This April 20, 2020, 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 the education bills of interest to Ohio's public education community introduced during the 133rd General Assembly. Bills are organized in order of last action date with the 3 most recent activities listed 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.

Member Alert

Expect an announcement early this week regarding the remainder of the school year and spring sports. It is expected that schools will remain closed through end of the school year and there will no continuation of spring sports. Fall will likely include new policies and procedures relative to public health concerns including but not limited to social distancing, which could impact operations and instructional delivery. ODE is rumored to be working on developing guidance to assist school districts with planning for services throughout the summer and for the start of next school year. Ohio's ESCs are in a unique position to provide technical assistance and support to school districts around these efforts including the coordination of communication and planning with other state, regional and local agencies and stakeholders on behalf of their client districts. More information will be provided when it is available.

Association Update and Resources

- Ohio’s ESCs are playing a critical supporting role to school districts during the closure. Highlights of what ESCs are doing to support students, families and schools can be found at http://www.oesca.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/ESC%20Services%20%26%20School%20Closure.
- OESCA is compiling information from various sources into a single place for ESCs and ESC stakeholders. You can access this at http://www.oesca.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/COVID-19%20Updates

Legislative Tracking Report

The following education bill of interest are monitored by OESCA on behalf of the membership and client districts. Bills are organized according to last action date:

HB606  CIVIL IMMUNITY - COVID-19 TRANSMISSION (GRENDELL D) To grant civil immunity to a person who provides services for essential businesses and operations for injury, death, or loss that was caused by the transmission of COVID-19 during the period of emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, and to declare an emergency.

- Current Status: 4/10/2020 - Introduced
- Recent Status: 
**SCR12**
**DENOUNCE DISCRIMINATION-COVID-19** (MAHARATH T) To denounce all forms of stigmatization, racism, and discrimination occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Current Status:** 4/8/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

**HB603**
**INTEREST RATE WAIVER - STUDENT LOANS** (INGRAM C, LIGHTBODY M) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to waive interest rates and suspend payments on state student loan programs for up to sixty days, to require the Chancellor to conduct a study to assist institutions of higher education and students during the COVID-19 outbreak, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 4/6/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

**HB593**
**REQUIRED PAID LEAVE - COVID-19** (BOYD J, BOGGS K) To require paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation, to create a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/25/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

**SB299**
**REQUIRE PAID LEAVE** (CRAIG H) To require paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation, to create a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/25/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

**HB587**
**SUSPEND ED-CHOICE PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIPS** (ROBINSON P, PATTERSON J) To suspend all performance-based Educational Choice scholarships for the 2020-2021 school year, to make changes to the Educational Choice Scholarship Program and the expansion of that program for the 2021-2022 school year and each school year thereafter, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/24/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

**HB585**
**EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS WAIVER - COVID-19** (PATTERSON J, ROBINSON P) To waive certain primary and secondary education requirements to account for school closings in compliance with the Director of Health’s order due to the implications of COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/24/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**
SB294  **ABSENTEE VOTING** (HUFFMAN M) To extend absent voting by mail for the March 17, 2020, primary election to April 28, 2020, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/24/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

HB569  **EXTEND CHILDCARE RATING DEADLINE** (SMITH K) To extend the date by which publicly funded child care providers must be rated through the Step Up to Quality Program and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/23/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

HB573  **COVID-19 - OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE** (SOBECKI L, BOGGS K) To make COVID-19 an occupational disease under the Workers' Compensation Law under certain circumstances and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/23/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

HB581  **ADDRESS COVID-19 CONCERNS** (CALLENDER J) To address immediate concerns related to COVID-19.

- **Current Status:** 3/23/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

HB577  **DISSOLVE ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS** (MILLER J, LIGHTBODY M) To dissolve existing academic distress commissions, to place a moratorium on the creation of academic distress commissions, to establish the School Transformation Board, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 3/23/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

HB582  **MAKE APPROPRIATIONS, REAPPROPRIATIONS** (CALLENDER J) To make appropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, and capital reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2022.

- **Current Status:** 3/23/2020 - Introduced
- **Recent Status:**

HB527  **SAVE WOMEN'S SPORTS ACT** (POWELL J, STOLTZFUS R) To enact the "Save Women's Sports Act" to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex.

- **Current Status:** 3/10/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education
**HB532** MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION (BRINKMAN T, KELLY B) To require the State Board of Education to adopt standards for mental health education, to permit school districts to include mental health education in their curriculum, and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 3/10/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**Recent Status:** 3/3/2020 - Introduced


**SB288** STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION (GAVARONE T) Regarding student religious expression in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities.

**Current Status:** 3/4/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

**Recent Status:** 2/26/2020 - Introduced


**SB126** CRISIS ASSESSMENTS-SUICIDAL YOUTH (MANNING N) To authorize a mental health professional to provide a crisis assessment, without parental consent, to a minor who is or is believed to be suicidal and to make an appropriation to support the employment of social workers or mental or behavioral health professionals at educational service centers.

**Current Status:** 3/4/2020 - Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid, (Fourth Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 2/19/2020 - Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid, (Third Hearing)
SB268  **CAPITAL APPROPRIATION** (SYKES V) To modify the purpose of a capital appropriation.

- **Current Status:** 2/25/2020 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
- **Recent Status:** 2/5/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
  2/3/2020 - Introduced


HB523  **STEM DEGREE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM** (PATTERSON J, CARFAGNA R) to establish the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program, to authorize a refundable tax credit for employers who make payments on student loans obtained by a graduate to earn a STEM degree, and to make an appropriation.

- **Current Status:** 2/21/2020 - Introduced


HB9  **COLLEGE CREDITS -- EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIPS** (JONES D, SWEENEY B) With regard to student degree completion at state institutions of higher education, to modify eligibility criteria for the Educational Choice Scholarship program, to dissolve certain academic distress commissions, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 2/20/2020 - , (Tenth Hearing)
- **Recent Status:** 2/19/2020 - , (Ninth Hearing)
  2/18/2020 - , (Eighth Hearing)


SB89  **CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION -- EDCHOICE** (HUFFMAN M) With regard to career-technical education and the compensation of joint vocational school districts located in enterprise zones, to make changes regarding STEM school report cards, to prohibit the use of value-added data for evaluations of career technical educators, to revise the law on community school fiscal officer liability, to make changes regarding school financing studies by the Department of Education, to revise the eligibility and operation of the Educational Choice Scholarship program, to dissolve existing academic distress commissions, to place a moratorium on the creation of academic distress commissions, to establish the School Transformation Board, to rename the income-based expansion of the Educational Choice Scholarship program as the Buckeye Opportunity Scholarship program, and to declare an emergency.

- **Current Status:** 2/12/2020 - Consideration of House Amendments; Emergency Clause 7-24, Senate Does Not Concur


SB218  **SCHOOL START TIME** (WILLIAMS S) To prohibit public schools from beginning the school day earlier than eight-thirty a.m.
**SB219** **APPRENTICE PROGRAM** (WILLIAMS S) To establish a career pathways apprentice program.

**Current Status:** 2/11/2020 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 10/23/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Education
10/15/2019 - Introduced


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**HB164** **STUDENT RELIGIOUS RIGHTS** (GINTER T) Regarding student religious expression and to entitle the act the "Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019."

**Current Status:** 2/11/2020 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 1/21/2020 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
12/4/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Education


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**SB253** **STUDENT THREAT OF VIOLENCE** (KUNZE S) Regarding expulsion of a student from a public school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds.

**Current Status:** 2/11/2020 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 2/4/2020 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (First Hearing)
12/17/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs


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**HB493** **SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTINUATION** (WIGGAM S) To permit a child whose parents live in different school districts to continue to attend school in the school district in which the child attended school at the beginning of the school year even if the child moves to a different school district.

**Current Status:** 2/11/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**Recent Status:** 2/4/2020 - Introduced


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**HB494** **LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM - TEACHERS** (LIGHTBODY M) To establish a loan repayment program for eligible teachers.

**Current Status:** 2/11/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**Recent Status:** 2/4/2020 - Introduced


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**SB262** **DIRECT PAYMENTS TO SCHOOLS** (WILLIAMS S) To require the direct payment of state funding to community schools and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics schools; to require the direct payment of K-12 state scholarships; and to make an appropriation.

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**SB134**  
**PASSING SCHOOL BUSSES** (GAVARONE T) To make changes to the law governing passing a school bus, to create a new offense for vehicular homicide and vehicular assault related to improperly passing a stopped school bus, to make an appropriation, and to designate this the School Bus Safety Act.

**Current Status:** 2/5/2020 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 32-0

**Recent Status:**
- 2/5/2020 - Bills for Third Consideration
- 1/22/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (Fourth Hearing)


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**SB34**  
**SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND EDUCATOR LICENSURE** (KUNZE S) Regarding school employee employment and educator licensure and conduct.

**Current Status:** 2/4/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Education, (Eighth Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 1/28/2020 - Senate Education, (Eighth Hearing)
- 12/3/2019 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Education, (Sixth Hearing)


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**HB123**  
**SCHOOL SAFETY TRAINING** (HOLMES G, MANNING G) With regard to school security and youth suicide awareness education and training.

**Current Status:** 2/4/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 1/21/2020 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Education, (Third Hearing)
- 10/29/2019 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)


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**HB436**  
**DYSLEXIA SCREENINGS FOR CHILDREN** (BALDRIDGE B) With regard to screening and intervention for children with dyslexia.

**Current Status:** 2/4/2020 - House Health, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 1/14/2020 - House Health, (First Hearing)
- 12/10/2019 - Referred to Committee House Health


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**HB447**  
**SCHOOL SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** (JORDAN K) To establish the School Safety Advisory Committee.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**Recent Status:** 12/12/2019 - Introduced


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**HB459**  
**STUDENT PARTICIPATION - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** (MILLER A, MILLER J) To prohibit a coach, director, or supervisor of an extracurricular activity from
restricting student participation in other extracurricular activities.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education  
**Recent Status:** 12/23/2019 - Introduced  

**HB478**  
**EDUCATIONAL CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY** (MILLER A, MIRANDA J) To make changes regarding the eligibility criteria for the Educational Choice scholarship program.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education  
**Recent Status:** 1/23/2020 - Introduced  

**HB465**  
**SCHOOL ZONE LOCATIONS** (MANNING G) To authorize the creation of school zones around specified preschools.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education  
**Recent Status:** 1/14/2020 - Introduced  

**HB409**  
**STUDENT ATTENDANCE - ONLINE SCHOOLS** (KOEHLER K) Regarding student attendance at internet- or computer-based community schools that are not dropout prevention and recovery schools.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)  
**Recent Status:** 1/23/2020 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)  
12/10/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)  

**HB448**  
**SCHOOL CREDIT APPROVAL** (BOYD J) To authorize school credit for approved programs offered at times outside the normal school day.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education  
**Recent Status:** 12/12/2019 - Introduced  

**SB102**  
**DYSLEXIA SCREENING PROGRAM** (BRENNER A, LEHNER P) To establish the Dyslexia Screening Program for school districts and other public schools.

**Current Status:** 1/28/2020 - Senate Education, (Sixth Hearing)  
**Recent Status:** 1/21/2020 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, Senate Education, (Fifth Hearing)  
10/29/2019 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)  
HB310  SCHOOL 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 colleges.

**Current Status:** 1/23/2020 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Fifth Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 1/21/2020 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Primary and Secondary Education, (Fourth Hearing)
11/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Fourth Hearing)


HB231  FREE EPINEPHRINE PROGRAMS (GREENSPAN D) To require the Department of Education to notify public and private schools of free epinephrine autoinjector programs and to enact the "Allison Rose Suhy Act" with regard to food allergy training for public schools and institutions of higher education.

**Current Status:** 1/23/2020 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 1/21/2020 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)
5/21/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)


SB248  SCHOOL STORM SHELTERS (SCHAFFER T) To extend until November 30, 2022, the moratorium on the building code requirement for storm shelters for school construction projects.

**Current Status:** 1/22/2020 - Senate General Government and Agency Review, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 12/11/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate General Government and Agency Review
12/2/2019 - Introduced


HB360  PUBLIC SCHOOLS-WATER STATIONS (CRAWLEY E, HILLYER B) To require water bottle filling stations and drinking fountains in certain public school buildings.

**Current Status:** 1/22/2020 - House Commerce and Labor, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 11/6/2019 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing)
10/9/2019 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor


HB321  CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION (LIPPS S, KELLY B) 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:** 1/21/2020 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 11/5/2019 - REPORTED OUT, House Health, (Third Hearing)
10/15/2019 - House Health, (Second Hearing)

SB200 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT-DYSLEXIA (LEHNER P, BRENNER A) With regard to professional development for screening and intervention for children with dyslexia.

**Current Status:** 1/21/2020 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, Senate Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 10/29/2019 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)
- 10/29/2019 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)


SB147 OHIO SCHOOL MARSHAL PROGRAM (HOAGLAND F) To create the Ohio School Marshal Program.

**Current Status:** 1/21/2020 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 11/6/2019 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (First Hearing)
- 6/4/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs


SB225 CHILD ABUSE REPORTING (LEHNER P) To require public schools to post signs with a child abuse reporting telephone number.

**Current Status:** 1/21/2020 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 10/23/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform
- 10/16/2019 - Introduced


HB322 TEACHER RESIDENCY (JONES D, MANNING D) To revise the Ohio Teacher Residency Program.

**Current Status:** 12/10/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 11/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)
- 10/29/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)


HB367 SCHOOL COUNSELOR HIRING PRACTICES (MIRANDA J, MANCHESTER S) To require the Department of Education to make recommendations for a job description for school counselors and to designate at least one staff member as a school counselor liaison.

**Current Status:** 12/10/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)

**Recent Status:**
- 11/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)
- 10/29/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)

SB121  **HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS** (SYKES V, KUNZE S) To require the State Board of Education to adopt health education standards and to require that only statewide venereal disease education standards and curriculum be approved by the General Assembly.

**Current Status:** 12/3/2019 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 10/29/2019 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

**State Bill Page:** [https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-121](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-121)

HB305  **SCHOOL FINANCING** (CUPP B, PATTERSON J) To create a new school financing system, and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 11/20/2019 - House Finance, (Sixth Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 11/13/2019 - House Finance, (Fifth Hearing)


HB111  **SCHOOL RECORD TRANSFER** (INGRAM C) To require that public and private schools transmit a transferred student’s records within five school days.

**Current Status:** 11/19/2019 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Primary and Secondary Education, (Fourth Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 11/12/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)


SB181  **WORKFORCE-EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS** (COLEY W) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create a template for workforce-education partnership programs.

**Current Status:** 11/6/2019 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 33-0

**Recent Status:** 11/6/2019 - Bills for Third Consideration


HB375  **EXTRACURRICULAR TAX CREDIT** (BROWN R) To authorize a refundable income tax credit for individuals who pay an extracurricular activity fee on behalf of a student from a low-income family.

**Current Status:** 11/5/2019 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 10/23/2019 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means


HB83  **SCHOOL BUS PHOTO EVIDENCE** (BROWN R, SCHAFFER T) To allow images captured by a camera installed on a school bus to be used as corroborating evidence for the offense of failing to stop for a school bus.

**Current Status:** 10/31/2019 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 3/5/2019 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice

SB216  SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES  (ROEGNER K) To allow school districts to exempt recipients of the existing homestead exemption from additional school district taxes.

**Current Status:** 10/23/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance

**Recent Status:** 10/10/2019 - Introduced


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SB226  REQUIRE SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION  (WILLIAMS S) To require school districts to provide transportation for students in grades 9-12, to have the pupil transportation formula operate for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 10/23/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee

**Recent Status:** 10/21/2019 - Introduced


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SB224  PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SCHOOL FUNDING  (THOMAS C) To provide an additional school funding payment for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 for school districts that were subject to the cap that restricted increases in aggregate funding in fiscal year 2019 and satisfy other criteria.

**Current Status:** 10/23/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee

**Recent Status:** 10/16/2019 - Introduced


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SB109  WORKFORCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  (SCHURING K) To establish the Workforce Scholarship Program, to terminate the provisions of the Scholarship Program on December 31, 2023, to authorize tax credits for graduates of the Scholarship Program and their employers, and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 10/8/2019 - Senate Finance, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 4/24/2019 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)

3/21/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance


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SB81  PROHIBIT USE OF SECLUSION IN SCHOOLS  (MAHARATH T) To prohibit the use of seclusion in public schools.

**Current Status:** 10/1/2019 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

3/6/2019 - Introduced


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SB168  SERVICES FOR STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE MEALS  (YUKO K, MAHARATH T) To enact the "Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act" to require schools to provide certain services to students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals.

**Current Status:** 10/1/2019 - Senate Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 7/17/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

6/19/2019 - Introduced

HB336  **REINSTATE JEOC** (SOBECKI L, ROBINSON P) To reinstate the Joint Education Oversight Committee, make an appropriation, and declare an emergency.

**Current Status:** 10/1/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 9/24/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education
9/17/2019 - Introduced


HB154  **DISSOLVE DISTRESS COMMISSIONS** (MILLER J, JONES D) To revise the law on interventions for low-performing school districts and schools, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

**Current Status:** 9/24/2019 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)
9/18/2019 - Senate Education, (Fourth Hearing)


SB85  **SCHOOL ZONE SPEED LIMITS** (MAHARATH T) To establish signage requirements for indicating school zones for speed limit purposes, and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 9/17/2019 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
9/16/2019 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
3/6/2019 - Introduced


HB44  **SNAP FEDERAL FUNDING** (HOLMES G, MILLER A) To make an appropriation to continue to fund the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families programs, and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children contingent upon a lapse in federal funding.

**Current Status:** 9/10/2019 - House Health, (First Hearing)
9/12/2019 - House Health, (First Hearing)
2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Health
2/12/2019 - Introduced


SB4  **SCHOOL FACILITIES ASSISTANCE** (RULLI M) To make a capital appropriation for school facilities assistance.

**Current Status:** 7/23/2019 - Re-Referred to Committee
7/18/2019 - Informally Passed
7/17/2019 - Informally Passed


HB294  **SCHOOL BULLYING** (DENSON S, MILLER A) To modify the definition of school harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

**Current Status:** 6/25/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**Recent Status:** 6/19/2019 - Introduced

**HB165** HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS (LISTON B, GALONSKI T) Regarding the adoption of health education standards.

**Current Status:** 6/18/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 6/4/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)
5/28/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)


**HB239** REDUCE TESTING (MANNING G, CRAWLEY E) To reduce the number of end-of-course assessments required for high school graduation and to require each school district to form a work group to evaluate the amount of time students spend on testing.

**Current Status:** 6/11/2019 - BILL AMENDED, House Primary and Secondary Education, (Third Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 6/4/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)
5/28/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)


**HB43** SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY ACQUISITION (INGRAM C) To eliminate the right of first refusal for certain schools in the acquisition of school district real property.

**Current Status:** 6/11/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 2/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)
2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education


**HB90** UNBORN CHILD EDUCATION (ANTANI N) To require the development of an instructional program and educational and informational materials and the dissemination of those materials to protect the humanity of the unborn child.

**Current Status:** 6/4/2019 - House Health, (Sixth Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 5/28/2019 - BILL AMENDED, House Health, (Fifth Hearing)
4/30/2019 - House Health, (Fourth Hearing)


**SB128** SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS (HUFFMAN M) To make changes to the Educational Choice Scholarship Program and the Cleveland Scholarship Program.

**Current Status:** 5/1/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance

**Recent Status:** 4/9/2019 - Introduced


**HB23** F-1 VISA SCHOOL ATHLETICS (ANTANI N) To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics.

**Current Status:** 4/30/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)
SB110  ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS (MANNING N) To modify the operation of academic distress commissions in certain school districts.

**Current Status:**  4/9/2019 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

**Recent Status:**  4/2/2019 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)

**State Bill Page:**  https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-110

HB127  DISTRESS COMMISSION MORATORIUM (SMITH K, HAMBLEY S) To prohibit the creation of new academic distress commissions.

**Current Status:**  4/9/2019 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Primary and Secondary Education, (Second Hearing)

**Recent Status:**  3/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)

**State Bill Page:**  https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-127

HB132  SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS (MANNING D) Regarding notice of school child immunization requirements and exemptions.

**Current Status:**  4/2/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:**  3/19/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**State Bill Page:**  https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-132

SB104  INTERDISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT (HILL B) Regarding funding for students enrolled in community schools, STEM schools, and other districts through interdistrict open enrollment.

**Current Status:**  3/27/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Education

**Recent Status:**  3/13/2019 - Introduced

**State Bill Page:**  https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-104

HB122  OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (KOEHLER K) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program.

**Current Status:**  3/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)

**Recent Status:**  3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education

**State Bill Page:**  https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-122
HB118  SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION (MANNING D) Regarding student transportation to and from school.

  **Current Status:** 3/19/2019 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
  **Recent Status:** 3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
  3/4/2019 - Introduced
  **State Bill Page:** https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-118

HB121  TAX CREDIT-CLASSROOM MATERIALS (SCHAFFER T) To allow a credit against the personal income tax for amounts spent by teachers for instructional materials.

  **Current Status:** 3/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)
  **Recent Status:** 3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education
  3/5/2019 - Introduced
  **State Bill Page:** https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-121

HB89  FAILURE TO STOP-SCHOOL BUS (ANTANI N) To enhance the penalties for failing to properly stop for a school bus, to establish requirements related to informing the public about that prohibition, and to make an appropriation.

  **Current Status:** 3/5/2019 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
  **Recent Status:** 2/20/2019 - Introduced
  **State Bill Page:** https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-89

HB105  SCHOOL BUS STOP (BROWN R, SCHERER G) To enhance the penalty for failing to stop for a school bus that is picking up or dropping off school children when the offender has a prior violation within a five-year period.

  **Current Status:** 3/5/2019 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
  **Recent Status:** 2/26/2019 - Introduced
  **State Bill Page:** https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-105

HB22  OFCC ODE-SCHOOL BUILDING AMENITIES (ANTANI N) To require the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and the Department of Education to conduct a study regarding certain school building amenities.

  **Current Status:** 2/19/2019 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (First Hearing)
  **Recent Status:** 2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education
  2/12/2019 - Introduced
  **State Bill Page:** https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-22

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FY20-21 BUDGET

While not subject to the Office of Budget and Management’s (OBM) directives on planning for budget cuts because of constitutional separation of powers, Ohio’s independently elected statewide officials are contemplating how to shave their own spending as economic disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic upend tax collections. For example, Treasurer Robert Sprague wrote a letter to Gov. Mike DeWine saying his office had identified 20 percent of its General Revenue Fund (GRF) budget to cut, or nearly $426,000 out of $2.13 million.

CORONAVIRUS

Gov. Mike DeWine continued his schedule of regular briefings on the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, though he did not schedule them over the Easter weekend, the first full weekend without an appearance for about a month. Case statistics increased over the week, from 5,878 cases and 231 deaths on Friday, April 10 to 8,414 total cases and 389 deaths on Thursday, April 16.

Among updates DeWine, Lt. Gov. Jon Husted and Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Dr. Amy Acton announced over the week were the following:

- A new method of counting coronavirus cases per CDC guidance, to include not only those with positive test results but also those who test positive for virus antibodies, and those with clinical and epidemiological evidence of the virus with no other likely diagnosis even if they’ve not been tested.

- New flexibility on prescription drugs under Medicaid and MyCare Ohio, including waiver of prior authorization for new prescriptions and a relaxing of refill thresholds on certain prescriptions.

- Temporary authorization for food trucks to operate at rest areas to help truck drivers.

- Ohio’s first inmate death, a man in Pickaway Correctional Institution’s long-term care unit.

- A requirement for long-term care facilities to notify family and residents within 24 hours when a resident or staff member tests positive for the virus.

- Release of $5 million in federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding to help foodbanks.

- A bar on non-Ohio residents purchase at liquor stores in counties along the Pennsylvania border, following that states closing of liquor stores in mid-March.

- Submission by the Ohio Department of Medicaid of an emergency federal waiver request to address the virus by bolstering use of telehealth, waiving signature requirement and making other changes.

- Following a vote Tuesday by the Correctional Institution Inspection Committee (CIIC) to make use of an emergency overcrowding statute, authorization of the release of 105 prisoners who are within 90 days of their scheduled release and met screening criteria tied to the seriousness of offenses, prison disciplinary records and warrants from other states, among other factors. The governor also instructed Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) Director Annette Chambers-Smith to screen new groups of prisoners daily as they enter that 90-day eligibility period.
DeWine stopped short of "ordering" Ohioans to wear masks in public on Thursday but did call it "the courteous thing to do. I am strongly suggesting everybody do it," he added.

As Ohio lawmakers push Gov. Mike DeWine to start re-opening parts of Ohio's economy and President Donald Trump states on Twitter that he has the power to overrule governors on the decision -- only later to back off that statement -- DeWine said Monday that he is taking the advice and input from everyone when it comes to rolling back Ohio's restrictions. Ohio lawmakers have become more vocal on social media and in news outlets in recent days about their desire to open Ohio's economy back up after large portions were shut down last month to stop the spread of COVID-19. As cases begin to flatten, more attention is turning to how the U.S. and Ohio will bring the economy back online without leading to a new spike in cases.

DeWine and Acton said Tuesday that they share Ohioans' frustrations and anger about stay-at-home restrictions due to the novel coronavirus, but also cautioned there will not be a full return to normalcy until a vaccine is widely available. Acton said there could be "ongoing spikes" until the vaccine is widely administered and that they are preparing for that. She said Ohioans should be tremendously proud, as they've been a national leader and "won the first battle." Readily available testing to enable contact tracing is also important, she said.

Republican state lawmakers from rural and suburban areas wrote pointed letters to the governor or have otherwise expressed frustration with the executive branch's approach to the COVID-19 crisis. Among those pushing for reopening the state were Reps. Derek Merrin (R-Monclova), Craig Riedel (R-Defiance) and Andrew Brenner (R-Powell), Sens. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) and Rob McColley (R-Napoleon). Rep. Jay Edwards (R-Nelsonville) was critical of the administration regarding the new case counting policy and for a general lack of communication from legislative liaisons in the governor's office.

The Ohio House 2020 Economic Recovery Task Force held hearings each day of the week. Patients with significant non-coronavirus-related medical issues, including children, are experiencing pain and health deterioration because their health care appointments are being delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, three physicians told members of on Monday. While Drs. Steven Tornik, Ian Thompson and Phil Slonkosky generally praised the response of the DeWine administration during the pandemic and understand the importance of preserving scarce personal protective equipment (PPE), they said the health consequences of delaying or cancelling appointments should not be ignored or minimized.

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Lodging, restaurant and hair businesses as well as behavioral health and re-entry providers gave the task force their tallies of economic disruptions and ideas for re-starting commerce Tuesday, with some warning of the pandemic's "long tail." The task force heard from Neil Tilow, CEO of Talbert House; Joe Savarise, executive director of the Ohio Hotel and Lodging Association; John Barker, CEO of the Ohio Restaurant Association; and Tony Fiore, executive director of the Ohio Salon Association.

On Wednesday, the task force heard from Dale Hipsley of Half Day Cafe; Jason Duff of Small Nation; Mike Bohan and Jason Clark of IKORCC; Ohio Insurance Institute; Ohio Bankers League; Ohio Society of CPAs; and Ohio Credit Union League. Then on Thursday, the following testified: Johnathan
Smith, CEO/president of Lancaster Bingo; David Waikem, owner of Waikem Auto Family; and Bob Hager, owner of Miller’s Textile Services.

Monday’s Controlling Board meeting included approval of $8.8 million for the Ohio Coronavirus Relief Fund, down from an earlier request of $28.7 million, a reflection of the fact that virus cases are not growing as quickly as originally thought.

The Ohio Division of Emergency Medical Services (Ohio EMS) recently issued guidance to first responders regarding the novel coronavirus on personal protective equipment (PPE), minimum ambulance staff standards and places first responders and health care workers can stay to limit the risk of their families’ being exposed.

Former Gov. John Kasich and psychiatrist Henry Harbin, past CEO and chairman of Magellan Health Services, recently wrote a CNN op-ed on coronavirus and related mental health effects. Throughout U.S. history, they said, the “greatest challenges have summoned our greatest strengths” and this pandemic will be no different.

Answering some of the questions and criticisms expressed by state lawmakers over the last several days, the press secretary for Gov. DeWine told Hannah News that the new method for counting COVID-19 cases is necessary to help the state gradually ease out of the Ohio Department of Health’s (ODH) physical distancing restrictions. The new case counting policy, developed by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and adopted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as the official federal guidance for states, recommends including “confirmed” and ‘probable’ COVID-19 cases in the official counts. Ohio’s implementation of the guidance was announced by the DeWine administration last Friday.

Ohio hospitals are being asked to deliver a plan within a week on how they would resume the elective procedures now on hold to preserve hospital capacity and scarce personal protective equipment (PPE) amid the coronavirus pandemic. Gov. DeWine said at his daily COVID-19 briefing Wednesday that he’d been on a long conference call with the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) and hospital leaders earlier in the day, hearing concerns about the effects of deferred or delayed health care.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom Tuesday gave the following six indicators his state will use to decide when to lift restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of the coronavirus: the ability to monitor and protect communities through testing, contact tracing, isolating, and supporting those who are positive or exposed; the ability to prevent infection in people who are at risk for more severe COVID-19; the ability of the hospital and health systems to handle surges; the ability to develop therapeutics to meet the demand; the ability for businesses, schools, and child care facilities to support physical distancing; and the ability to determine when to reinstitute certain measures, such as the stay-at-home orders, if necessary.

Battelle will be decontaminating N95 respirator masks at no cost to health care providers after receiving a federal contract for up to $400 million to cover the cost of that work. The contract was awarded by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) on behalf of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

On Thursday, Gov. DeWine opened his daily briefing with a Winston Churchill quote: “This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.” With that, he went on to say that on May 1 the state will begin a phased-in reopening of the economy. However, he repeatedly cautioned that it will be a slow, tiered process that will, in large measure, be driven by recommendations from his board of economic advisors which the lieutenant governor is now working with. Recommendations from the group will, in part, be based on what companies that have continued operating have found to be best practices.

Govts. JB Pritzker (IL), Gretchen Whitmer (MI), Mike DeWine (OH), Tony Evers (WI), Tim Walz (MN), Eric Holcomb (IN) and Andy Beshear (KY) Thursday announced that they will work in close coordination to reopen the economy in the Midwest region. “We will closely examine at least these
four factors when determining when best to reopen our economy: sustained control of the rate of new infections and hospitalizations; enhanced ability to test and trace; sufficient health care capacity to handle resurgence; and best practices for social distancing in the workplace.”

The Ohio General Assembly has been “missing in action” while Gov. DeWine and ODH Director Acton have been overstepping their constitutional authority during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Ohio Roundtable and American Policy Roundtable President and CEO Dave Zanotti. Zanotti, who recently spoke with Hannah News ahead of conducting a YouTube briefing with American Policy Roundtable Vice President Rob Walgate, said the Legislature should take back the “ultimate authority” to enforce quarantine and isolation laws from the ODH director because she’s an unelected bureaucrat.

Advocacy group Ohio Right to Life sent a letter to Gov. DeWine along with a list of “guiding principles” the group says health care providers and patients should adhere to when making difficult health care decisions, including those addressing the use of ventilators related to treatment of COVID-19. Among the guiding principles is the idea that life-saving equipment, such as ventilators being used by older individuals, should not be taken away from those individuals in order to provide care to younger patients.

Ohio mayors Thursday said they may be forced to cut vital services such as police and fire protection due to the downturn in the economy and shutdown from the coronavirus pandemic if the federal government does not step in with help in the next round of stimulus. Members of the Ohio Mayors Alliance noted that help for cities was limited to the largest metropolitan areas nationwide in the previous stimulus packages. They said the next round needs to include all cities.

**EDUCATION**

The Ohio Supreme Court will again take up an appeal by the defunct Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT), this time to consider the online charter school’s argument that it should have the right to challenge in court the State Board of Education’s determination that the school had been overpaid.

**ELECTIONS 2020**

Term limits again are creating new opportunities in the Senate, and House lawmakers are looking to take advantage of those opportunities to move to the upper chamber. While a win in the primary will most likely put those legislators in the driver’s seat for the November election because of the district makeups, they by no means have an easy road ahead of them. Many are facing tough competitors running on an anti-establishment platform, or have a challenge from a local official who has been coalescing support in the district around them.

An appointee of former Gov. John Kasich has won rounds one and two of his primary fight with the endorsed judicial candidate of the Hamilton County Republican Party, which twice has passed over former Statehouse hopeful Curt Hartman. The Board of Professional Conduct recommended and a five-judge commission has ordered a public reprimand and fine against longtime magistrate and GOP pick Karen Falter based on false campaign statements, leaving the Ohio Supreme Court barely two weeks to hear her appeal before the Legislature’s Tuesday, April 28 primary election deadline.

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose announced Tuesday that more than 700,000 Ohioans have cast a ballot for the primary election with two weeks to go before the April 28 deadline. LaRose said that 1,254,377 Ohioans have requested a vote-by-mail ballot for the primary election, and 712,048 have cast their ballots. His office clarified that the total includes ballots cast before and after March 17.

The Ohio Supreme Court Tuesday in a 6-1 opinion ordered the Athens County Board of Elections to put Democrat Katie O’Neill, the daughter of former Ohio Supreme Court Justice William O’Neill, on
the ballot for the 94th House District after it had removed her for not meeting residency requirements.

The Clermont County Sheriff’s Office said David Uible, a Republican candidate for the 14th Ohio Senate District, has been charged with two misdemeanors related to false statements made to a sheriff's detective during an investigation. Uible was charged with one count of falsification, a first-degree misdemeanor, and one count of obstructing official business, a second-degree misdemeanor.

A coalition of voting groups Thursday sent a letter to members of the General Assembly urging lawmakers to change Ohio's voting rules for the Aug. 4 special election and the Nov. 3 General Election due to concerns over the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The groups said that the Ohio General Assembly "must enact legislation so that every registered Ohio voter receives a postage-paid absentee ballot" for the two upcoming elections.

EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT

For the week ending Saturday, April 11, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported 158,678 initial unemployment claims, taking the state’s total over the last four weeks to 855,197 as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc on the economy. "To put that in perspective, the total for the last four weeks of claims is 139,685 more than the combined total of 715,512 for the last two years," ODJFS said in its release announcing the new numbers.

FEDERAL

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) said he is pushing to restart talks on the next federal COVID-19 relief package, but U.S. Senate President Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has been "resisting" efforts to begin negotiations. "Negotiation needs to start today with Sen. McConnell asking Congress to get back to work. Governments, businesses and banks are all asking for it," Brown said. He also admonished President Donald Trump for refusing to take responsibility for the nation’s coronavirus response, and said the nation’s response started anywhere from six to eight weeks late.

Saying that states nationwide will face $500 billion in budget shortfalls in the next fiscal year due to decreased revenue from income tax and sales taxes, the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) Tuesday called on Congress to direct more federal aid to states. Otherwise, the Washington D.C. think tank said states will be forced to cut services to balance their budgets, and that could exacerbate health and economic woes. Elizabeth McNichol, CBPP senior fellow for state fiscal policy, said states will lose revenues in areas including income tax and sales tax due to the spread of COVID-19 and related social distancing policies, and the related losses of jobs and reduced consumer spending.

In a call with reporters Tuesday, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) discussed future COVID-19 response plans for federal and state leaders. Portman noted that this week, people across the country will start receiving the $1,200 part of the federal government’s phase three response to the pandemic known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Sen. Portman was named to the Opening Up America Again Congressional Group, a bicameral group of U.S. legislators selected by President Donald Trump to provide counsel to the president on reopening America in the wake of COVID-19.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

In an announcement in the Friday, April 10 House Journal, Speaker Larry Householder (R-Glenford) said that effective over a month before, on Friday, March 6, Rep. Jamie Callender was temporarily named co-chair of the House Finance Committee along with committee chair Rep. Scott Oelslager (R-North Canton). Householder spokeswoman Taylor Jach explained the appointment in an email: "There was a previous administrative oversight. The intent at the time of the change was for Rep.
Callender to co-chair with Chairman Oelslager in order for Rep. Callender to step in temporarily while Chairman Oelslager recovers from his back ailment. This now corrects the oversight.”

A bill to distribute funding made available through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act is among several pieces of priority legislation that senators have been working on during the last several weeks, Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said Tuesday. "We'll absolutely be back in session, probably in the not-too-distant future," Obhof told Hannah News in a phone interview, saying he hopes to meet in a few weeks, but it could take longer depending on the circumstances.

Members of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus were joined by U.S. Reps. Marcia Fudge (D-Warrensville Heights) and Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus) and local public health officials on a recent conference call where they said the most culturally competent messaging on COVID-19 social distancing will have to come from within black communities. House Minority Leader Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) encouraged people to spread the word about the seriousness of social distancing policies, while adding that medical conditions which black people are socially predisposed to having are also risk factors for COVID-19 transmission, making them especially vulnerable. She and others on the call encouraged people to stay home.