



STATEHOUSE REPORT

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February 6, 2015

Governor introduces SFY 16/17 budget proposal, tax reform and reallocation of state revenues included

This past week Governor Kasich introduced the Executive Budget with Budget Director Tim Keen delivering testimony before the House Finance and Appropriations Committee. Similar to Governor Kasich's previous two biennial appropriation bills, this budget includes tax reform and reallocation of certain state tax revenues. The tax reforms include a combination of state income tax reductions combined with proposed increases and base broadening of the state sales tax, increases to the commercial activity tax, cigarette taxes, and severance taxes on oil and gas.

Overall Economic Forecast

The baseline economic forecast is for continued growth for the nation and for Ohio. For 2010-2014, real GDP growth averaged 2.2% per year. OBM projects real GDP accelerating to an average of 2.8% over CY 2015-2017, with growth being a little faster (3.1%) in 2015 due to special factors such as the drop in oil and gasoline prices. Consumer spending is expected to grow at an average rate of 3.1% over CY 2015-2017, almost a percentage point higher than the 2.2% average over 2010-2014. The final GRF tax total, presuming the Governor's tax reforms are in place, represent growth of 5.3% and 4.1%, respectively, from the revised FY 2015 forecast.

While the economic outlook is generally good, OBM mentioned two risk areas that could undermine the positive outlook. The first is in international trade which can negatively impact exports. The second risk is domestic, involving low wage growth that could lead to lower consumer spending, combined with other demographic factors and credit market trends.

Indigent defense funding – Budget Priority

The governor's proposed budget provided no increase for indigent defense. Reimbursement stays at 40% and the General Revenue Fund appropriation remains at \$9.6 million per year.

Just \$12 million in additional state GRF funding each year takes reimbursement to 50%.

Contact your legislators **now** and ask them to increase the Office of the Public Defender's line item GRF 019501 "County Reimbursement" by at least \$12 million to restore the State's initial commitment to an equal partnership in funding indigent defense.

Local Government Fund – The state budget proposes no change in the percentage of tax receipts revenue sharing concept adopted two years ago as part of the current state budget. The percentage of the state GRF allocated to the LGF would remain at 1.66%. The state budget provides for modest revenue growth, provided the administrations assumptions about the economy and all the tax law changes (tax cuts and tax increases) proposed by the governor are actually adopted by the General Assembly.

Local Government Fund State Fiscal Years 2012 – 2017 (in millions)

2012 actual	2013 actual	2014 actual	2015 estimate	2016 forecast	% increase	2017 forecast	% increase
\$584.3	\$348.7	\$347.3	\$364.2	\$383.5	5.3	\$399.3	4.1

Proposed Tax Reforms at a Glance

Proposed Tax Cuts -

- Reduce personal income tax by 15% in TY 15 and an additional 8% (23% total) in TY 16
- Small business income tax relief via 100% deduction on gross receipts under \$2 million
- Increase personal exemption for low and middle income taxpayers
 - Taxpayers earning less than \$40,000 exemption increases from \$2,200 to \$4,000
 - Taxpayers earning between \$40-80,000 exemption increases from \$1,950 to \$2,850

Proposed Revenue Enhancements -

- Expansion of sales tax base plus permanent .5% rate increase (5.75% to 6.25%)
- CAT tax rate increase from .26 to .32%
- \$1 per pack on cigarette tax and increasing taxes on other tobacco products
- Increase severance tax on horizontal wells 6.5% gross market value natural gas and 4.5% liquids
- Eliminate a small set of income tax deductions & credits for taxpayers making over \$100,000

In broad terms, the reform proposal provides a net tax cut of \$523 million over two years.

Sales Tax Base Broadening in Detail - The Governor’s proposed budget not only raises the sales tax rate, but applies the sales tax to a broader array of items. Already the focus of much discussion around the Statehouse, the base broadening proposals are as follows:

- Expand sales tax to services, including lobbying, market research/opinion polling, public relations, management consulting, and debt collection services.
- Impose sales tax on cable subscriptions, parking services, and travel services
- Reduce motor vehicle and watercraft trade-in value tax exemption to 50%
- Cap vendor’s discounts for timely filing at \$1,000 per month

These sales tax base broadening activities, if enacted, would result in counties and transit authorities gaining an estimated \$101 million in FY 2016 and \$121 million in FY 2017.

Reallocation of the Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) – The state budget proposes reducing the share of state CAT revenues devoted to reimbursing schools and local governments for lost

tangible personal property (TPP) taxes from 50% to 25% of CAT receipts. Compared with existing law, the school share will decrease from 35% to 20% of the CAT and the local government share will decrease from 15% to 5% of the CAT. This means that 75% of the CAT will be directed to the State GRF under the proposed state budget. Following is a table that shows allocation of the CAT since 2011.

Allocation of Commercial Activity Tax Revenues since 2011

	2006-2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 proposed	2017
School Property Tax Replacement Fund	70%	52.5%	35%	35%	35%	20%	20%
Local Government Property Tax Replacement Fund	30%	22.5%	15%	15%	15%	5%	5%
State GRF	0%	25%	50%	50%	50%	75%	75%

Commencing in SFY 2016, the state will resume the phase out of tangible personal property reimbursement payments to schools and local governments. According to Budget Director Tim Keen, schools and local governments will experience a reduction in property tax reimbursement payments at a rate of no more than 2% of total resources each year. This represents a resumption, albeit with certain modifications, of the reimbursement phase down first initiated by the Kasich Administration four years ago.

The amount of revenue earmarked to the State GRF from CAT revenues will increase by 80% or approximately \$650 million from state FY 15 to SFY 16. The Ohio Department of Taxation has promised to provide a detailed memo explaining the details of the phase out in the near future.

Reallocation of kilowatt revenues to the State GRF – Beginning in SFY 2016, the budget proposes allocating 100% of state kilowatt hour taxes to the state GRF. Currently, 88% of those revenues are allocated to the state GRF and 12% of such revenues are allocated to schools and local governments. Local governments have been receiving such payments since 2001 in response to the fiscal impacts on local governments of electrical deregulation. The following table depicts the gradual phase out of kilowatt hour reimbursements from 2008 through SFY 2017 (proposed).

Phase-out of Kilowatt Hour Reimbursement Payments to Local Governments pursuant to Electrical Deregulation

	2008-2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (proposed)
State	63%	88%	88%	88%	88%	100%
Schools	25%	9%	9%	9%	9%	0%
Local Governments	12%	3%	3%	3%	3%	0%

State budget documents indicate that kilowatt hour receipts to the state GRF will increase by \$55 million or 18.8% in SFY 16 as a result of this reallocation of state revenue.

Casino Revenue Estimates - The gross casino revenue county distributions are expected to decline over the biennium. The FY 2015 estimate was \$168 million. The FY 2016 estimate is \$123.5 million and \$114 million in 2017. Note that these amounts contain funds that the metro counties must share with the cities, so not all of it actually goes to counties.

Indigent Defense

Reimbursement Rate – Although the budget summary states that the current biennium’s minimum reimbursement rate of 40% will be continued through the FY’16/17 biennium, we have serious issues with some of the budgeting proposals.

The State Public Defender informs us that, without his office’s knowledge, the Office of Budget and Management on their own initiative adjusted the percentage share of the Indigent Defense Support Fund (Fund 5DY0), allocated between county reimbursement and the State Public Defender office operations, to the detriment of reimbursement and in favor of office operations. While this adjustment is only a 1% change for from 88% to 87% for reimbursement, this is an affront to the extensive efforts of CCAO and the State Public Defender to work with the Legislature to identify and secure dedicated, recurring, non-GRF resources to help fund reimbursement and assist in reducing the reliance upon the LGF. We secured passage of legislative initiatives in the 126th, 127th, and 128th General Assemblies which have resulted in the GRF commitment being drastically reduced while still increasing the reimbursement percentage to counties. At this point special revenue sources deposited into the Indigent Defense Support Fund are providing \$39 million, or 83%, of the nearly \$47 million provided for reimbursement. So the budget language, in effect, prospers without labor by raiding the non-GRF sources in the Indigent Defense Support Fund and fails to provide any additional GRF funding for reimbursement.

CCAO will strenuously object to the percentage allocation change to the Indigent Defense Support Fund and seek an increase beyond the current \$9.6 million dedicated GRF funding for reimbursement that will take reimbursement to at least 50%

CCAO estimates that it would take approximately an additional \$12 million in GRF funding to provide 50% reimbursement. This would provide GRF funding of roughly \$21.6 million which is still only 80% of the \$26.9 million GRF appropriation for FY 09 which was the height of the last recession.

Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections

Community Corrections Act Funding – Funding for misdemeanor jail diversion 408 line item programs is increased by \$1.5 million in each year to provide \$14.4 million in each year of the biennium. This is an 11.7% increase over the current biennium years’ funding levels, which, themselves, were increased \$500,000 over the previous biennium. The felony prison diversion 407 line item is getting just short of a 50% increase which will take funding from around \$36 million in FY’15 to approximately \$53.6 million in FY’16 and \$56.4 million in FY’17

The CCA 408 line item funds programs for jail diversion in the local communities. The CCA 407 line item primarily supports felony prison diversion programs in the local communities. The CCA 407 line item also funds grants to common pleas courts to provide for staff needed to replace DRC Adult Parole Staff who had been conducting presentence investigation and report writing for common pleas courts across the state, and the Probation Improvement Grant which is directed to programs that are designed to reduce recidivism of felony probationers and the Probation Incentive Grant that rewards those counties who are successful in actually reducing their probation revocation rates and meeting the reduction targets outlined in their Probation Improvement Grant. These two grants were developed to further the “justice reinvestment” initiative.

Community Based Correctional Facilities (CBCF)

CBCF funding sees 4% increases in funding over the previous year in each year of the biennium with funding levels at \$72.4 million in FY’16 and \$75.3 million in FY’17. CBCFs provide community treatment and rehabilitative services for convicted felons in a community setting rather than a prison. These programs are locally managed through the common please courts but are funded entirely with state funding. Counties may, but are not required, to provided additional funding.

Department of Youth Services

RECLAIM and Youth Services Subsidy – Again continues funding for both the RECLAIM program and Youth Services Subsidy line items at current levels of \$30.6 million per fiscal year and \$16.7 million per fiscal year, respectively. These appropriation levels have remained unchanged since FY 2011.

DYS’s “**Targeted RECLAIM**” program has been expanded to include a competitive grant program that will provide and additional \$2.2 million in funding to support 29 new programs in 25 additional counties beyond the \$8.8 million earmarked for the 15 counties that have historically committed the most youth to DYS institutions. This will take the program budget up from the current \$8.8 million to \$11 million in each year of the FY’16/17 biennium. The targeted RECLAIM program is designed to implement evidence-based and model programs in the community that have been shown to successfully divert youth from DYS institutions.

MARCS user fees funding

We have been informed that the governor’s budget will include funding to help pay for the MARCS radios monthly user fee of \$20. While this has not yet been confirmed, the line item in the Department of Administrative Services budget that currently provides for MARCS lease rental payments has been increased by \$1.6 million. This is the amount that has been talked about as being needed to cover the monthly user fees for the local governments participating in the MARCS system.

County Health and Human Services

Overall state contributions to county health and human services program delivery and administration is largely flat-funded, the executive branch unveiled this week.

The news comes on the heels of a major program announced last week by Governor John Kasich, which as stated will require boards of county commissioners to select one coordinating and fiscal agent to administer Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds and provide common assessments and coordinated case management to individuals with barriers keeping them un- and under-employed.

While many important decisions and details around the program have yet to be unveiled or determined, CCAO looks forward to continuing conversation with the Administration around identifying ways to meet the broader goal of helping get people back to work in a way that is realistically implementable, has achievable success measures, and does not inappropriately increase liability on counties.

(See [last week's Statehouse Report](#) for more information on the program announcement.)

At the Feb 13 Board of Directors meeting, Administration officials will be present to discuss the program in more detail.

Separately, yet to be released is information about the spending plan for the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant – a major source of funds for county JFS departments with impacts on child welfare, transit, and other programs.

We also expect to see several policy proposals around personal responsibility in the budget language, such as premiums for Medicaid.

Senate begins hearings on compensation

The Ohio Senate already has started to address elected officials' compensation with a hearing on Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 1 this week and another hearing scheduled for next week. SJR 1 would ask the voters to amend Ohio's Constitution to establish the Public Office Compensation Commission, which largely would set compensation for many elected officials, including county officials.

Senate Widener, [testifying](#) on behalf of sponsor Senate President Keith Faber, said the resolution is a retread of a proposal that cleared the Senate unanimously last session (SJR 9, 130th General Assembly). The main thrust of the plan, Sen. Widener said, is the philosophy that "politicians should not be in the business of setting their own salaries."

That theory has prevailed in 19 other states that have formed similar panels, he said, adding that the City of Columbus also announced a similar approach to the issue.

The commission would be comprised of nine members of the public, including two each appointed by the governor, Senate president and House speaker, one each appointed by the minority leader of each chamber and one by the chief justice of the Ohio Supreme Court.

Sen. Widener said officers and employees of the state and their relatives would be excluded from serving, as would lobbyists and people who had been a candidate for office in the last 12 months prior to their appointment.

Appointees would be limited to four consecutive two-year terms, the committee would be

required to hold at least three public hearings on proposals and the legislature would have the ability to override one or more salary recommendations with a three-fifths vote of each chamber, he said.

If you have thoughts or questions about SJR 1, please contact CCAO Staffers Cheryl Subler or John Leutz at (614) 746-8507 or (614) 299-2800, respectively.

PTSD workers' comp proposal for first responders receives hearing

A bill that would classify post-traumatic stress disorder as an injury - without a corresponding physical injury - for first responder public employees received sponsor testimony this week in the Senate Transportation, Commerce and Labor Committee.

The proposal in [SB 5](#), jointly sponsored by Majority Floor Leader Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) and Senator Edna Brown (D-Toledo), received favorable consideration from the Senate several times in the last General Assembly (introduced in the 130th General Assembly as SB 252), but was not adopted by the House.

CCAO did not take a position on the bill itself, but did express concerns with the measure being adopted hastily without the analysis and study critical to sound workers' compensation policy, stating that since mental health benefits are now an essential benefit under health insurance plans, a conversation should occur around whether workers' compensation is the proper avenue for such claims as opposed to health insurance.

The proposal will be discussed by the CCAO General Government Committee next week and staff will continue to monitor activity. In the meantime, please contact CCAO staffer Laura Abu-Absi at labu-absi@ccao.org or 614-221-5627 for additional information.

Senate wants to move Lake Erie algae bill quickly

The Senate unveiled its bill to fight toxic algal blooms in Lake Erie with the introduction of [Senate Bill 1](#). The Senate Agriculture Committee held informal hearings on the measure on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Committee Chairman [Sen. Cliff Hite](#) (R-Findlay) hopes the bill can move quickly since most of the algae-related provisions were passed by the house last session in the stalled HB490.

The bill is a priority for the Senate, and a floor vote is expected on Feb. 18. On Tuesday SB 1 co-sponsors [Sen. Randy Gardner](#) (R-Bowling Green) and [Sen. Bob Peterson](#) (R-Sabina) outlined the key sections of the bill:

- The transfer of the Agriculture Pollution Abatement Program from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture.
- Prohibiting the spreading of manure and fertilizer on frozen and saturated ground.



Sen Randy Gardner

- Phosphorus monitoring at water treatment plants.
- A goal of ending open-lake disposal of dredged material in Lake Erie.
- Revised sewer rules.
- A point and nonpoint source study by Ohio EPA.
- Lead plumbing provisions.
- Private sewer regulations.

Additional items included in SB1, but not in last year's HB490 include:

- An emergency clause to make it effective immediately.
- The Healthy Lake Erie Fund will be updated to help with agricultural best practices and the monitoring of tributaries feeding Lake Erie.
- A new Office of Harmful Algae Management and Response is created in Ohio EPA.
- Updated dredging disposal provisions.

The Kasich administration also has proposed similar algae provisions in the budget. Those include a ban on manure and fertilizer spreading frozen or rain-soaked ground in the Western Lake Erie Basin with certain exceptions for farms that take preventative measures, and a 2020 target date for ending the disposal of dredging waste in the lake.

On Wednesday key agriculture groups testified that steps should be taken to minimize the growth of algae blooms in major Ohio bodies of water, but argued that efforts are already underway to limit fertilizer runoff from farm fields. The groups also told the Senate Agriculture Committee that sources other than farming play a role in the health of Lake Erie and other waterways. To read more testimony from the hearings are available on the [Senate Agriculture Committee's website](#).

House Agriculture Committee – Water Quality Hearings

On February 12, 2015, the House Agriculture and Rural Development Committee will conduct a hearing at Sylvania Municipal Building in Sylvania, Ohio to continue the discussion on water quality and nutrient management.

Thursday, February 12 at 1:00pm
City of Sylvania Municipal Building
Council Chambers
6635 Maplewood Ave.
Sylvania, OH 43560

For additional information on water quality issues, please contact CCAO staffer Brian Mead at bmead@ccao.org or 614-220-7982.

SB 310 Energy Mandate Study Committee - Update

Excerpts taken from a Gongwer News Article, State environmental and utility regulators told the Energy Mandates Study Committee Thursday that federal carbon rules should figure into

deliberations on the future of Ohio's green energy law. Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Director Craig Butler and Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Vice Chairman Asim Haque said pending limits on carbon dioxide emissions from power plants would prove costly to Ohio utility customers.

However, they said it's unclear whether Ohio's renewable and energy efficiency standards would help or hinder the state in complying with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's so-called "Clean Power Plan" or "111(d)" rules, which are expected to be finalized mid-summer.

Mr. Haque said the PUCO modeled the financial impact of the proposed rule, which would prioritize the use of natural gas plants over coal-fired facilities. This "building block two" of the 111d regulations might increase wholesale market energy prices by 39% in 2025, raising Ohioans' electricity costs by \$2.5 billion for that year alone, he said. ([PUCO Testimony](#))



**EPA Director
Craig Butler**

[Sen. Bill Seitz](#) (R-Cincinnati), chairman of the Senate Public Utilities Committee, asked whether riders that fund utilities' compliance with the state's renewable and energy efficiency standards would increase the overall costs. Mr. Haque said there were too many variables involved to determine the financial impact of eliminating the clean energy requirements. For example, the federal carbon rules might drive development of the renewable energy credit market and technological improvements that would reduce ultimately compliance costs, he said. Moreover, the availability of federal tax credits will also affect the price of green energy in 10 years.

However, reducing the amount of renewables and energy efficiency in Ohio's overall electricity mix will likely increase costs, Mr. Haque said, pointing to a resulting reduction in supply and increase in demand.

Future electricity costs have been the key consideration in Statehouse debate over Ohio's clean energy law. Policymakers have paid relatively little attention to the potential environmental impact of last year's move to ease requirements on utilities to procure 12.5% of their electricity from renewable sources and help customers reduce their consumption 22% by 2025, which was pushed back to 2027 (SB310, 130th General Assembly).

However, environmentalists say the clean energy standards (SB221, 127th General Assembly) will be a crucial for meeting the 111(d) rules, which call for a 30% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from 2005 levels to 2030. That's because they will require states to increase their dependency on renewables and energy efficiency to reduce emissions from coal-fired power generation.

OEPA Director Butler said it was not yet possible to determine whether the state's renewable and energy efficiency standards are sufficient to meet the U.S. EPA's carbon reduction targets because the draft rules issued last year lack the detail necessary to make a determination.

([OEPA Testimony](#))

The administration will start developing a state implementation plan at the same time the state challenges the legality of the rules, he said.

"U.S. EPA is attempting to federalize programs that have historically been the domain of the states," he said, noting that CO2 reduction measures outlined in the states' implementation plans will be enforceable by the federal government. Moreover, any related legislative changes in Ohio could not be implemented without permission from the U.S. EPA, he said.

U.S. EPA has also said it will "dictate necessary measures" for states that fail to submit an acceptable compliance plan, the director said, adding "it will likely be draconian."

Director Butler said Ohio and eight other states have joined coal company Murray Energy in challenging the U.S. EPA rulemaking effort in court. "We believe that the vast expansion of authority and regulatory reach to the national power generation, transmission, distribution system, in addition to anyone who used electricity, is not consistent with congressional intent and that these and other legal challenges will be argued if the rules become final later this year," he said.

OEPA has identified a number of practical problems with the rules, he said, noting that they calculate reduction targets based on 2012 levels, rather than 2005. CO2 emissions from Ohio plants have already dropped 138 million tons over the past 10 years, he said, calling additional improvements "extremely unrealistic."

Sen. Seitz asked the director for legislative recommendations in case lawmakers decide to ignore the U.S. EPA's carbon rules and "give them the single digit salute."

"I would prefer not to have some legislative handcuffs on us," Director Butler replied, adding that he'd rather wait for more detail about what the federal default implementation plan will be. "Making a decision right now about whether we play the game or not play the game is, in my view, premature."

[Sen. Cliff Hite](#) (R-Findlay) asked whether the committee needs more time to complete its deliberations. Director Butler acknowledged the mid-summer timeline for the U.S. EPA to release final rules, the committee's September deadline and the June 2016 deadline for state implementation plans "don't synch up well." Moreover, OEPA will seek an extension, which would likely give the state until early 2018 to devise a compliance plan, he added.

Co-Chairman [Sen. Troy Balderson](#) (R-Zanesville) told reporters after the hearing that members have discussed pushing back the deadline for issuing recommendations, but he hopes to avoid that. "Our plan right now is to be done by Sept. 30," he said.

For additional information on water quality issues, please contact CCAO staffer Brian Mead at bmead@ccao.org or 614-220-7982.

Bills Introduced

[SJR 1](#)

COMPENSATION COMMISSION ([Faber, K.](#)) To establish the Public Office Compensation Commission.

[SB 1](#)

ALGAE CONTROL ([Gardner, R.](#), [Peterson, B.](#)) To transfer the administration and

enforcement of the Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture, to require applicators of fertilizer or manure to comply with specified requirements, to create the Office of Harmful Algae Management and Response in the Environmental Protection Agency, to establish requirements governing dredged material, nutrient loading, phosphorous testing by publicly owned treatment works, and household sewage treatment systems, and to declare an emergency. Am. 901.22, 903.082, 903.25, 941.14, 953.22, 1511.01, 1511.02, 1511.021, 1511.022, 1511.023, 1511.05, 1511.07, 1511.99, 1515.01, 1515.08, 3734.02, 3734.029, 3745.70, 6109.10, 6111.03, 6111.04, 6111.44, 6112.01, and 6112.03; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section number as indicated in parentheses, section 1511.022 (939.04); to enact sections 905.326, 905.327, 939.01, 939.02, 939.03, 939.05, 939.06, 939.07, 939.08, 939.09, 939.10, 939.11, 939.12, 939.13, 1511.024, 1511.09, 3745.50, 6111.32, and 6112.06; and to repeal section 1511.071

- SB 2** **TAX LAWS** ([Peterson, B.](#)) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since March 22, 2013, into Ohio law, and to declare an emergency. Am. 5701.11
- SB 5** **POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS** ([Patton, T.](#), [Brown, E.](#)) To make peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury eligible for compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law. Am. 4123.01, 4123.026, and 4123.46
- SB 8** **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE** ([Burke, D.](#)) Regarding the General Assembly's review of public assistance programs.
- SB 9** **INFANT MORTALITY** ([Jones, S.](#), [Lehner, P.](#)) Regarding data collection on state-administered services provided in the home that are aimed at reducing infant mortality and negative birth outcomes or health disparities among women who are pregnant or capable of becoming pregnant and who belong to a racial or ethnic minority and Medicaid coverage of certain services for pregnant women, new mothers, or women who may become pregnant. Am. 5164.01 and to enact sections 3701.142, 3701.95, 5164.10, 5164.11, and 5167.15
- SB 10** **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE** ([Burke, D.](#), [LaRose, F.](#)) To establish a process for identifying individuals who are medical assistance recipients that may be eligible to receive federal military-related health care benefits. Am. 5160.471 and 5902.21
- SB 11** **OFFICER DEPENDENTS** ([Eklund, J.](#), [LaRose, F.](#)) To enact the "Jason Gresko Act" to create the Volunteer Peace Officers' Dependents Fund to provide death benefits to survivors of volunteer peace officers killed in the line of duty and disability benefits to disabled volunteer peace officers. Am. 2329.66 and to enact sections 143.01 to 143.11
- SB 13** **SEX OFFENSES** ([Jones, S.](#), [Hughes, J.](#)) To extend the period of limitations for commencing a rape or sexual battery prosecution against a person who is implicated in the offense by DNA analysis. Am. 2901.13
- SB 14** **NEWBORN SCREENING** ([Faber, K.](#), [Lehner, P.](#)) To require that Krabbe disease be included in the Newborn Screening Program. Am. 3701.501
- SB 15** **DRUG PRISON** ([Uecker, J.](#), [Faber, K.](#)) To require the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, by December 15, 2015, to study the feasibility of converting an existing facility into a substance abuse recovery prison and to specify that the General Assembly is to consider expanding the pilot program for medication-assisted treatment for drug offenders. Am. 5120.035
- SB 16** **FERTILIZER CONTROLS** ([Brown, E.](#)) To require applicators of fertilizer or manure to comply with specified requirements and to authorize the Director of Environmental Protection to study and calculate nutrient loading to Ohio watersheds from point and nonpoint sources. Am. 905.321 and 6111.03 and to enact sections 901.80, 901.81, 901.82, 901.83, 905.326,

and 905.327

- SB 17** **MEDICAID COVERAGE** ([Cafaro, C.](#)) To require the Medicaid program to cover the eligibility expansion group authorized by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and to make an appropriation. En. 5163.04
- SB 18** **TAX CREDITS** ([Gentile, L.](#)) To authorize a refundable income tax credit for employers that hire one or more qualified veterans or members of the National Guard or reserves. Am. 5747.98 and to enact section 5747.78
- SB 22** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND** ([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 GRF each month. Am. 131.51
- SB 23** **LAW ENFORCEMENT** ([Thomas, C.](#)) To establish the Ohio Community-Police Relations Commission to investigate the condition of community-police relations and review the use of force by law enforcement officers, to set the rate of reimbursement to public appointing authorities for the cost of continuing professional training for its law enforcement officers and require training in community-focused de-escalation techniques, mental health and special condition response, and cultural sensitivity, to require law enforcement agencies to use traffic tickets and if used, investigatory stop forms that provide for the recording of the race of the traffic offender or individual stopped or questioned, and to make an appropriation. Am. 109.802 and 109.803 and to enact sections 2933.84, 2933.85, and 2933.86
- SB 25** **MINIMUM WAGE** ([Yuko, K.](#)) To raise the minimum wage; to raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law; and to create a uniform standard to determine whether an individual performing services for an employer is an employee of that employer. Am. 119.14, 121.083, 1349.61, 4111.02, 4111.03, 4111.09, 4111.13, 4111.14, 4113.15, 4115.03, 4121.01, 4123.01, 4123.026, 4141.01, and 5747.01 and to enact sections 4175.01, 4175.02, 4175.03, 4175.04, 4175.05, 4175.06, 4175.07, 4175.08, 4175.09, 4175.10, 4175.11, 4175.12, 4175.13, 4175.14, 4175.15, 4175.16, 4175.17, 4175.18, and 4175.99
- HB 26** **BULLION SALES** ([Maag, R.](#), [Hackett, B.](#)) To exempt from sales and use taxes the sale or use of investment metal bullion and coins. Am. 5739.02
- HB 30** **VEHICULAR HOMICIDE** ([Pelanda, D.](#)) To restrict to cases of negligent vehicular homicide a provision of law that declares that the failure of an operator of a motor vehicle to secure a child in a car seat, in a booster seat, or with a seat belt is inadmissible as evidence in certain criminal actions and to allow the enforcement of child car seat, booster seat, and seat belt requirements as a primary offense if the child is less than eight years of age. Am. 4511.093, 4511.81, and 4513.263
- HB 32** **AIRCRAFT FUEL** ([Perales, R.](#)) To subject the receipt of motor fuel used to operate aircraft to the motor fuel excise taxes rather than the sales and use taxes and to require a percentage of motor fuel excise tax revenue to be used for airport improvements. Am. 5735.05, 5735.14, 5735.23, 5735.25, 5735.26, 5735.29, 5735.291, and 5735.30 and to enact section 5735.054
- HB 33** **MEDICAL CANNABIS** ([Retherford, W.](#), [Rogers, J.](#)) To authorize for persons diagnosed with seizure disorders certain uses of cannabidiol and other drugs or substances derived from cannabis. Am. 3719.17
- HB 34** **HEALTH CARE COMPACT** ([Retherford, W.](#), [Boose, T.](#)) To enter into the Health Care Compact. Am. 190.01 and 190.02
- HB 41** **VOTER REGISTRATION** ([Stinziano, M.](#)) To require the Secretary of State to create an online voter registration system. Am. 3503.14 and to enact section 3503.20

Hearing Schedule

Tuesday, February 10

[Senate Finance](#), (Chr. [Oelslager, S.](#), 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 pm
[SJR 1](#) ■ **COMPENSATION COMMISSION** ([Faber, K.](#)) To establish the Public Office Compensation Commission. **--2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

[SB 2](#) ■ **TAX LAWS** ([Peterson, B.](#)) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since March 22, 2013, into Ohio law, and to declare an emergency. **--2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

[House Finance & Appropriations](#), (Chr. [Smith, R.](#), 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9:00 am

- Executive testimony on education provisions

[House Local Government](#), (Chr. [Anielski, M.](#), 644-6041), Rm. 113, 10:00 am

- Organizational tasks and LSC presentation on local government

[HB 5](#) ■ **BUSINESS CASE STUDIES** ([Kunze, S.](#), [Koehler, K.](#)) To allow the Auditor of State to conduct business case studies regarding the efficiency of local public offices and state agencies, to authorize the Auditor of State to establish a shared equipment service agreement program among political subdivisions, and to specify that a political subdivision that uses the loaned equipment has potential liability for its use under the Political Subdivision Tort Liability Law. **--1st Hearing-Sponsor**

~~[House Session](#), (Chr. [Rosenberger, C.](#), 466-3357), House Chamber, 11:00 am~~

~~[Senate Rules & Reference](#), (Chr. [Faber, K.](#), 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11:00 am~~

~~[Senate Session](#), (Chr. [Faber, K.](#), 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm~~

[House Finance: Transportation Sub.](#), (Chr. [Grossman, C.](#), 466-9690), Rm. 311, 2:30 pm

- Budget presentation: Department of Transportation

Wednesday, February 11

[House Finance & Appropriations](#), (Chr. [Smith, R.](#), 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9:00 am

- Executive testimony on Medicaid provisions

[House Health & Aging](#), (Chr. [Gonzales, A.](#), 466-4847), Rm. 116, 10:00 am

- Adoption of rules and appointment of secretary

[HB 4](#) ■ **OVERDOSE DRUGS** ([Sprague, R.](#), [Rezabek, J.](#)) Regarding authority to furnish or dispense naloxone to a person who may be at risk of an opioid overdose or a person who may be in a position to assist a person who is at risk. **--1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral**

[HB 29](#) ■ **AWARENESS MONTH** ([Johnson, T.](#)) To designate November as "Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency Awareness Month." **--1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral**

[House Commerce & Labor](#), (Chr. [Young, R.](#), 644-6074), Rm. 122, 10:00 am

- Review of committee rules and procedure

[HB 17](#) ■ **VOLUNTEER IMMUNITY** ([Blessing, L.](#), [Landis, A.](#)) To provide civil immunity for architects, contactors, engineers, surveyors, and tradespersons providing volunteer services during a declared emergency. **--1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[Senate Session](#), (Chr. [Faber, K.](#), 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm

[House Session](#), (Chr. [Rosenberger, C.](#), 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 pm

[House Finance: Transportation Sub.](#), (Chr. [Grossman, C.](#), 466-9690), Rm. 122, 2:30 pm or after session

- Budget presentations: Department of Public Safety, Turnpike & Infrastructure Commission

Senate Medicaid, (Chr. [Burke, D.](#), 466-8049), North Hearing Rm., 3:00 pm

SB 9 ■ **INFANT MORTALITY** ([Jones, S.](#), [Lehner, P.](#)) Regarding data collection on state-administered services provided in the home that are aimed at reducing infant mortality and negative birth outcomes or health disparities among women who are pregnant or capable of becoming pregnant and who belong to a racial or ethnic minority and Medicaid coverage of certain services for pregnant women, new mothers, or women who may become pregnant. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

SB 17 ■ **MEDICAID COVERAGE** ([Cafaro, C.](#)) To require the Medicaid program to cover the eligibility expansion group authorized by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and to make an appropriation. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

Thursday, February 12

House Finance & Appropriations, (Chr. [Smith, R.](#), 466-1366), Rm. 313, 9:00 am

- Executive testimony on tax provisions

House Finance: Transportation Sub., (Chr. [Grossman, C.](#), 466-9690), Rm. 122, 1:00 pm

- Public testimony on Transportation budget

House Agriculture & Rural Development, (Chr. [Hill, B.](#), 644-6014), City of Sylvania Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 6635 Maplewood Ave., Sylvania, 1:00 pm

- Discussion on water quality and nutrient management.