



# STATEHOUSE REPORT

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## Dialogue continues on property tax proposal to freeze valuation on commercial/industrial property

During the past week discussions involving CCAO, other local government groups, school interests and the legislators involved in the consideration of SB 235 have continued. SB 235 calls for freezing property valuation for industrial and commercial property that has received infrastructure improvements, but for which a building occupancy permit has not been issued.

CCAO Managing Director of Research Brad Cole [testified](#) three weeks ago, expressing concerns that the legislation automatically grants favorable tax treatment if certain conditions are met, without input or control by local governments. In addition, the bill before the Senate Ways and Means Committee would not provide for a local agreement between the property owner and political subdivision, which would normally specify the number of years the exemption is to be in place and the percentage of exemption that the property owner would be entitled to for the duration of the agreement.

In discussions among interested parties, consideration is being given to permitting pilot programs among counties, municipalities and townships that volunteer to participate where the volunteering political subdivisions could “opt out” of the pilot program or remove certain parcels/areas from a pilot program. Under one scenario that was discussed, property owners would be required to apply to the participating legislative authority that has zoned such land seeking approval of the application. Under this approach, the increased valuation of the land would be exempted from increased property taxes until one of the following occurs:

### SB 235

#### Property tax proposal to freeze valuation for certain commercial/industrial property

**Sponsors:** Sen. B. Beagle and Sen. B. Coley

**CCAO Position:** Monitoring

**Status:** Ways & Means Committee

#### Key Provisions:

- Freezes valuation for industrial and commercial property that has received infrastructure improvements but has not been developed vertically or received an occupancy permit.

#### CCAO Concerns:

- Legislation automatically provides favorable tax treatment if certain conditions are met, without input or control by local governments. In addition, the bill as drafted does not provide for a local agreement between the property owner and political subdivision, which would denote the percentage of tax valuation granted for a specific time period. Moreover, concern about how this tool works with other economic development incentives.

- The owner sells the land;
- The land is rezoned for a purpose other than commercial or industrial;
- An occupancy permit has been issued; or
- The land is subject to a triennial or sexennial reappraisal, whichever occurs first, provided such reappraisal is at least two years from the filing of the application for the exemption, otherwise it would be the following reappraisal

Once one of the events described above occurs, the property valuation would be reset at the higher valuation and the freeze in property value would be lifted and could not be re-imposed. It was also suggested that any pilot program be limited to 10 years and be subject to periodic review by the Development Services Agency after 5 years and at the end of the 10-year program.

CCAO encourages commissioners, county executives, county council members and economic development professionals to reach out to CCAO to express your views relative to the concepts laid out in this article. It must be stressed that there is no guarantee that any of the concepts laid out in this article will be wholly or partially acceptable to the sponsors of SB 235, Senators Bill Coley (R-Liberty Township) and Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City), or to the members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee where this legislation is being heard. This bill is scheduled for a sixth hearing, possible amendments and a possible vote on Wednesday, April 27th.

For additional information regarding this issue, please contact Brad Cole or Cheryl Subler at [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org) or [csubler@ccao.org](mailto:csubler@ccao.org) respectively.

## **House finance committee reports sales tax holiday bill after hearing from CCAO, University of Cincinnati and retail merchants**

The House Finance Committee unanimously reported sales tax holiday legislation SB 264 following interested party testimony from CCAO and proponent testimony from the University of Cincinnati and the Council of Retail Merchants.

Earlier this year the Ohio Senate passed this legislation 31-1 after Senator Bacon (R-Minerva), the prime sponsor of the bill, agreed to make this bill another pilot to give the state more time to analyze the results of another sales tax holiday. In 2014, the legislature passed legislation authorizing the first sales tax holiday which was conducted in Ohio during the first weekend in August of 2015 to correspond to the back to school shopping season. The first sales tax holiday bill and this bill exempt individual articles of clothing valued up to \$75, and school supplies and school instructional materials individually valued at up to \$20 from the sales and use tax during a three day time period (Friday through Sunday) corresponding to the first weekend in August.



Sen. Kevin Bacon

## SB 264

### Sales Tax Holiday 1<sup>st</sup> Weekend in August

**Sponsors:** Sen. Bacon

**CCAO Position:** Interested Party

**Status:** House Rules Committee

#### Key Provisions:

- Provides for a sales tax holiday [Friday – Sunday] for the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in August

#### CCAO Concerns:

- Possible loss of sales tax revenue
- Interferes with commerce in the marketplace

In CCAO [testimony](#), CCAO Managing Director of Research Brad Cole thanked Senator Bacon for making the program a pilot instead of a permanent sales tax holiday. Cole noted that a one year pilot would give the state and other interested parties more time to analyze data regarding the impact of the sales tax holiday before taking further action to extend or otherwise modify sales tax holiday legislation. In Senate testimony, CCAO had recommended that the bill be amended from a permanent sales tax holiday to a pilot program.

Cole also noted that in discussions with the Ohio Department of Taxation, the department has agreed to gather sales tax data from 2014 (non-sales tax holiday year), and 2015 and 2016 for the months of July, August and September based on the North American Industry Classification Codes. This information would be compiled for all 88 counties and the state as a whole from publicly available sources. CCAO has expressed support for the gathering of additional data and analysis so as to better understand the impact of the sales tax holiday on state and local sales tax collections.

The Finance Committee also heard testimony from the University of Cincinnati who testified that according to data they compiled from Department of Taxation records Ohio experienced a net increase of \$4.7 million in additional tax revenue as a result of the sales tax holiday in August, 2015. The University of Cincinnati study which was paid for by the research arm of the Ohio Council of Retail Merchants claims that sales increased in counties throughout the state, but particularly in the border counties. Ohio is the only state in the Midwest with a sales tax holiday leading proponents to claim that Ohio is attracting residents from other states to shop in Ohio during the sales tax holiday. Other organizations testifying in favor of the legislation included Kohl's Department Stores, Macy's, the Ohio Council of Retail Merchants and the National Federation of Independent Businesses. For additional information on this topic, please contact CCAO staffer Brad Cole at [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org).

## House Committee hears from proponents supporting foreclosure reform

The House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development Committee took proponent testimony and also accepted several amendments to proposed legislation [HB 463](#) which would reform Ohio's property foreclosure process.

According to the bill's sponsor Rep. Johnathan Dever (R-Cincinnati), the amendments address a series of concerns he had heard from interested parties, including housing advocates. The amendments update sections identifying the fact patterns that could be used to establish that a home was abandoned or vacant and require that a government official must make an inspection visit to ensure that the property is vacant and clarify that the bill doesn't deal with land banks and local ordinances. The amendments also require an online buyer to provide their name, address, phone number, and email address in order to increase the information available about

an online buyer of property since some parcels are purchased by shell companies that can't be easily contacted.

The Ohio Bankers League offered proponent testimony noting that the current foreclosure process takes an estimated 18 months to complete, not including the time when lenders work with homeowners to work out loan repayments that may have fallen behind. Such delays tend to lead to disinvestment in homes, leaving properties in worse shape and reducing property tax payments. Thus, when it becomes clear that a mortgage will not be repaid, all parties benefit from a quicker foreclosure process. The bankers indicated their particular support for the language allowing lenders to enter and secure properties if they are determined to be vacant.

The Ohio Mortgage Bankers Association also backed the bill, indicating that while there has been a recovery from recessionary times, many communities are still dealing with vacant and abandoned properties. The bill offers a needed definition which provides a clear, objective method for identifying those properties, and eliminates issues that seasonal properties or other less-used properties could be targeted. Ms. Collins also said the bill modernizes the online sales and advertising process. Ultimately, the bill will be good for communities be getting properties in the hands of new homeowners more quickly. For more information, contact CCAO staffer John Leutz at [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org).

## HB 463

### Reform Foreclosure Process

**Sponsor:** Rep. J. Dever

**CCAO Position:** Monitoring

**Status:** Pending before House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development Committee Civil Justice Committee

#### Key Provisions:

- Creates a fast-track process for foreclosure against vacant and abandoned property
- Clarifies process of using a private selling officer rather than the county sheriff
- Creates a state-wide listing and auction website for properties up for sheriff's sale

## Coroner Bill receives its first hearing in the Senate

HB 240 which would update coroner laws had its sponsor hearing this week in the Senate State and Local Government Committee. [HB 240](#) is an interest to CCAO because it would revise how the office of coroner is filled when a vacancy cannot be filled by election or appointment. The bill authorizes a board of county commissioners to contract with another county's coroner to exercise the powers and perform the functions of the coroner when a vacancy occurs because of the death or resignation of the coroner and it cannot be filled by election or appointment, or when no one runs for the office. Currently six counties do not have a candidate for coroner (Erie, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Pike and Vinton Counties).

CCAO has worked closely with the State Coroners Association and its Executive Director David Corey. Part of the reason for a lack of coroner candidates stems from recent changes to Ohio's Public Employee Retirement System. Specifically, by increasing the previous 10-year minimum level of service for retirees to be eligible for healthcare, a very important recruiting tool to attract professionals to run for local office was taken away. To combat this issue, the bill would allow counties in which the coroner position is vacant or facing an anticipated absence of quality candidates to contract with another coroner.

## HB 240 would also do the following:

- Recognize that coroners include medical examiners;
- Change the qualifications for holding office as a coroner of a charter county;
- Require, under certain conditions, and to authorize, under other conditions, supplemental compensation for coroners who are forensic pathologists;
- Specify the disposition of a firearm when a person meets death under certain circumstances;

Another item in the bill that is of interest to CCAO is the section dealing with who specifically pays for the autopsy of an inmate of a state correctional facility. The bill would require the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction or the Department of Youth Services to pay the costs of an autopsy whenever the person who died was an inmate of a state correctional facility.

### Specific provisions dealing with changes to coroner compensation:

***Supplemental compensation for coroners who are forensic pathologists*** - For purposes of compensating coroners, continuing law classifies them based on county population, and pays them according to statutory schedules and whether they elect to engage in the private practice of medicine in a county with a population exceeding 175,000. The bill requires that each coroner who is the coroner in a county with a population of 175,001 or more and who does not elect to engage in the private practice of medicine receive supplemental compensation of an additional 50% of the coroner's annual compensation in each calendar year in which the coroner's office satisfies all of the following:

- (1) The office operates as a regional forensic pathology examination referral center, and the operation generates sufficient coroner's laboratory fund income that is in excess of the fund's expenses and is sufficient to provide the supplemental compensation;
- (2) The coroner is a forensic pathologist certified by the American Board of Pathology;
- (3) The coroner performs a minimum of 75 post mortem examinations annually.

But, if the coroner does not satisfy (1) or (3), above, the bill authorizes, but does not require, the coroner to receive, on approval of the board of county commissioners, supplemental compensation of up to an additional 25% of the coroner's annual compensation in each calendar year in which the coroner is a Board-certified forensic pathologist and is performing the county's forensic examinations

***Notice regarding coroner's return to private practice*** - The bill allows a coroner in a county with a population of 175,001 or more who initially elects not to engage in the private practice of medicine to elect to engage in private practice during the coroner's term of office by notifying the board of county commissioners in writing of the coroner's intention to do so. The notice must state the date on which the coroner will commence private practice, and must be given to the

## HB 240

### Coroners' Law

**Sponsors:** Rep. Huffman and Rep. Johnson

**CCAO Position:** Interested Parties

**Status:** Senate State and Local Government

#### Key Provisions:

- To define the legal residence of a dead person for purposes of the body's disposal;
- To recognize that coroners include medical examiners, and to change the qualifications for holding office as a coroner of a charter county;
- To require, under certain conditions, and to authorize, under other conditions, supplemental compensation for coroners who are forensic pathologists;
- To revise how the office of coroner is filled when a vacancy cannot be filled by election or appointment;
- To specify who pays for the autopsy of an inmate of a state correctional facility.

board at least 30 days before that date. On the date stated in the notice, the coroner will be compensated at the reduced rate that applies to a coroner with a private practice.

HB 240 will have its next hearing Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> in Senate State and Local Government Committee. For additional information on HB 240, please contact CCAO staffer Brian Mead at [bmead@ccao.org](mailto:bmead@ccao.org) or 614-220-7982.

## **Grace Commission discusses employment barriers**

The Grace Commission, a committee created to provide recommendations on how government can be more efficient, met this week to look at barriers Ohioans face when attempting to obtain employment.

Greg Lawson, statehouse liaison for the Buckeye Institute for Policy Solutions, asked the committee to consider "spending reductions and creative policy solutions" in the areas of corporate welfare, regulatory boards and commissions, Local Government Fund distributions, public-private partnerships, K-12 education and Medicaid. His testimony included support for further reductions in local government funds, suggesting only townships without access to municipal income taxes or county sales tax revenue should receive funding. He also stressed the need to rein in Medicaid and K-12 spending and voiced support for a flat tax to replace personal income tax.

Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, executive director of the Ohio Association of Food Banks, testified about a Work Experience Program (WEP) conducted in partnership with the Franklin County Department of Jobs and Family Services. The program provides work experience and job training for participants who are currently unemployed or underemployed. Hamler-Fugitt recommended the committee study the social and economic impact of programs like WEP, provide more work support opportunities for able bodied adults without dependents, and examine the needs of special populations.

She also asked the committee to consider recent funding cuts to food aid and their effect on employment, stating "Lack of access to these modest food assistance benefits just represents one more barrier in the way of vulnerable individuals with significant barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment and being healthy, productive citizens."

Finally, representatives from the Ohio Shared Service Collaborative provided testimony on how they have used Straight A funding to reduce transportation costs. The consortium, made up of 20 local school districts, four education service centers, two information technology centers and one board of developmental disabilities, is hoping to achieve \$4 million in transportation savings over the next five years.

If you would like more information on the Grace Commission, please contact CCAO Policy Analyst Kate Neithammer at 614-220-7996 or [kneithammer@ccao.org](mailto:kneithammer@ccao.org).

## Statehouse, Etc.



**Additional permissive local motor vehicle license fee authority proposed.** CCAO has been working with the County Engineers Association of Ohio (CEAO) along with other local government associations and interested parties on legislation introduced by Representative Margaret Ann Ruhl this week which would allow local governments to levy additional permissive local motor vehicle license fees up to a total of \$15. The legislation is [House Bill 528](#), and if you would like further information, please contact CCAO Managing Director of Research Brad Cole at 614-220-7981 or at [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org).

**State Capital Budget Bill approved by Senate; moves to House.** The \$2.6 billion capital appropriations budget cleared a near-unanimous Senate this week and is headed to the House for approval. [Senate Bill 310](#) provides funding for state projects as well as certain community projects.

**House moves bills on veterans' ID, townships, TIF's, and 9-1-1 levies.** Several proposals won support by the House this week. These include the following:

- [HB 173](#), would authorize a county recorder or county veterans service office to issue Ohio veteran identification cards with clearance from county commissioners. While several county recorders already offer such cards, the bill would provide for clear statutory authority. Changes were made to the bill in committee, which prompted CCAO to now support the measure. If you would like further information, please contact CCAO Policy Analyst Brian Mead at 614-220-7982 or at [bmead@ccao.org](mailto:bmead@ccao.org).
- [HB 413](#), would update various township laws as well as Omnibus Township Bill, including TIF's. Specifically, it would decrease from 3,500 to 2,500 the minimum population of a township that may adopt a limited home rule government. Additional changes relate to cemeteries, levies for police and fire, providing recycling service, executive session, and other issues. The bill also would provide that continued maintenance of public roads and highways and water and sewer lines in what may be a public infrastructure improvement for purposes of tax increment financing. Current law includes public roads and highways and water and sewer lines within the meaning of a public infrastructure improvement, but does not address continued maintenance. In effect, the bill allows a county, township, or municipal corporation to finance a project involving the maintenance of public roads and highways and water and sewer lines using tax increment financing. If you have questions, please contact CCAO Staffers Cheryl Subler or John Leutz at 614-221-5627 or at [csubler@ccao.org](mailto:csubler@ccao.org) and [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org).
- [HB 277](#), would prevent two municipalities in the county from being double taxed for 9-1-1 services. This legislation was suggested by Delaware County Officials. It would authorize local governments to impose such levies only on the portion of the subdivision for which the services will be provided. For additional information, contact CCAO Legislative Counsel John Leutz at 614-220-7994 or at [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org).

**Redevelopment districts for the purposes of historic renovations.** Rep Kirk Schuring's [HB 233](#) passed both the Senate and House this week and is headed to the Governor. This legislation would allow municipal corporations to designate downtown redevelopment districts

(DRDs) to redevelop commercial and mixed-use commercial and residential areas of no more than ten acres. DRDs would require property owners within the district to submit service payments in lieu of some property taxes, similar to tax increment financing (TIF) districts. The funds generated from DRDs may be used for a broader range of purposes than TIF funds. The additional uses include the ability to award grants and loans to owners of historic buildings and other property located within the district. The bill also authorizes innovation districts to be designated within DRDs, to generate funds via the same means, except the funds from these districts may also be used to award grants and loans to technology-oriented businesses and to incubators and accelerators that provide services and capital to such businesses within the innovation district. If you would like further information, contact CCAO Legislative Counsel John Leutz at 614-220-7994 or at [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org).

## Bills Introduced



- [SB 315](#)** ■ **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING** ([Manning, G.](#)) To make supplemental appropriations related to transportation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to declare an emergency.
- [HB 525](#)** ■ **911 CALLS** ([Johnson, G.](#)) To require multi-line telephone systems to have a default configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit or code. Am. 128.70, 128.71, 128.72, 128.73, 128.74, and 128.75
- [HB 526](#)** ■ **ANIMAL TRESPASSING** ([Bishoff, H.](#)) To prohibit a person from killing or injuring a cat or dog that is trespassing on the person's property. Am. 959.04
- [HB 527](#)** ■ **EMPLOYEE APPLICATIONS** ([Dever, J.](#)) To regulate the collection, use, and retention of certain information obtained from an applicant during the employee selection process. En. 4175.01, 4175.02, 4175.03, 4175.04, and 4175.05.
- [HB 528](#)** ■ **VEHICLE LICENSE TAXES** ([Ruhl, M.](#)) To authorize additional permissive local motor vehicle license taxes up to a total of \$15. En. 4504.23, 4504.24, 4504.25, 4504.26, 4504.27, and 4504.28.

## Hearing Schedule



### Tuesday, April 26

**Senate Agriculture** ([Committee Record](#)), (Chr. [Hite, C.](#), 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 9:00 am

- [HB 187](#)** ■ **ANIMAL TREATMENT** ([Ginter, T.](#)) To authorize specified emergency personnel to provide certain emergency medical services to an injured dog or cat. **--2nd Hearing-All testimony**
- [SB 151](#)** ■ **DOGS LAW** ([Beagle, B.](#)) To revise provisions of the Dogs Law governing nuisance, dangerous, and vicious dogs, to revise enforcement of that Law, and to establish a notification process regarding complaints of certain violations of that Law. **--3rd Hearing-All testimony**
- [HB 60](#)** ■ **COMPANION ANIMAL ABUSE** ([Hall, D.](#), [Patmon, B.](#)) To revise provisions and penalties regarding treatment of companion animals, to revise the definition of "companion animal" in the Offenses Relating to Domestic Animals Law, and to provide a state collaborative effort to assist veterinarians in identifying clients who may use their animals to secure opioids for abuse. **--3rd Hearing-All testimony**

- [House Ways & Means \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [McClain, J.](#), 644-6265), Rm. 121, 9:30 am
- [SB 172](#) ■ **BULLION TAXES** ([Jordan, K.](#)) To exempt from sales and use taxes the sale or use of investment metal bullion and coins. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**
- [HB 473](#) ■ **TAX POLICY** ([Amstutz, R.](#)) To require voter approval before a county may levy a new utilities services tax, to allow small businesses to count employees of related or affiliated entities towards satisfying the employment criteria of the business investment tax credit, to permit a bad debt refund for cigarette and tobacco product excise taxes paid when a purchaser fails to pay a dealer for the cigarettes or tobacco products and the unpaid amount is charged off as uncollectible by the dealer, and to allow vendors to receive a refund of sales taxes remitted for bad debts on private label credit cards when the debt is charged off as uncollectible by the credit card lender. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**
- [HB 297](#) ■ **TAX CREDIT** ([Hill, B.](#)) To authorize a refundable income tax credit for current livestock owners who invest in a manure storage or treatment facility or acquire manure application equipment or manure handling and transportation equipment. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony**
- [House Finance \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Smith, R.](#), 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10:00 am
- [SB 310](#) ■ **CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS** ([Oelslager, S.](#)) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects for the biennium ending June 30, 2018. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral**
- [HB 475](#) ■ **FILM TAX CREDITS** ([Schuring, K.](#)) To authorize motion picture companies to transfer the authority to claim refundable motion picture tax credits to other persons, to adjust how the credit is calculated, to increase the total amount of credits that may be awarded per year, to remove the limit on the maximum credit amount that may be awarded to a motion picture, and to create a job training program for resident film crew members. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**
- [HB 500](#) ■ **CASE MANAGEMENT** ([Arndt, S.](#)) To revise the Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program, to establish a case management pilot program, to transfer cash from the Economic Development Program Fund (Fund 5JC0) to the Case Management Pilot Program Fund (Fund 5SK0), and to make an appropriation. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**
- [Senate Insurance \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Hottinger, J.](#), 466-5838), South Hearing Rm., 10:30 am
- [HB 207](#) ■ **WORKERS COMPENSATION** ([Henne, M.](#), [McColley, R.](#)) To allow a state fund employer to have a workers' compensation claim that is likely to be subrogated by a third party paid from the surplus fund account in the state insurance fund rather than charged to the employer's experience --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**
- [House Rules & Reference \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Amstutz, R.](#), 466-1474), Rm. 119, 1:00 pm
- [HB 429](#) ■ **AUTO TECHNICIANS** ([Antani, N.](#), [Reineke, B.](#)) Regarding employers of automotive technicians and motor vehicle technicians participating in the Incumbent Workforce Training Voucher Program. --**1st Hearing-Possible amendments & vote**
- [House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Terhar, L.](#), 466-8258), Rm. 113, 2:15 pm
- [HB 463](#) ■ **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** ([Dever, J.](#)) To establish expedited actions to foreclose mortgages on vacant and abandoned residential properties, to permit private selling officers to conduct judicial and execution sales of real property, to state the intent of the General Assembly regarding mortgage foreclosure actions, to revise the Commercial Paper Law relating to mortgages and lost instruments, and to make other changes relative to foreclosure actions. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments**
- [House Select Committee on Medical Marijuana](#), (Chr. [Schuring, K.](#), 752-2438), Rm. 313, 3:00 pm
- [HB 523](#) ■ **MEDICAL MARIJUANA** ([Huffman, S.](#)) To authorize the use of marijuana for medical purposes and to establish the Medical Marijuana Control Program. --**4th Hearing-All testimony**
- [Senate Finance \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Oelslager, S.](#), 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 3:00 pm
- [HB 50](#) ■ **ADOPTION ASSISTANCE** ([Pelanda, D.](#), [Grossman, C.](#)) To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one, to provide a ward's bill of rights, to require that a guardian receive the Ohio Guardianship Guide, and to make an appropriation. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**
- [SB 267](#) ■ **VEHICLE FUELS** ([Seitz, B.](#), [Peterson, B.](#)) To create the Gaseous Fuel Vehicle Conversion Program, to allow a credit against the income or commercial activity tax for the purchase or conversion of an alternative fuel vehicle, to apply the motor fuel tax to the distribution or sale of compressed natural gas, to authorize a temporary, partial motor fuel tax exemption for sales of liquid and compressed natural gas used as motor fuel, and to make an appropriation. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[House Judiciary \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Butler, J.](#), 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 pm  
[HB 488](#) ■ **CIVIL LIABILITY** ([Sprague, R.](#)) To modify the qualified immunity from civil liability for volunteer health care services provided to indigent and uninsured persons and to permit health care professionals to earn continuing education credit by providing volunteer health care services to indigent and uninsured persons. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[House Community & Family Advancement \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Derickson, T.](#), 644-5094), Rm. 114, 4:00 pm  
[HB 493](#) ■ **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** ([Sears, B.](#), [Ryan, S.](#)) To make changes in the child abuse and neglect reporting law. --**2nd Hearing-Sponsor & proponent**

[HB 63](#) ■ **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING** ([Pelanda, D.](#), [Grossman, C.](#)) To require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect to notify the county public children services agency when an attorney in fact under a document that purports to grant parental rights requests services from them, to require the agency to investigate the child's placement with the attorney in fact, and to require the agency to file a dependency complaint if it determines that the placement is unsafe for the child. --**6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

## Wednesday, April 27

[Senate Government Oversight & Reform \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Coley, B.](#), 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 8:45 am

[SB 227](#) ■ **ATTORNEY GENERAL** ([Bacon, K.](#)) To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[SB 293](#) ■ **NATURAL RESOURCES** ([Balderson, T.](#)) To revise specified laws relating to natural resources. --**2nd Hearing-Proponent**

[SB 303](#) ■ **AGENCY RULEMAKING** ([Uecker, J.](#)) To reform agency rule-making and legislative review thereof. --**2nd Hearing-Proponent**

[Senate Ways & Means \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Peterson, B.](#), 466-8156), South Hearing Rm., 9:30 am

[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. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[HB 182](#) ■ **DEVELOPMENT ZONES** ([Schuring, K.](#)) To revise the law governing the creation and operation of joint economic development districts (JEDDs) and enterprise zones. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[HB 390](#) ■ **TAX EXEMPTION** ([Schaffer, T.](#), [Retherford, W.](#)) To exempt the sale of natural gas by a municipal gas company from the sales and use tax. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[SB 235](#) ■ **PROPERTY TAXES** ([Beagle, B.](#), [Coley, B.](#)) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until construction of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property commences. --**6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[SB 216](#) ■ **TAX EXEMPTION** ([Burke, D.](#), [Gardner, R.](#)) To exempt the first \$500 of prescription eyeglasses, contact lenses, and other optical aids sold by licensed dispensers from sales and use tax. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony**

[HB 166](#) ■ **TAX LAWS** ([Green, D.](#)) To extend the deadline for filing an application for the homestead exemption or 2 1/2% property tax rollback to the end of the tax year, to require that auditors certify Local Government Fund allocations to subdivisions by regular or electronic, rather than certified mail, to require that notices of appeal from a decision of the Board of Tax Appeals originating with a county board of revision be filed with that board and the county auditor, to clarify the effect of certain certifications related to the repealed personal property tax, and to repeal laws requiring county auditors to issue permits for traveling shows, issue licenses for new merchandise public auctions, certify the annual state tax interest rate to local courts. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments**

[SB 246](#) ■ **AGRICULTURAL LAND** ([Hite, C.](#)) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type. --**4th Hearing-All testimony**

[House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development \(Committee Record\)](#), (Chr. [Terhar, L.](#), 466-8258), Rm. 113, 11:00 am

[HB 435](#) ■ **STATE FINANCING** ([McClain, J.](#)) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations

of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities. **--4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

**HB 463** ■ **MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES** ([Dever, J.](#)) To establish expedited actions to foreclose mortgages on vacant and abandoned residential properties, to permit private selling officers to conduct judicial and execution sales of real property, to state the intent of the General Assembly regarding mortgage foreclosure actions, to revise the Commercial Paper Law relating to mortgages and lost instruments, and to make other changes relative to foreclosure actions. **--4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

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

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

[Senate Civil Justice](#) ([Committee Record](#)), (Chr. [Bacon, K.](#), 466-8064), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 pm or after session

**SB 296** ■ **VOTING HOURS** ([Seitz, B.](#)) To specify the conditions under which a court may order that a polling place be kept open for extended hours on the day of an election and to require a person who votes pursuant to such an order to cast a provisional ballot. **--2nd Hearing-Proponent**

**SB 299** ■ **PERRY COUNTY COURTS** ([Hottinger, J.](#)) To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2017, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Perry County County Court on that date, to designate the Perry County Clerk of Courts as the clerk of the Perry County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Perry County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2017. **--2nd Hearing-Proponent**

**SB 308** ■ **CHILD SUPPORT** ([Coley, B.](#)) To amend the child support laws. **--1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[House Select Committee on Medical Marijuana](#), (Chr. [Schuring, K.](#), 752-2438), Rm. 313, 3:00 pm

**HB 523** ■ **MEDICAL MARIJUANA** ([Huffman, S.](#)) To authorize the use of marijuana for medical purposes and to establish the Medical Marijuana Control Program. **--5th Hearing-All testimony**

[Senate Study Committee on Receivership](#), (Chr. [Coley, B.](#), 466-8072), South Hearing Rm., 4:00 pm

- Testimony from Ohio Judicial Conference

## Thursday, April 28

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[2020 Tax Policy Commission](#), (Chr. [Peterson, B.](#), 466-8156; Chr. [McClain, J.](#), 466-8156), South Hearing Rm., 10:00 am

- Testimony regarding the Historic Preservation Tax Credit and cable and satellite taxes.

[House Select Committee on Medical Marijuana](#), (Chr. [Schuring, K.](#), 752-2438), Rm. 313, 11:00 am

**HB 523** ■ **MEDICAL MARIJUANA** ([Huffman, S.](#)) To authorize the use of marijuana for medical purposes and to establish the Medical Marijuana Control Program. **--6th Hearing-All testimony**