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# STATEHOUSE REPORT

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**September 8, 2017**

## **MCO revenue replacement discussions continue in Senate**



Discussions continued this week with the Senate on possible ways to address the \$207 million annual revenue stream that counties and transits lost when the sales tax on Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO's) stopped July 1.

In an interview with *Gongwer News Service*, Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said, "There's no agreement, yet, but I think all of the parties are trying to work out a common solution. I think we've made substantial progress. Everybody, I think, is at the table, negotiating in good faith."

Senator Obhof said the goal is to settle on a policy that will work for both the administration and the counties and transit authorities. He also said there is not a deadline by which a deal needs to be done before the Senate will vote on the override, which the House passed with a large bi-partisan majority.

"I think it's more important that we take the time to get these issues right as opposed to simply coming in because there's an arbitrary date to come in and do something," he said. "If we can reach a solution, we'll reach one. We should know in the next few weeks if there is a solution or if there isn't."

The next time the Senate is scheduled to be in session is September 20.

CCAO understands that the administration has expressed an interest in revisiting the transition aid distribution formula. CCAO has reached out to the administration to get a meeting scheduled to better understand their vision.

In addition, Senator Dolan is reaching out to the chairs of the House and Senate finance committees along with leadership to see if caucus staff can identify possible sources for the counties and transits' replacement dollars in SFY 19.

As these discussions continue between CCAO, the administration, lawmakers and transits, CCAO is urging our members to continue to talk with your lawmakers about the importance of addressing the lost revenue and keeping the momentum going on this issue being resolved.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact any member of the CCAO policy team for further information.

## August state tax receipts exceed estimates

Both sales and income tax revenue beat their projections for the month of August. Overall, the state took in just under \$1.97 billion in tax receipts, up \$25.8 million, or 1.3%, compared to estimates, [preliminary revenue numbers](#) released Thursday by the Office of Budget and Management show.



Sales tax revenue drove much of the overage in August. At \$817.2 million, it was up \$19.7 million, or 2.5%, above the estimate primarily due to auto sales tax revenue beating projections by \$10.7 million, or 8.6%. The personal income tax came in at just under \$692 million, about \$5.5 million, or 0.8%, above projections.

The state is also above estimates for the fiscal year through the first two months with \$3.63 billion in receipts which is 0.7% higher than estimates. For the first two months of the fiscal year together, the personal income tax remains 2.8% above estimates, while the sales tax is under by a half percentage point.

## August casino revenue less than July's

Overall revenue at Ohio's four casinos was down in August compared to July, with every location seeing a decrease in August compared to July. The four casinos brought in a total of \$66.7 million for the month, compared to \$69.9 million in July, according to [revenue reports](#) released Thursday by the Casino Control Commission. The total was still above the \$62.8 million they raked in during August 2016.



The state's seven racinos also saw a decline in receipts from video lottery terminals for the month, falling from \$84.5 million in July to just over \$79 million in August, according to [reports](#) from the Ohio Lottery Commission.

# Hearing Schedule



## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

### Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs

(Chr. [Uecker, J.](#), (614) 466-8082), South Hearing Rm., 9:45 am

#### SB 160

##### **LICENSE FEES** ([WILLIAMS, S.](#))

To allow a court to authorize completion of a community service program in lieu of payment of driver's license reinstatement fees when the court determines that an offender cannot reasonably pay the fees. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

#### HB 125

##### **COURT JURISDICTIONS** ([CRAIG, H.](#), [SEITZ, B.](#))

To specify the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts over municipal traffic ordinances and to establish requirements governing fines, fees, or other charges for traffic violations and infractions imposed by a municipal corporation that does not have the authority to establish a mayor's court. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### Senate Finance

(Chr. [Oelslager, S.](#), (614) 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 pm

#### HB 54

##### **REVENUE OBLIGATIONS** ([BLESSING, L.](#), [GAVARONE, T.](#))

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. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

#### HB 132

##### **FANTASY CONTESTS** ([DEVER, J.](#), [MCCOLLEY, R.](#))

To grant the Ohio Casino Control Commission the authority to regulate fantasy contests and to exempt fantasy contests from the gambling laws. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### House Federalism & Interstate Relations

(Chr. [Roegner, K.](#), (614) 466-1177), Rm. 115, 2:30 pm

#### HB 79

##### **FIREARMS TRAINING** ([RETFERFORD, W.](#), [HAGAN, C.](#))

To provide for firearms training for tactical medical professionals; to permit such a professional who has received that training and has been authorized by the law enforcement agency to carry firearms while on duty; and to grant such a professional the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this

state as a concealed handgun licensee. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

### HB 142

#### **CONCEALED WEAPONS (WIGGAM, S.)**

To eliminate the requirement that a concealed handgun licensee notify a law enforcement officer that the licensee is carrying a concealed handgun when stopped. --5th Hearing-Possible substitute

### HB 253

#### **CONCEALED WEAPONS (HOUSEHOLDER, L., LANESE, L.)**

To permit law enforcement officers to carry firearms off duty in places otherwise prohibited for concealed handgun licensees. --1st Hearing-Proponent

## Senate Government Oversight & Reform

(Chr. [Coley, B.](#), (614) 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 3:30 pm

### SB 163

#### **COUNTY INVESTMENTS (WILSON, S.)**

To modify the qualifications regarding notes eligible for investment of county inactive moneys. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

### HB 31

#### **GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING (CUPP, R.)**

To abolish the Government Contracting Advisory Council. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

## House Session

(Chr. [Rosenberger, C.](#), (614) 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 pm

## House Civil Justice

(Chr. [Butler, J.](#), (614) 644-6008), Rm. 122, 2:30 pm or after session

### HB 267

#### **POLITICAL SUBDIVISION LIABILITY (INGRAM, C.)**

To eliminate certain defenses to political subdivision liability for an employee's negligent operation of a motor vehicle and to reduce damages recoverable against a political subdivision in such actions by the contributory fault of the plaintiff or other parties. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### HB 271

#### **ACCESSIBILITY LAWS (MCCOLLEY, R., REZABEK, J.)**

To authorize an alleged aggrieved party to provide a notice of an alleged accessibility law violation in advance of filing a civil action and to establish the circumstances under which an alleged aggrieved party is entitled to attorney's fees in a civil action based on the violation. --1st Hearing-Sponsor