info@oesca.org • **January 22, 2018**



 *This January 22, 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 bill number and include the full status updates with most recent activity listed first in descending order. There are also links to the state bill page for users to download any bills, analyses or fiscal notes. The document concludes with the latest news from Capitol Square.*

**Legislative Tracking Report**

**BILL MONITORING**

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

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| **HB21** | **COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION** (HAMBLEY S) Regarding verification of community school enrollments. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Education |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 12/13/2017 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 94-012/13/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration11/28/2017 - **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 Readiness2/1/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-21> |
|   |
| **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 Advancement10/11/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Public Safety |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-383> |
|   |
| **SB239** | **REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS** (DOLAN M) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 12/5/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Local Government, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-239> |
|   |
| **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:*** | 1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Education |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 12/12/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-241> |
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| **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:*** | 1/17/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 12/21/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Public Safety |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-246> |
|   |
| **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:*** | 1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness12/7/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-438> |
|   |
| **HB442** | **SCHOOL ATHLETICS-F1 VISA** (ANTANI N) To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness12/7/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Arts, Sports & Entertainment |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-442> |
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| **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 |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-443> |
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| **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:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Higher Education and Workforce Development |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 12/12/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Higher Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-449> |
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| **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 Readiness11/21/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-418> |
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| **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 Readiness5/24/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Mental Health & Disabilities |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-246> |
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| **HCR11** | **ESSA IMPLEMENTATION** (GAVARONE T) To approve Ohio's state education plan for implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 1/23/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)6/6/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness6/6/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HCR-11> |
|   |
| **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 Consideration12/5/2017 - **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 Readiness9/11/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Health Care, Transportation & Infrastructure |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-338> |
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| **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 Education10/18/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)10/10/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-216> |
|   |
| **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 Readiness10/10/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Crime & Punishment, Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-377> |
|   |
| **HB378** | **OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT** (SMITH R, CERA J) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 12/12/2017 - House Finance, (Second Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 11/28/2017 - House Finance, (First Hearing)10/17/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance10/10/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Energy & Utilities, Local Government, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-378> |
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| **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 Readiness9/26/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Higher Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-360> |
|   |
| **SB240** | **REGARDING TEACHER EVALUATIONS** (LEHNER P) With regard to teacher evaluations. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 12/12/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Local Government, Public Employees, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-240> |
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| **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 Finance3/1/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Taxation, Transportation & Infrastructure |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-102> |
|   |
| **HB176** | **SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS** (THOMPSON A) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 12/5/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Education and Career Readiness, (Fourth Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 10/24/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Third Hearing)5/31/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (Second Hearing)5/16/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)5/1/2017 - Referred to Committee House Education and Career Readiness4/5/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 Justice11/21/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Crime & Punishment, Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-426> |
|   |
| **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 Reform10/19/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | General Assembly, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-221> |
|   |
| **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:*** | 1/23/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Sixth Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 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 Oversight2/22/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-87> |
|   |
| **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 Readiness5/2/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-200> |
|   |
| **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 Development8/15/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Budget and Appropriations, Economy, General Assembly, State Government |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-320> |
|   |
| **SB34** | **SCHOOL YEARS** (MANNING G) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 11/8/2017 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)3/8/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)2/15/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)2/6/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-34> |
|   |
| **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 Readiness8/9/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-318> |
|   |
| **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 Development9/26/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Civil and Human Rights, Higher Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-363> |
|   |
| **SB191** | **ESTABLISH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS** (SCHIAVONI J) To establish the Breakfast After The Bell Program for public schools. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 10/25/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 9/14/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-191> |
|   |
| **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 Readiness5/16/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Education, Public Safety |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-224> |
|   |
| **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 Education9/19/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Crime & Punishment, Education, Justice & the Courts |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-197> |
|   |
| **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 Development3/28/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Economic & Workforce Development, Education, Jobs, Mental Health & Disabilities |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-166> |
|   |
| **HB355** | **SEXTING UNDER 21** (HILL B, REZABEK J) To generally prohibit sexting by a person under 21 years of age. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 9/21/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Crime & Punishment |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-355> |
|   |
| **HB369** | **PER PUPIL FUNDING GUARANTEE** (SWEENEY M) To prescribe a per pupil funding guarantee for certain school districts and to make an appropriation. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 10/10/2017 - Referred to Committee House Finance |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 10/2/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-369> |
|   |
| **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 Judiciary9/19/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Crime & Punishment, Education, Justice & the Courts |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-196> |
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| **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 85-99/20/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration6/20/2017 - **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 Readiness6/6/2017 - House Education and Career Readiness, (First Hearing)5/23/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-235> |
|   |
| **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 Education2/8/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-199> |
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| **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 Development5/9/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Economic & Workforce Development, Jobs |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-203> |
|   |
| **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 Education3/21/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 24-96/28/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration6/28/2017 - **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 Reform3/2/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | General Assembly, State Government |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***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 Development2/13/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 Reform5/11/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Campaigns & Elections |
|   | ***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 Readiness4/10/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***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 Readiness5/16/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 Care5/24/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Pension & Retirement System |
|   | ***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 Institutions5/17/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Pension & Retirement System, Public Employees |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-151> |
|   |
| **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 Reform2/14/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Education |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***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 Readiness2/7/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education |
|   | ***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 33-05/10/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration5/10/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, Senate Ways and Means, (Sixth Hearing)5/3/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Ways and Means, (Fifth Hearing)3/8/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fourth Hearing)3/1/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)2/22/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)2/15/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (First Hearing)2/7/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Agriculture |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-36> |
|   |
| **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 Government3/21/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Local Government |
|   | ***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 Readiness2/8/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Military Affairs |
|   | ***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 Education3/2/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Children and Family Issues, Education, Municipal Services |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-82> |
|   |
| **SB85** | **OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION** (HUFFMAN M) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program. |
|   | ***Current Status:*** | 4/25/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing) |
|   | ***All Bill Status:*** | 4/5/2017 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)3/22/2017 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)3/7/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Education3/2/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Higher Education, State Government |
|   | ***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 90-43/15/2017 - Bills for Third Consideration3/14/2017 - **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 Readiness2/22/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Education, Health Care |
|   | ***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 Government3/14/2017 - Introduced |
|   | ***Categories:*** | Administration - Governor, Education |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***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 |
|   | ***State Bill Page:*** | <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-17> |
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**Capitol Square in Review**

**AUDITOR OF STATE**

State Auditor Dave Yost wants to help local governments and Ohioans fortify themselves from digital threats and fend off cyberattacks by offering a free, on-demand 90-minute webinar. The webinar follows popular training sessions held in communities throughout Ohio in 2017. Training sessions are geared toward helping government officials prevent and deal with cyberattacks.

**CHILDREN/FAMILIES**

In conjunction with Human Trafficking Awareness Month, the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF), in collaboration with the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, will award nearly $90,000 in grant money to fund seven organizations to develop and implement human trafficking prevention programs across Ohio. These projects will identify and assist at-risk youth populations and provide them with information and resources to prevent human trafficking.

A January 2018 study released by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) looking at variations in infant mortality rates by state found pockets of elevated rates in the Midwest and the South, with Ohio being no exception.

**CIVIL RIGHTS**

The 33rd annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Breakfast drew some 2,000 participants to the state capital, ranging from statewide elected officials to young people committed to the message of justice and hope. Attendees included U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH), U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus), state Auditor Dave Yost and former state Rep. Kevin Boyce, now Franklin County commissioner. Gov. John Kasich and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) also delivered brief remarks by video.

The "State Equality Index" (SEI) report by the Human Rights Campaign and the Equality Federation Institute, which grades states' levels of LGBTQ-friendliness on a report card of enacted policy initiatives characterized as "good" or "bad," was released this week with Ohio among 28 other states in the "bottom tier" of LGBTQ friendliness. That is because it currently does not have statewide laws protecting LGBTQ individuals from being fired, evicted, or denied public accommodations based on their sexual orientations or gender identities -- an issue Rep. Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood) said would be addressed by passing her HB160.

In recognition of the recent observance of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, personal finance blog WalletHub ranked the 50 states and Washington, D.C. in terms of racial integration and progress, with Ohio placed 37th in integration and 39th in progress.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Amazon announced Thursday morning that it has whittled the 238 cities that applied to be the site for the company's second headquarters in North America to 20, and Columbus is on the list.

**EDUCATION**

School districts have left as much as $11.5 million from the state's Lead Plumbing Fixture Replacement Assistance Grant Program on the table, state communications officials told *Hannah News*. Only about $500,000 of the $12 million made available in 131-HB390 (Schaffer-Retherford) has been reimbursed as of Dec. 31, 2017, according to a document from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC).

The new version of ACT WorkKeys, the job skills assessment that is used as part of Ohio's graduation requirements, will become available Thursday, Feb. 1, and the old version will stop being available, according to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE.)

Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT) appealed Wednesday night to its sponsor and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) with a plan to stay open at least through the end of the school year, offering to take its controversial founder out of the picture. But the sponsor, the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West, voted Thursday night to shut down the school, and is asking a Franklin County judge to put the school in receivership.

Ohio's plan to implement the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was approved Wednesday by the U.S. Department of Education. "Ohio's plan met the requirements of the law, and so I am happy to approve it," said U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. "This plan should not be seen as a ceiling, but as a foundation upon which Ohio can improve education for its students."

The 2018 "Quality Counts" rankings of state education systems by EdWeek finds Ohio in the middle of the pack again, ranking 22nd and drawing a grade of C, with 74.8 out of a possible 100 points

**ELECTIONS 2018**

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley dropped out of the governor's race on Friday and endorsed Richard Cordray's candidacy for the highest office in the state.

Former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich kicked off his campaign for governor on Wednesday, announcing his bid in Cleveland before making stops in other cities including Columbus to promote the campaign. Kucinich, the former Cleveland mayor who served in Congress for 16 years before losing a primary after his district was drawn in with U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo), said he wants to make state government in Ohio "subject to power of 'We the People,'" and outlined a lengthy campaign platform.

Attorney General Mike DeWine, speaking at the Career-Technical and Adult Education Legislative Seminar Wednesday, identified education and the drug epidemic as two factors that must be addressed when looking at jobs and pro-growth strategies for the state. DeWine, who is running for the Republican nomination for governor, told those in attendance that in the education arena he believes there is a "culture problem." Too long, he said, success has been defined as a single path that has included a four-year college degree with the attitude that "the dumb kids" went to career centers. "As governor, I will change that perception," DeWine told the group, by what he "holds up," what he talks about and where he visits.

Jackie Patton, a nurse and the wellness coordinator for Columbus City Schools, announced over the weekend she will run as a Democrat in the 12th District congressional race. After announcing his plans months ago, U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi (R-Westerville) officially resigned the seat this week to take over as head of the Ohio Business Roundtable.

State Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Columbus) announced further campaign staff for his bid for the 12th Congressional District seat, replacing U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi (R-Columbus): Laura Bates is leading fundraising efforts while the Tarrance Group is the pollster for the campaign and Emily Hoover of Campaign Financial will handle campaign finance compliance.

Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor announced changes to her gubernatorial campaign staff on Tuesday including naming Erica Nurnberg as deputy campaign manager and political director. Nurnberg, of Columbus, held the same position on State Treasurer Josh Mandel's recently ended campaign for the U.S. Senate. Taylor also promoted former Finance Director Beau Euton to campaign manager and named Jeananne Chadsey to replace her.

Randi Clites announced she has filed to run for the 75th House District seat currently held by Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent), who is term-limited. Clites is currently the associate director of the Northern Ohio Hemophilia Foundation and serves as the advocacy coordinator for the Ohio Bleeding Disorders Council.

Former Ohio Rep. Connie Pillich Thursday announced Mayor Scott Schertzer is her pick for lieutenant governor as she seeks the Democratic nomination in a still-crowded field.

Reps. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) and Jeff Rezabek (R-Dayton) announced this week that they are running for local judicial races in their respective counties instead of re-election, leaving two races without incumbents before the filing deadline on Wednesday, Feb. 7.

**FEDERAL**

At the start of a week that will end in either a spending deal or government shutdown, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) said urgent issues should be dealt with as "clean" bills rather than combined into one package. These include renewing funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and addressing the status of recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which President Donald Trump announced in September would end by March unless Congress enacted new legislation.

Following the fourth judicial rejection of the U.S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) six-part test for determining whether interns and students are employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the Trump administration earlier this month said it was conforming DOL criteria to the "appellate court rulings by using the same 'primary beneficiary' test that these courts use to determine whether interns are employees under the FLSA." A USDOL fact sheet explains that, "The FLSA requires 'for-profit' employers to pay employees for their work. Interns and students, however, may not be 'employees' under the FLSA -- in which case the FLSA does not require compensation for their work."

As congressional lawmakers draw closer to a Friday deadline before a potential government shutdown, Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) remains hopeful that leaders will hammer out a deal to keep the government open while also funding a popular children's health insurance program, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE**

Senators on both sides of the aisle generally agreed Wednesday that Justice William O'Neill's actions of the past three months as a sitting judge and candidate for governor are indefensible, though Democrats called the concurrent resolution "summoning" him to the Senate a political stunt and overreach into the enforcement of Ohio Supreme Court Rules of Judicial Conduct. Republicans countered that they have sufficient legal cover in the Ohio Constitution and Ohio Revised Code to begin O'Neill's removal. Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) rose to introduce SCR20 (Obhof-Peterson) on the floor, calling the pending vote merely the "first step" and not a referendum on O'Neill's removal from office. It passed 25-8 with Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) -- a gubernatorial candidate himself -- voting for it.

The Senate also passed the First Responders' Appreciation Day in HB44 (Patmon), the waiver of concealed carry license fees for service members and retired and honorably discharged veterans in SB81 (Terhar) and SB28 (Uecker), requirements for fetal remains to be buried or cremated.

Two new members were seated by the Ohio House during Wednesday's session, including one very familiar with the chamber. Rep. Jim Hoops (R-Napoleon) told his colleagues that it has been almost 11 years since he last stood on the floor in the chamber. He replaced former Rep. Robert McColley, who was appointed to a vacant Senate seat. Also seated was Rep. Rioridan McClain (R-Upper Sandusky), the son of former Rep. Jeff McClain. He replaces former Rep. Wes Goodman, who resigned after an inappropriate relationship occurred in his state office.

The House also approved a resolution that would authorize the "State of the State" address to be held in Westerville. Rep. Anne Gonzales (R-Westerville) noted that Gov. John Kasich announced his gubernatorial campaign in Westerville, and by giving the address there, it brings his administration full circle.

The House unanimously passed HB225 (Thompson), addressing the plugging of abandoned wells; HB340 (Young), which allows state public assistance programs to access information contained in the databases of other state public assistance programs; HB353 (Reineke), which revises the law so that escheatment provisions do not apply to an open-loop gift card for which the underlying funds do not expire.

In other legislative action, the House Criminal Justice Committee reported out HB96 (Hughes) which increases the penalty for sexual imposition for repeated sex offenses and HB276 (Rezabek-Greenspan) which expands the aggravated menacing offense to prohibit threatening a utility worker; the Senate Judiciary Committee reported out HB1 (Sykes-N. Manning) which authorizes the issuance of dating violence protection orders; and the House Community and Family Advancement Committee reported out HB383 (Carfagna) which addresses parental notice of health or safety risks in their children's child care.

Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) said Thursday he'll introduce an updated version of his proposal to make unauthorized sharing and posting of intimate images a crime, saying he hopes reduction of the proposed penalty to a first-degree misdemeanor will improve chances of passage.

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) added a former governor and president and a children's author to the list of "Great Ohioans" on Thursday, and received an update on an assessment of potential future capital needs for the Ohio Statehouse and Senate building. The board approved President William McKinley and Virginia Hamilton as the 2018 Great Ohioans. Hamilton wrote and published 41 books across multiple genres, including "M.C. Higgins, the Great," and "Zeely." She won every major award in children's literature.

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

New students to the University of Toledo will be able to pay the same undergraduate tuition from their first day of college through graduation under the new Toledo Tuition Guarantee plan that was approved by the UT Board of Trustees late last year. The Toledo Tuition Guarantee establishes a fixed tuition rate for four years to provide price transparency and consistency for families, while also encouraging students to complete their bachelor's degree in four years.

**MEDICAID/MEDICAID REFORM**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) this week announced it would allow states to test programs where work or other community engagement would be a condition for Medicaid eligibility for able-bodied, working-age adults. Governor's Office of Health Transformation Director Greg Moody told *Hannah News* the changes had been expected, and his office will be reviewing them and the state budget provision requiring the administration submit a request related to work or community engagement requirements. "... sooner rather than later we will start to have a public conversation on that to understand what people think should be the most constructive path forward," Moody said.

Children's health advocates were joined by Director Greg Moody of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation in calling on Congress to swiftly reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). There are around 220,000 children enrolled through the CHIP program in Ohio.

**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Provisions of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act could significantly reduce charitable giving, Columbus Metropolitan Club (CMC) panelists said Wednesday. "It is alarming," American Electric Power (AEP) Foundation President Dale Heydlauff told attendees of the event, entitled "Nonprofits: Navigating a Changing Landscape." He said everyone who earns less than $200,000 a year would lose their tax incentive to itemize deductions because of the increase in the standard deduction. "I think it has some potentially profound implications."

**REDISTRICTING/REAPPORTIONMENT**

The Fair Districts=Fair Elections Coalition's proposal is vague and would likely result in federal courts' drawing congressional districts, Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) said Wednesday. Speaking to the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee during sponsor testimony on his SJR5, Huffman reiterated his belief that the General Assembly is required by the U.S. Constitution to control the drawing of congressional districts. He said the Fair Districts group, which is collecting signatures to place its measure on the 2018 general election ballot, would inappropriately cut the Legislature out of the process and enshrine ambiguous and flawed language into the Ohio Constitution.

**TAXATION**

While *Governing Magazine* reported that, "Few developments in Washington will have as direct an effect on state budgeting as the Republican efforts to revise the federal tax code ...," that is not true for Ohio. *Hannah News* spoke with Office of Budget and Management (OBM) Director Tim Keen, who said that the federal tax reform legislation as finally passed by Congress and signed by the president in December will "have very few direct effects on Ohio's [personal income] tax system" because, he explained, the bulk of the federal changes were to tax provisions taken after the taxpayer calculates his or her federal adjusted gross income (FAGI); Ohio's tax calculations start with the FAGI, applying its own rates and exemptions. "There will be no material effect on the state's tax receipts." In addition, he noted that the federal business tax changes will have "no impact on Ohio" because the state no longer has a corporate franchise tax. Ohio instead levies the Commercial Activity Tax (CAT), which is not affected.

The U.S. Supreme Court agreed Friday to hear a case on whether states can require businesses to collect sales taxes for online purchases. The case could have implications for Ohio's budget, as Ohio leaders have shifted more of the tax burden to sales taxes and away from income taxes in recent years. In *South Dakota v. Wayfair Inc. et al*, South Dakota is defending a law it passed that directly challenges the Supreme Court's precedent in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, which found online sales tax collection was a matter of interstate commerce and thus up to Congress, not state legislatures, to decide. Under *Quill*, a state can only require collection of sales taxes from businesses with a physical presence in the state.

Legislative proposals to restrict local governments' powers to challenge property values and to delay taxation on increased values for housing developments passed the House Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, one along party lines and the other in a mixed vote.

**TOBACCO/SMOKING**

The 2017 Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP), conducted by Cincinnati nonprofit Interact for Health, found that a majority of Ohioans favor raising the minimum age to buy tobacco to 21, a trend that held true across most demographics surveyed.

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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.* |