STATEHOUSE REPORT

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On the Ballot: Sales Taxes

On Tuesday, Ohioans will head to their polling place to vote for a variety of federal, state, and local positions and issues. Last week, *Statehouse Report* gave an overview of property tax levies on the ballot.

In addition to the property tax levies, there are five permissive sales and use taxes on the ballot. Of these, three are county taxes and two are transit authority taxes.

All of the county sales taxes on the ballot are renewals:

- Holmes County: Five-year renewal of a 0.25% tax for permanent improvements.
  - Total rate: 1.25%

- Logan County: Five-year renewal of a 0.50% tax for various purposes.
  - Breakdown: 0.125% for county roads, bridges, and stormwater improvements; 0.125% for the county sheriff; 0.10% for township roads, bridges, and stormwater improvements; 0.10% for municipal roads, brights, and stormwater improvements; and 0.05% for economic development and land use planning
  - Total rate: 1.50%

- Wyandot County: Five-year renewal of a 0.50% tax for the county sheriff and countywide EMS.
  - Total rate: 1.50%

One of the transit authority sales tax issues is a renewal. The Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) is seeking a ten-year renewal of its 0.25% levy. SARTA had a renewal and an increase (for a total of 0.35%) on the ballot in May but it was rejected by a vote of 51%-49%.

The other transit authority sales tax is a new levy request from the Delaware County Regional Transit Authority (DCRTA). The DCRTA was formally created in June by the Delaware County Commissioners due to rapid growth of the former county-system. The new transit authority is seeking a 0.20% levy for a continuing period of time.

CCAO has produced lists of county ballot issues and CCAO member races. Results of county elections will be shared in the November 6 edition of *Statehouse Report* and the November 9 edition of *Counties Current*.

Legislative Activity

Introduction of Bills

The following bill(s) that may be of interest to counties were introduced this week:

- House Bill 1033 (Representative Gayle Manning): To prohibit unlawful dissemination of a peace officer's personally identifying information.
- Senate Bill 484 (Senator Al Cutrona): To change the status of the judge of the Struthers Municipal Court from part-time to full-time.