



# STATEHOUSE REPORT

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November 23, 2016

## Local government groups submit revised property tax exemption proposal to finance chair, hearing on substitute measure scheduled for next week

A coalition of local government groups have prepared and submitted to House Finance Committee Chairman Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) a property tax exemption proposal intended to address many of the concerns raised by witnesses representing CCAO and other local government groups before the Finance Committee during a previous hearing.

During the previous hearing, CCAO, economic development professionals and municipal officials opposed SB 235 (link) which as passed by the Senate would exempt from property taxes the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until completion of the new or redeveloped facilities. The Senate passed bill would provide local government officials with no input or oversight over tax exempt properties approved under the bill. Furthermore, we believe the bill would undermine existing economic development efforts and disrupt the use of other tax abatement tools across the state. SB 235 also would permit property tax exemptions to last up to 10 years which CCAO objected to as being much too long a time period to grant an automatic exemption with no opportunity for property tax growth.

The proposal submitted to Chairman Smith addresses most of the objections raised by CCAO and others in testimony. Specifically, the coalition proposal:

- Grants permissive authority for municipal corporations, counties and townships to approve property tax

## SB 235

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

**Sponsors:** Sen. Beagle  
Sen. Coley

**CCAO Position:** **OPPOSED**

**Status:** House Rules 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, there is concern about how this tool works with other economic development incentives.

exemptions for parcels or areas zoned commercial or industrial.

- Requires property owners to submit an application to either the municipal corporation or the county or township depending upon the location of the parcel or parcels and whether the county or township administers zoning.
- Addresses the issue of the length of the property tax exemption by requiring the exempt property to be revalued at the time of the next triennial update or sexennial reappraisal, provided the timing of that update or reappraisal is at least two from the filing of the application. If the application is filed less than two years from the next update or reappraisal, then the following update or reappraisal would generate a revised valuation on the property. Other triggers to a revaluation include:
  1. Sale of land
  2. Rezoning of land to something other than commercial or industrial use
  3. Issuance of an occupancy permit for a building
- Requires applicants for an exemption to submit an application that identifies
  1. Parcel or parcels
  2. Name of owner or representative
  3. Proposed investment/improvements for utilities, infrastructure, ect.
  4. Proposed investment in buildings, structures
  5. Estimated number of employed positions and payroll
  6. Estimated impact on community, existing land use plans and economic development impact on community
- Requires applications for a tax exemption to be filed with the municipality, county or township under the following circumstances:
  1. For parcels in the incorporated area, the municipality would have to act on the application
  2. For parcels in the unincorporated area, either the board of commissioners or the board of township trustees would initially receive the application, depending upon whether the township or county administers zoning. Both the board of commissioners and board of trustees would have to approve the property tax exemption in order for the exemption to take effect, except in the case of an urban township in which only the urban township would have to approve the exemption.
- When an application is approved, the appropriate local government must notify the county auditor who in turn must notify other appropriate local governments including the schools



Rep. Smith

Other items included within the proposal that are intended to prevent abuse of this new form of property tax exemption include the following:

- A parcel or parcels may only be subject to a property tax exemption once (under this bill) and the exemption shall not be re-imposed
- The property tax exemption shall not be granted to parcels that are within a TIF district

- A property tax exemption shall not be granted to property owners who owe delinquent property taxes
- Property that is being farmed on commercially or industrially zoned land and thus eligible for county agricultural use valuation treatment (CAUV) would not be eligible for the tax exemption provided by SB 235. If land is removed from CAUV and the property owner files for a SB 235 exemption within an area zoned commercial or industrial, recoupment payments would be required.

The House Finance Committee has scheduled hearings on SB 235 for Tuesday November 29th and Thursday, December 1st. A substitute bill will be unveiled by Chairman Smith prior to the hearing on November 29th. Local government groups who worked on the coalition proposal were asked by the committee chairman to draft a legislative outline for a proposal that would address the issues raised by them in testimony before the committee. Local government groups anticipate that the substitute bill will address many of the issues raised by CCAO and others in testimony.

For additional information on SB 235, please contact Brad Cole or Cheryl Subler of the CCAO staff at [bc Cole@ccao.org](mailto:bc Cole@ccao.org) or [csubler@ccao.org](mailto:csubler@ccao.org) respectively.

## **Indigent defense reimbursement rate headed for a reduction in January**

The State Public Defender's Office wanted to inform our members as soon as possible that they have had to make the decision to reduce the indigent defense reimbursement rate to at least 46%, and potentially lower, beginning in January 2017.

As you are well aware, due to your strong advocacy, the General Assembly increased its General Revenue Fund (GRF) appropriation for reimbursement in the last biennial budget bill that allowed reimbursement to increase from 40% during the last biennium to the current rates of 48% for general reimbursement and 50% for death penalty cases. The funds for reimbursement, however, are provided through a combination of the GRF appropriation and revenue deposited into the Indigent Defense Support Fund (IDSF). As we have outlined in recent Statehouse Reports the non-GRF revenue sources that are deposited into the IDSF have been steadily decreasing over the past 24 months. The fund used to bring in, on average, \$3.6 million per month. The current average is closer to \$3.2 million. The latest level of receipts suggests that the decline is continuing and will no longer support the ability to provide reimbursement at 48%.

This reduction can be mitigated somewhat if additional resources would be provided by the Legislature during the "lame duck" session. CCAO has been working with legislative leadership to secure provisions during the "lame duck" session that:

- Re-appropriate approximately \$913,000 in lapsed GRF that had been dedicated to the reimbursement of death-penalty cases last fiscal year;
- Remove temporary law that limits the use of \$1.5 million in GRF this fiscal year to only the reimbursement of death-penalty cases; and
- Appropriate additional GRF as necessary to maintain or even exceed the current 48% reimbursement rate.

It is critically important that you contact your legislators to make them aware of this issue and our proposals to remedy it and let them know that without additional state funding the state reimbursement rate will drop.

For additional information on this matter contact John Leutz, CCAO Legislative Counsel, at [jleutz@ccao.org](mailto:jleutz@ccao.org) or 614-220-7994.

## Energy Mandate Bills are moving in both chambers

Set as a priority to be completed during lame duck, each chamber has started to move their respected energy mandate bills. Both initiatives will shift the frozen energy mandates to goals for three years.

In the House, a substitute version of [HB 554](#) was adopted by the House Public Utilities Committee. Though it is not identical to the Senate version, Sub [SB 320](#), the two bills are similar. The new version of HB 554 contains the three-year, goal-based approach and the lowering of energy efficiency benchmarks from a cumulative 22% to 17% by 2027, which is included in the Senate version. This is also a major change from the as introduced bill.

Other changes in Sub HB 554:

- Removal of language terminating the renewable-energy requirement after 2027
- Establishing a payment of \$150 per megawatt hour of under compliance for 2021 and 2022, with that amount to be reduced every two years through 2026 by \$50 to a minimum of \$50
- Requiring electric distribution utilities and services companies to submit an annual report for the prior calendar year to the PUCO no later than July 1 detailing compliance
- Removal of language that would have extended the current level of energy efficiency requirement by an EDU based on a formula through 2027
- Adds language to make 2016 and 2020-2027 the only years in which the energy efficiency savings are a requirement.

The bill's sponsor Rep. Ron Amstutz (R-Wooster) said the bill "further the conversation" but said it may well not be the final version the House adopts. He said talks with the Senate and the administration, where Gov. John Kasich has warned against shifting the mandates into goals, will continue.

House Committee Chairman Rep. Mike Dovilla (R-Berea) expects the committee will hold back-to-back hearings after session on Nov. 29 and the morning of Nov. 30. The committee may vote out the bill on the 30th, but he was unclear when the bill would hit the House floor.

### SB 320 / HB 554

#### Renewal Energy

**CCAO Position:** Monitoring

**Sponsor:** Sen. Seitz / Rep. Amstutz

**Status:** Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

#### Key Provisions:

- Revises the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction.
- To permit property owners to petition municipal corporations and townships for the purpose of developing and implementing special energy improvement projects.
- To require deployment and permit cost recovery of advanced energy analytics technology by electric distribution utilities.
- To revise the law governing net metering service provided by electric utilities and electric services companies.



Rep. Ron Amstutz

Over in the Senate, its version heard both proponent and opponent testimony in the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee. The state's top consumer utility advocate, Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston, told the committee the renewable energy and energy efficiency benchmarks are reasonable, but there are still some concerns with the proposal.

Mr. Weston said that a 12.5% renewable energy benchmark for 2029 and beyond was reasonable in his view. As for the 17% benchmark for energy efficiency - which was reduced from the bill's earlier 22% - he said that number is on the lower end of "something I could accept as reasonable." He urged the committee to preclude utilities from charging consumers for shared savings that are not a direct result of utility programs or that are unrelated to electricity sales.

Committee Chairman Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) said has indicated they will have more hearings. We'd like to have at least something by the first of December that we can vote on."

Legislative leaders have said they have made a good faith effort to satisfy Gov. Kasich in restoring Ohio's renewable energy and energy efficiency benchmarks. But it's unclear whether the governor would be willing to compromise by accepting the latest versions of Senate and House bills.

For additional information on energy mandates, please contact CCAO staffer Brian Mead at [bmead@ccaohio.org](mailto:bmead@ccaohio.org) or 614-220-7982.

## **Amendment to benefit wireless internet companies would set a dangerous precedent**

AT&T is pursuing legislation that would eliminate local control for Ohio municipalities with respect to their rates, zoning and maintenance efforts regarding pole attachments of "small cell" wireless antennas and accessory equipment. This proposal takes decisions about the safety and aesthetics of municipal infrastructure out of the hands of the municipal decision makers and places it into the hands of corporations with no local interest other than financial.

While this proposal currently applies only to municipalities it would establish a dangerous precedent. If extended beyond municipalities to other local governments, in particular counties, it would usurp local zoning and land use planning decisions in addition to the county's use, maintenance, and security of county facilities and buildings.

AT&T is attempting to secure this legislation as an 11th hour amendment which would be attached to a bill that passed the General Assembly during the lame duck session. It is particularly troubling that no formal legislation has been introduced, no legislative hearings have taken place and no widespread stakeholder meetings have been held.

The proposal singles out municipalities and does not include infrastructure owned by rural cooperatives, investor owned utilities, townships, counties or the State of Ohio. The proposal is extremely broad, giving wireless internet companies and speculators unrestricted access to not

just municipal electric infrastructure, but also all municipal structures capable of supporting wireless antennas. This includes street lights, stop signs, water towers, public right-of-way, police and fire facilities, substations and any other public facilities and buildings.

Our members are encouraged to bring this matter to your legislators' attention and express your concern for the timing of this proposal, the need for its appropriate vetting, and the undermining of county government authority which would result should this proposal ever be imposed upon the counties.

## EPA Mid-Biennium Review 2 being heard in the Senate

Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee heard testimony on the Gov. Kasich second EPA mid-biennium review bill which helps to tackle water quality and environmental issues in Ohio. [SB 333](#) had more than a dozen proponents that testified.

The bill would refocus the Lake Erie Commission on protection and restoration efforts. The commission's mission would be updated to include assisting Ohio in meeting commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement - which includes reducing phosphorus in the lake's western basin by 40% by 2025 - and identifying and supporting programs to enable the beneficial use of dredged materials. The commission would also be required to publish an annual protection and restoration strategy no later than each March summarizing the group's goals and priorities.

A section that CCAO is monitoring would require public water systems to implement an asset management program to demonstrate ongoing technical, financial and managerial capability. The asset management program would include an asset inventory and evaluation, emergency preparedness planning programs, approved capacity projections, capital improvement plans, a long-term funding strategy, and more, according to the bill's language.

Ohio Rural Water Association Executive Director Kevin Strang singled out this section saying his association regularly assists systems with few resources that have overlooked or delayed maintenance and inventory planning. "We have most recently provided extensive services to the villages of Botkins in Shelby County, Gratis in Preble County, and Spring Valley in Green County," he said. "In these three systems alone we project potential long term savings in excess of \$500,000 by reducing the need for premature repairs and replacement of system equipment."

The bill would enable the EPA director to petition a court of common pleas to appoint a receiver to take possession of and operate a public water system serving fewer than 500 service connections when conditions could present a threat to the public health or welfare. Other provisions of the SB 333 include:

### SB 333

#### EPA MBR 2 Water Quality & Environmental Issues

**CCAO Position:** Interested Party

**Status:** Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

#### Key Provisions:

- Makes updates to the Lake Erie Commission.
- Require public water systems to implement an asset management program.
- Permit EPA to petition a court to appoint a receiver to take possession of a failing public water system serving less than 500 connections.
- Create additional regulatory oversight of disposal of construction and demolition debris.

- Establishing "a straightforward regulatory framework for the safe and beneficial reuse of material dredged from federal navigation channels."
- Requiring financial assurance from new or modified private water systems to ensure they are able to make needed repairs.
- Strengthening new Certified Water Quality Professional provisions first established in the most recent budget, including authority for the OEPA director to require names and other information on those professionals be published on the agency's website
- Clarifying the OEPA director has the authority to waive, transfer, revoke, or - at the request of a permit holder - modify a 401 water quality certification.
- Harmonizing state and federal laws by authorizing the OEPA director, in lieu of the U.S. EPA, to issue permits to an entity discharging into a privately owned treatment works.
- Creating regulatory oversight of the disposal of construction and demolition debris.
- Strengthening the state's ability to clean up abandoned landfills by gaining site access, conducting investigations and taking samples from such sites.

CCAO is also monitoring the section dealing with the disposal of construction and demolition debris. CCAO Affiliate, Organization of Solid Waste Districts of Ohio, had [testimony](#) given by Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Executive Director Diane Bickett. She testified the bill would address "serious problems" stemming from unregulated C&DD processing facilities in the county. She said such sites accumulate waste, becoming eyesores and ultimately shifting the burden of cleanup onto taxpayers.

"Most of the debris being accepted at this and other sham recycling facilities is debris resulting from the demolition of vacant homes," Bickett said. "Demolition contractors cut costs by taking the debris to these sham recycling sites because they undercut the disposal fees that legitimate recyclers and landfills must charge in order to operate properly."

Ohio Environmental Health Association President Chad Brown said the group has spent a decade trying to address issues within the C&DD industry, but has made little progress without legislative action. "There have been cases in all regions of the state where materials have been stockpiled without being processed properly, which has resulted in public nuisance situations," Mr. Brown said. "SB333 aims to address these nuisance conditions and provide the proper authority to OEPA and local health departments to address these issues."

For copies of committee testimony on SB 333, please visit the committee's webpage for November 22<sup>nd</sup> testimony: <http://ohiosenate.gov/committee/energy-and-natural-resources#>

For additional information on water quality issues, please contact CCAO staffer Brian Mead at [bmead@ccao.org](mailto:bmead@ccao.org), and for Construction and demolition debris please contact CCAO staffer Brad Cole at [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org).

## Bills Introduced



### SB 371

Track

#### **COUNTY PROSECUTORS** ([THOMAS, C.](#))

To prohibit prosecuting attorneys of counties with a population of 400,001 or more from engaging in the private practice of law.

## Hearing Schedule



## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

### Senate Agriculture

(Chr. [Hite, C.](#), [\(614\) 466-8150](#)), South Hearing Rm., 9:00 am

### SB 151

Track

#### **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. --**4th Hearing-Opponent**

### SB 224

Track

#### **AGRICULTURE LAWS** ([BROWN, E.](#))

To revise the application and enforcement of the law governing operation and management plans, and to require certain animal feeding facilities to annually report the amount of manure that is applied by or for the facilities. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

### House State Government

(Chr. [Maag, R.](#), [\(614\) 644-6023](#)), Rm. 113, 9:00 am

### SB 227

Track

#### **ATTORNEY GENERAL** ([BACON, K.](#))

To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent**

### House Agriculture & Rural Development ([Committee Documents](#))

(Chr. [Hill, B.](#), [\(614\) 644-6014](#)), Rm. 116, 9:00 am [Add to Calendar](#)



## HR 214

Track

### **PHOSPHORUS AGREEMENT** ([SHEEHY, M.](#), [FEDOR, T.](#))

To encourage support for the agreement between Ontario, Michigan and Ohio regarding the reduction of phosphorus in the western basin of Lake Erie. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## House Insurance

(Chr. [Brinkman, T.](#), (614) 644-6886), Rm. 121, 9:00 am

## SB 27

Track

### **FIREFIGHTER CANCER** ([PATTON, T.](#))

To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote

## HB 394

Track

### **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION** ([SEARS, B.](#))

To temporarily change the taxable wage base under Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law, to remove dependency classes for unemployment compensation benefit eligibility, to temporarily freeze automatic increases for weekly unemployment compensation benefit amounts, to reduce the number of weeks for which an individual may receive unemployment compensation benefits, to abolish the Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council, and to make other changes to Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law. --6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute

## House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

(Chr. [Dever, J.](#), (614) 466-8120), Rm. 122, 9:00 am

## HB 593

Track

### **CROWDFUNDING** ([ARNDT, S.](#))

To permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

## HB 598

Track

### **LOAN ACT** ([TERHAR, L.](#))

To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. --2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute

## HB 616

Track

### **BANKING LAW** ([AMSTUTZ, R.](#))

For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio. --1st Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute

## House Local Government

(Chr. [Anielski, M.](#), (614) 644-6041), Rm. 018, 9:30 am

### HB 561

Track

#### ***PARK COMMISSIONERS*** ([BOCCIERI, J.](#), [CLYDE, K.](#))

To require boards of county commissioners to appoint additional park board commissioners and allow for public comment during appointment process. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### HB 562

Track

#### ***MAIL DELIVERY*** ([HAMBLEY, S.](#), [RYAN, S.](#))

To authorize local governments and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### HB 576

Track

#### ***PUBLIC RECORDS*** ([RYAN, S.](#))

To exempt from the Public Records Act financial account numbers and identifying information in public records and to provide that taxpayer electronic mail address lists used by county treasurers to deliver tax bills are not public records. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## Senate State & Local Government

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

### SB 347

Track

#### ***PRIMARY ELECTIONS*** ([LAROSE, F.](#))

To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election. --2rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

### SB 322

Track

#### ***POLICE TRAINING*** ([HITE, C.](#))

To require the Ohio peace officer training commission to develop and conduct a chief of police training course for newly appointed chiefs of police appointed on or after January 1, 2017, and to require newly appointed chiefs of police of villages, cities, and townships to attend the training course within six months of appointment as a chief of police. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

### HB 423

Track

#### ***MILITARY RECORDS*** ([PERALES, R.](#))

To specify that an order for active military service or other documentation regarding the call to order of an individual in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Ohio organized militia is not a public record. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## House Finance

(Chr. [Smith, R.](#), [\(614\) 466-1366](#)), Rm. 313, 10:00 am

### SB 331

Track

#### **PET STORES** ([PETERSON, B.](#))

To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

### SB 235

Track

#### **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 the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & substitute**

## House Session

(Chr. [Rosenberger, C.](#), [\(614\) 466-3357](#)), House Chamber, 11:00 am

## Senate Financial Institutions

(Chr. [Hughes, J.](#), [\(614\) 466-5981](#)), Finance Hearing Rm., 11:15 am

### SB 355

Track

#### **LOAN ACT** ([PETERSON, B.](#))

To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

## House Transportation & Infrastructure ([Committee Documents](#))

(Chr. [Boose, T.](#), [\(614\) 466-9628](#)), Rm. 018, 1:00 pm or after session [Add to Calendar](#)

- Agenda to be announced

## Senate Session

(Chr. [Faber, K.](#), [\(614\) 466-4900](#)), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm [Add to Calendar](#)

## House Ways & Means ([Committee Documents](#))

(Chr. [Schaffer, T.](#), [\(614\) 466-8100](#)), Rm. 121, 1:30 pm or after session [Add to Calendar](#)

### HB 482

Track

#### **PROPERTY TAXES** ([DEVER, J.](#))

To change the calculation of the exempt value of improved property subject to a community reinvestment area exemption, to clarify the calculation of the exempt value of property subject to a brownfield remediation exemption, and to authorize the filing of a complaint with the county auditor challenging the assessed value of fully or partially exempt property. --**2nd Hearing-Proponent**

## HB 592

Track

### **INVESTMENT COMPANIES** ([MERRIN, D.](#))

To subject small business investment companies to the commercial activity tax rather than the financial institutions tax. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## HB 612

Track

### **DISASTER BUSINESS EXEMPTION** ([RYAN, S.](#))

To exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## House Government Accountability & Oversight

(Chr. [Blessing, L.](#), (614) 466-9091), Rm. 114, 1:30 pm or after session

## SB 206

Track

### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS** ([LAROSE, F.](#))

To require certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically and to require the Secretary of State to make the information in those statements available online. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## HB 613

Track

### **SUNSET REVIEW LAW** ([AMSTUTZ, R.](#))

To revise and renew the Sunset Review Law, to require that a Sunset Review Committee be convened to function during each oddnumbered General Assembly, and to declare an emergency. --1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute

## SB 329

Track

### **SUNSET REVIEW** ([JORDAN, K.](#), [FABER, K.](#))

To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

## HB 591

Track

### **SPECIAL ELECTIONS** ([PELANDA, D.](#))

To eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

## HB 539

Track

### **NEW AMERICANS** ([BOYCE, K.](#))

To create the office for New Americans. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## HR 192

Track

### **VOTING RIGHTS ACT** ([CLYDE, K.](#), [REECE, A.](#))

Commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## HB 179

Track

### **VOTER REGISTRATION** ([STINZIANO, M.](#), [SYKES, E.](#))

To require that eligible persons in the database of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically, as applicable, unless those persons decline to be registered or to update their registrations. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## House Commerce & Labor

(Chr. [Young, R.](#), (614) 644-6074), Rm. 122, 2:00 pm or after session

## HB 601

Track

### **MICROBUSINESS** ([PELANDA, D.](#))

To create a statutory definition of "microbusiness." --2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

## HB 574

Track

### **USED TIRES** ([SPRAGUE, R.](#), [DEVITIS, T.](#))

To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

## Senate Finance

(Chr. [Oelslager, S.](#), (614) 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 pm or after session

## HB 435

Track

### **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. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety

(Chr. [Johnson, T.](#), (614) 466-2124), Rm. 017, 3:30 pm

## HB 105

Track

### **MILITARY TRANSFERS** ([CRAIG, H.](#), [PERALES, R.](#))

To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

## House Judiciary

(Chr. [Butler, J.](#), (614) 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 pm

### SB 284

Track

#### **EXPUNGEMENT** ([OBHOF, L.](#))

To provide that a person who is found not guilty of an offense by a jury or a court or who is the defendant named in a dismissed complaint, indictment, or information may apply to the court for an order to expunge the person's official records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or information or finding of not guilty was the result of the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### SB 257

Track

#### **REAL PROPERTY** ([SEITZ, B.](#), [SKINDELL, M.](#))

To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments. --1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent

### HB 559

Track

#### **MEDICAL CLAIMS** ([CUPP, R.](#))

To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster or mass hazard; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and a payment for medical services accepted by a defendant from an insurer is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim."--1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent

### HB 602

Track

#### **DIGITAL ASSETS** ([CUPP, R.](#), [REZABEK, J.](#))

To adopt the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act. --1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent

### SB 299

Track

#### **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-All testimony

### HB 581

Track

#### **LLC REGULATIONS** ([DEVER, J.](#), [REINEKE, B.](#))

To permit and regulate managers, members, and interests of series limited liability companies. --2nd Hearing-Proponent

### SB 139

Track

#### **POST-CONVICTION RELIEF** ([SEITZ, B.](#), [WILLIAMS, S.](#))

To require the clerk of a common pleas court to retain a copy of the original trial file when a death penalty is imposed, to specify that there is no page limit on petitions for postconviction relief in death penalty cases or in appeals of denials of such relief, to modify the time for filing an amended postconviction relief petition in death penalty cases, to provide for depositions and subpoenas during discovery in postconviction relief proceedings in death penalty cases, and to require a judge hearing a postconviction relief proceeding in a death penalty case to state specifically in the findings of fact and conclusions of law why each claim was either denied or granted. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

### HB 106

Track

#### **PUBLIC INDECENCY** ([SCHAFFER, T.](#))

To require an offender who knowingly commits the offense of public indecency under certain circumstances involving conduct likely to be viewed by minors to register as a Tier I sex offender/child-victim offender. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments

### HB 283

Track

#### **DNA TESTING** ([FEDOR, T.](#))

To require DNA testing for misdemeanor convictions of voyeurism, public indecency, procuring, soliciting, loitering to engage in soliciting, and prostitution. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments

## Senate Education

(Chr. [Lehner, P.](#), (614) 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 4:00 pm

### HB 89

Track

#### **MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM** ([DEVITIS, T.](#))

Regarding the Medicaid School Program. --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote

## House Community & Family Advancement

(Chr. [Ginter, T.](#), (614) 466-8022), Rm. 114, 4:00 pm

## SB 30

Track

### ***FAMILY STABILITY*** ([TAVARES, C.](#))

To create the Ohio Family Stability Commission. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

## HB 286

Track

### ***MARRIAGE*** ([VITALE, N.](#))

To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial. --6th Hearing-All testimony

## HB 458

Track

### ***FOSTER CARE*** ([BOYCE, K.](#), [REZABEK, J.](#))

To provide foster care maintenance payments for children in the care of a kinship caregiver without requiring the caregiver to be certified to provide foster care and to require, rather than permit, the creation of the statewide program of kinship care navigators. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## SB 308

Track

### ***CHILD SUPPORT*** ([COLEY, B.](#))

To amend the child support laws. --1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent

## HB 618

Track

### ***RECORD EXPUNGEMENT*** ([SCHURING, K.](#), [REECE, A.](#))

To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

## **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

### Senate Health & Human Services

(Chr. [Jones, S.](#), [\(614\) 466-9737](#)), North Hearing Rm., 9:00 am

Agenda to be announced

### House Public Utilities

(Chr. [Dovilla, M.](#), [\(614\) 466-4895](#)), Rm. 121, 9:00 am



## HB 525

Track

### **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. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

## HB 589

Track

### **UTILITY RESELLING** ([DUFFEY, M.](#))

To permit the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules governing residential utility reselling. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

## HB 72

Track

### **PORT AUTHORITIES** ([CONDITT, M.](#))

To authorize port authorities to create energy special improvement districts for the purpose of developing and implementing plans for special energy improvement projects and to alter the law governing such districts that are governed by a nonprofit corporation. --**5th Hearing-Possible substitute**

## HB 554

Track

### **RENEWABLE ENERGY** ([AMSTUTZ, R.](#))

To revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency savings, and peak demand reduction and to revise provisions governing which customers can opt out of related programs. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

## Senate Financial Institutions

(Chr. [Hughes, J.](#), (614) 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 10:00 am

## SB 355

Track

### **LOAN ACT** ([PETERSON, B.](#))

To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. --**2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments**

## Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor

(Chr. [LaRose, F.](#), (614) 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 10:15 am

## HB 341

Track

### **TRANSPORTATION LAWS** ([YOUNG, R.](#), [SWEENEY, M.](#))

To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. --**2nd Hearing-Opponent & interested party**

## Senate Criminal Justice

(Chr. [Eklund, J.](#), (614) 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 11:15 am

### HB 172

Track

#### **CRIMINAL RECORDS** ([BARNES, J.](#))

To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

### SB 237

Track

#### **DRUG VOLUME** ([LAROSE, F.](#))

To provide that five milligrams or more of fentanyl or an amount equal to or exceeding one gram of a compound, mixture, preparation, or substance that contains any amount of fentanyl and that is not in a final dosage form manufactured by an authorized manufacturer constitutes a bulk amount for purposes of the laws governing drug offenses, to revise the manner of determining sentence for certain violations of the offense of permitting drug abuse, and to add lisdexamfetamine to the list of schedule II controlled substances. --5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

### SB 162

Track

#### **DEATH SENTENCES** ([SEITZ, B.](#), [WILLIAMS, S.](#))

To provide that a person convicted of aggravated murder who shows that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense cannot be sentenced to death for the offense and to provide a mechanism for resentencing to a life sentence a person previously sentenced to death who proves that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense. --7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

### SB 195

Track

#### **SEXUAL CONDUCT** ([HUGHES, J.](#), [HOTTINGER, J.](#))

To prohibit a person from engaging in sexual conduct with an animal and related acts, to provide for the seizure and impoundment of an animal that is the subject of a violation, and to authorize a sentencing court to require an offender to undergo psychological evaluation or counseling. --5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote

### SB 265

Track

#### **CASINO OPERATORS** ([SEITZ, B.](#))

To specify that the criminal penalty related to casino operators and employees participating in casino gaming applies at their casino facility or an affiliated casino facility. --5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

## HB 405

Track

### **IMPORTUNING** ([SCHAFFER, T.](#), [SMITH, K.](#))

To amend the penalties for the offense of importuning. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

## HB 185

Track

### **ARSON** ([KOEHLER, K.](#))

To eliminate lack of the property owner's consent as an element of arson when the property is abandoned real property and to make the consent of the owner of abandoned real property an affirmative defense. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

## HB 521

Track

### **PAROLE ELIGIBILITY** ([MANNING, N.](#))

To provide special parole eligibility dates for persons with an indefinite or life sentence imposed for an offense committed when the person was less than 18 years of age, to require the Parole Board to consider specified mitigating factors in those cases, and to require notice to the Ohio Public Defender and prosecuting attorney prior to the parole consideration hearing. --**2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

## HB 439

Track

### **VOYEURISM** ([ANIELSKI, M.](#))

To include an impaired person as a victim of voyeurism and to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance. --**2nd Hearing-Proponent**

## SB 316

Track

### **SEXUAL IMPOSITION** ([HUGHES, J.](#))

To increase the penalty for sexual imposition when the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of sexual imposition or other specified sex offenses. --**2nd Hearing-Proponent**

## Senate Session

(Chr. [Faber, K.](#), [\(614\) 466-4900](#)), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm

## House State Government

(Chr. [Maag, R.](#), [\(614\) 644-6023](#)), Rm. 121, 2:30 pm

## SB 227

Track

### **ATTORNEY GENERAL** ([BACON, K.](#))

To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. --  
**2nd Hearing-Opponent-Possible amendment & vote**

## Senate Agriculture

(Chr. [Hite, C.](#), (614) 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 4:30 pm

### SB 271

Track

#### **POLICE ANIMALS** ([GENTILE, L.](#))

To authorize a law enforcement officer to purchase a police dog or horse for fair market value when the officer retires in good standing from a law enforcement agency and certain conditions are met, and to declare an emergency. --**2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

## Senate Financial Institutions

(Chr. [Hughes, J.](#), (614) 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:00 am

### SB 355

Track

#### **LOAN ACT** ([PETERSON, B.](#))

To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

## Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor

(Chr. [LaRose, F.](#), (614) 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 9:30 am

### HB 341

Track

#### **TRANSPORTATION LAWS** ([YOUNG, R.](#), [SWEENEY, M.](#))

To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. --**3rd Hearing-Proponent & interested party-Possible amendments & vote**

### HB 436

Track

#### **DUI SENTENCES** ([CUPP, R.](#), [ROGERS, J.](#))

To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order. --**2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

### HB 236

Track

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS** ([LANDIS, A.](#), [BLESSING, L.](#))

To require professional engineers to complete continuing professional development hours in professional ethics or rules relevant to engineering or surveying practices. --4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

**SB 249**

Track

**ROOFING CONTRACTORS** ([PATTON, T.](#))

To require commercial roofing contractors to have a license. --3rd Hearing-All testimony

**House Finance**

(Chr. [Smith, R.](#), [\(614\) 466-1366](#)), Rm. 313, 10:00 am

**SB 235**

Track

**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 the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property. --4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote

**SB 331**

Track

**PET STORES** ([PETERSON, B.](#))

To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores. --2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute

**SB 319**

Track

**DRUG REGULATIONS** ([EKLUND, J.](#))

To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services. --2nd Hearing-Possible substitute

**SB 332**

Track

**INFANT MORTALITY** ([JONES, S.](#), [TAVARES, C.](#))

To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs. --2nd Hearing-Possible substitute

**Senate Session**

(Chr. [Faber, K.](#), [\(614\) 466-4900](#)), Senate Chamber, 11:00 am