



STATEHOUSE REPORT

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August 4, 2017

Senate action on state budget veto overrides

We are hearing that Wednesday, August 23rd is the date the Senate will return to address the veto overrides passed in the House.

We know that Senators are continuing to hear from those who oppose the MCO sales tax amendment which would have provided a mechanism for counties and transit authorities to replace some of the revenue they are losing when the tax is eliminated. **That's why it's more important than ever for counties to continue to have conversations with their members in the Senate.** Tell you senator(s) how important this amendment is to your county and ask them to override the Governor's veto.

As always, CCAO members are welcome to attend session on August 23rd. Feel free to park in our parking lot and let the policy staff know if you need help making your way to the Statehouse.

T-CAP meeting on August 8

CCAO Members are urged to attend a meeting hosted by the CCAO General Government and Justice & Public Safety Committees regarding the T-CAP program. The meeting will be held at the CCAO office from 11:00 AM to 1:00pm on Tuesday August 8.



Chris Galli, the Director of DRC's Bureau of Community Sanctions which is responsible for administering the T-CAP grant program, will be present to discuss the program and answer questions regarding the grant application, application process, MOU required to be submitted with the grant, allocation of funding, how reimbursement to the county for housing T-CAP individuals in the county jail is to work, along with other general information regarding the concept of community corrections and community corrections programs.

Lunch will be provided after the meeting. If you'd like to attend but have not RSVP'd, please contact Mandi Fuerst at mfuerst@ccao.org today.

Indigent defense reimbursement rate to start at 45%



State Public Defender Tim Young has issued a [memo](#) indicating that the indigent defense reimbursement rate for all cases will start out at 45% beginning July 1, 2017. He notes, however, that given the establishment of the capital case attorney rate at \$125.00 per hour and the continued decline in the Indigent Defense Support Fund revenues this initial rate for the 2018/2019 biennium may have to be decreased.

Recall that during the last biennium there was a budget provision earmarking funding for capital case reimbursement which allowed capital case work to be reimbursed at 50%. Reimbursement requests filed by the counties did not come close to consuming this amount and over \$1.5 million of this earmark lapsed and was not reallocated to be available for general case reimbursement.

If you have questions, please contact John Leutz at 614-221-5627.

CCAO budget briefing & voting equipment expo

ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

August 14

CCAO Voting Equipment Expo
9 AM to 4 PM
Camp Perry Lodging and Conference Center
1000 Lawrence Road – Bldg. 600, Port Clinton

August 28

CCAO Budget Briefing/Voting Equipment Expo
8 AM to 4:00 PM
Warren County Administration Building
406 Justice Drive, Lebanon

August 29

CCAO Budget Briefing/Voting Equipment Expo
8 AM to 4:00 PM
Shisler Conference Center
1680 Madison Ave, Wooster

September 12

CCAO Budget Briefing/Voting Equipment Expo
8 AM to 4:00 PM
Olde Dutch Restaurant
12791 OH-664, Logan

September 18

CCAO Budget Briefing
8 AM to 1:00 PM
Wood County Administration Building
One Courthouse Square, Bowling Green

September 21

CCAO Budget Briefing
8 AM to 4:00 PM
CCAO Offices, 209 E. State Street
209 E. State Street, Columbus

Wind setbacks may get a standalone bill

A budget amendment that addressed wind turbine setbacks was removed during conference committee, however Senator Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) said in a recent interview that he's readying separate legislation to revise Ohio's setback requirements.

[Gongwer](#) news reported that leaders in both chambers are continuing talks about the issue. John Fortney, spokesman for Senate President Larry



Sen. Cliff Hite

Obhof (R-Medina), described discussions between the two chambers as "ongoing."

"If they can possibly come to something by the end of the year that's great," he said. "If not, they'll continue to talk about what kind of overall, overarching energy policy they want to present." He said Sen. Obhof's preference continues to be to tackle the issue as part of a much larger and comprehensive energy bill.

Brad Miller, spokesman for House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger(R-Clarksville), likewise described talks between the chambers as continuing.

"The speaker would like to find a swift and responsible resolution to this issue," Mr. Miller said. "But more important than establishing a specific timeline for legislation, the speaker wants the final proposal to be one that benefits consumers and is best for Ohio's energy future."

Wind energy advocates lobbied senators earlier this year to walk back a 2014 law that they say increased setbacks to the degree it staved off potential wind development.

Members appointed to Tax Expenditure Review Committee

Last week, leaders of the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate appointed members to a legislative committee created to review state tax exemptions, credits and deductions. The goal of the committee is to determine whether these tax policies are meeting state objectives and what impact they have on economic development. The committee must produce its first report by July 1, 2018.

Members of the tax committee are:

Senators John Eklund (R-Chardon), Scott Oelslager (R-Canton) and Vernon Sykes (D-Akron)

Representatives Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster), Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) and John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake)

CCAO policy staff will continue to provide information on the committee as more details are released. If you have questions, please contact Brad Cole at 614-221-5627.

Etc...

Child Support Rule Change – A [proposed rule](#) to change the state funding formula for county child support enforcement agencies (CSEA's) was scheduled to be heard by the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) Monday, however the rule was removed from the agenda to be refiled at a later date. CCAO will continue to monitor this issue.

Bills Introduced



SB 174

WAGE REQUIREMENTS ([TAVARES, C.](#))

To enact the "Fair and Acceptable Income Required (FAIR) Act" and to revise the enforcement of the prohibitions against discrimination in the payment of wages.

HB 314

SAFETY TAX CREDIT (SCHAFFER, T.)

To allow an income tax credit for law enforcement officials who purchase safety or protective items to be used in the course of official law enforcement activities.

Hearing Schedule



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

Senate Session

(Chr. [Obhof, L.](#), (614) 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm

- If needed

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

Senate Session

(Chr. [Obhof, L.](#), (614) 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm

- If needed