another and forgive. But as policymakers in the state, they said they need to do more.

Republicans in the House and Senate will push for policies that build on progress made over the past seven years under Gov. John Kasich's leadership, legislative leaders said following the governor's "State of the State" address Tuesday night. "If you listen to the governor's speech, he really talked about big picture philosophical issues and what we've tried to do collectively across the state of Ohio since he began his term and many of us began serving together in the Legislature. If you look back at that time period, I don't think there's any question that there's been a sea change from the four years that preceded that," Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) told reporters.

Members of the Kasich administration participated in a number of morning and afternoon events around Central Ohio during the lead-up to the governor's final "State of the State" address in Westerville on Tuesday night.

Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) Director John Born had some parting words for members of the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force as the Kasich administration draws to an end.

"The momentum cannot stop," Born told members during a meeting at the Westerville Public Library. He told members that if they believe their work is valuable, then it is incumbent on them to be present as the next governor prepares to give his or her first "State of the State" address next year.

The Ohio Department of Taxation's (ODT) tax amnesty program is unlikely to bring in what lawmakers were expecting when they inserted the measure into the budget, ODT Commissioner Joe Testa said Tuesday. The program, which ran from Jan. 1 to Feb. 15, will probably only secure \$13 million to \$15 million of the \$20 million legislators were seeking, Testa told attendees of a state business roundtable discussion with other administration leaders and local business owners. The event, held at Otterbein University, was one of a number of meetings that took place ahead of the "State of the State" address.

There are plenty of options for higher education institutions to explore to bring down the cost of textbooks for students, but all have their drawbacks, and implementing a program to bring down costs can take time, a panel on textbook affordability said Tuesday. The panel discussion was held on the campus of Otterbein University by OhioLINK and the Ohio Department of Higher Education as part of "State of the State" events around the Otterbein campus in Westerville.

Even though there are 1,869 horizontal shale wells reported as "producing" in the state, closer to 1,400 are actually turning out oil and natural gas, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Oil and Gas Resources Chief Rick Simmers said Tuesday. Simmers told those attending an event at the ODNR Division of Geological Survey's H.R. Collins Laboratory and Core Repository in Delaware. The event was one of several Central Ohio meetings held ahead of the governor's "State of the State" address.

While there are steps policymakers can take to improve Ohio's standing in a number of areas, the head of a left-leaning tax and budget policy coalition said the current state of the state is bleak. "If you look at the report, the first page, it can be kind of depressing," One Ohio Now State Director Gavin DeVore Leonard told reporters during a Monday Statehouse press conference releasing the group's third annual "State of Ohio" report prior to the governor's delivering his "State of the State" address on Tuesday. "We have 'thumbs-down,' which means less than a 25th-place ranking, in the large majority of categories. But ... we actually do believe this can be changed, that these problems are fixable."

STUDIES/POLLS

Ohio has the 11th best state capital to live in, according to a recent report from personal finance blog WalletHub, which compared them across "51 key indicators of affordability, quality of education and health, economic strength and overall living standards." Columbus also led neighboring states' capitals, with Lansing ranked 35th; Indianapolis, 38th; Frankfort, 39th; Harrisburg, 40th; and Charleston, 43rd.

TAXATION

Both President Donald Trump's administration and Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine weighed in this week in favor of overturning court precedent that bars states from collecting sales taxes for online purchases. The U.S. Department of Justice filed an amicus brief Monday with the U.S. Supreme Court in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, as did a coalition of 41 states, led by Colorado and joined by DeWine on Ohio's behalf. The case is an attempt at overturning the Supreme Court's previous ruling in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, which found online sales tax to be Congress' responsibility to regulate as a matter of interstate commerce, and held states cannot require collection of sales taxes for businesses that do not have a physical presence in the state.

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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.