



STATEHOUSE REPORT

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May 9, 2014

Thank you for all your support!

Voters overwhelmingly supported **Issue 1 Strong Ohio Communities**. The issue passed by a 65-35% margin.

State Issue 1 asked voters to approve a 10-year extension of State Capital Improvement Program to authorize \$1.875 billion in public infrastructure improvement bonds.



Primary Elections

Statewide Ticket: Cuyahoga County Executive and gubernatorial hopeful Ed FitzGerald easily beat Democratic challenger Larry Ealy in the primary. With Tuesday's election behind, Mr. FitzGerald will prepare to face Governor John Kasich this November.

Uncontested primaries for other members of the Democratic statewide ticket and Republican incumbents officially set the stage for the general election.

Secretary of State: [Sen. Nina Turner](#) (D-Cleveland) vs. [Secretary of State Jon Husted](#)
Attorney General: Former Hamilton Co. Commissioner David Pepper vs. [AG Mike DeWine](#)
State Treasurer: [Rep. Connie Pillich](#) (D-Montgomery) vs. [Treasurer Josh Mandel](#)
State Auditor: [Rep. John Carney](#) (D-Columbus) vs. State [Auditor Dave Yost](#).

Legislative Races: Four incumbent lawmakers lost reelection bids. The main upset in Tuesday's primary election was Rep. Peter Stautberg (R-Cincinnati) who was defeated by Former Rep. Tom Brinkman.

Rep. Peter Beck (R-Mason) facing multiple felony charges over an investment scheme, lost to real estate developer Paul Zeltwanger.

Rep. Zack Milkovich (D-Akron) was another incumbent to go down to defeat, as he succumbed to the challenge of Akron City Prosecutor Greta Johnson.

Rep. Rex Damschroder lost a bid to retain his seat when his wife, Rhonda Damschroder, lost a write-in bid for the seat to Bill Reineke. Ms. Damschroder had plan to drop out of the race after the primary so her husband could be appointed in her place.

Senate tweaks Clean Energy Bill and sends it to the House

After a marathon session late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning, the Senate passed a substitute version of [SB 310](#) legislation to roll back Ohio's clean energy law. The final vote was 21-11 with a few members crossing party lines. [Sen. Bill Beagle](#) (R-Tipp City), [Sen. Randy Gardner](#) (R-Bowling Green), and [Sen. Gayle Manning](#) (R-N. Ridgeville) all voted against the bill, while [Sen. Shirley Smith](#) (D-Cleveland) was the lone supporting Democrat.



Senate Public Utilities Committee adopted a substitute version of the bill which imposes a temporary two-year moratorium on Ohio's annual renewable and energy efficiency requirements while a legislative study committee reviews possible future changes to the law. The original measure would have permanently frozen the requirements at 2014 levels unless the legislature acted to restore them. The substitute bill also requires utilities to sell 12.5% of their electricity from renewable sources and help customers cut usage 22% by 2025.

A substitute was proposed because Governor Kasich had expressed concerns last week with the original version that would have frozen annual renewable and energy efficiency requirements at 2014 levels.

Governor Kasich and Senate President Faber (R-Celina) then issued a joint [statement](#) saying the 2008 renewable and energy efficiency requirements were "well-intentioned," but have emerged as a barrier to job creation and Ohio's economic recovery. "They are simply unrealistic and will drive up energy costs for job creators and consumers," they said.

"However, alternative energy sources are an important component of Ohio's diverse energy portfolio, which is why we've rejected the notion of scrapping Ohio's renewable standards. Instead, by temporarily holding at our current level while problems are ironed out, we keep the progress we've made, ensure we steadily grow new energy sources and preserve affordable energy prices for both businesses and consumers."

The Ohio House is ready to take up the measure next week. [Speaker Bill Batchelder](#) (R-Medina) cleared up any doubt Thursday that House Republicans might hesitate to follow through with the controversial measure. He called renewable energy "an absolutely critical component" of a responsible energy policy. However, he said the law requiring utilities sell 12.5% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2025 was "unsustainable for the long-term stability of our state's energy portfolio and Ohio's consumers."

"I want to thank President Faber, Sen. Balderson, and Chairman Seitz for their extremely diligent and thoughtful work on Senate Bill 310. Each of them and all of the members of the Ohio Senate who supported this legislation recognize that it is imperative to increase our energy competitiveness and transparency, which will ultimately allow Ohioans to enjoy a reduction in

the costs of energy mandates," Speaker Batchelder said. "I am strongly supportive of the goals of Senate Bill 310 and look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to ensure this legislation is passed before the summer recess," he added.

House Public Utilities is scheduled to hold two hearings on the measure next week on Tuesday and Wednesday. According to Chairman Peter Stautberg a vote on the House floor next week is unlikely, but one could take place the following week.

House introduces Substitute Severance Tax Bill, slight increase to Local Governments

Wednesday, the House Ways and Means Committee accepted a new substitute version of [HB 375](#) (Huffman) that will raise the state's severance tax to 2.5 percent for horizontal drilling of oil and gas. The new version splits the difference from the original proposed rate of 2.25 percent and the 2.75 percent pushed by Gov. John Kasich. The change comes after Kasich indicated he would veto the previous version of HB 375. A [comparison document](#) of the two bills was released by the committee.

The substitute bill raises the amount of severance tax revenue that would go to local governments, known as the "local share," from 10 percent to 15 percent. From that pot of money, revenue first would be allocated to the Local Government Fund and Public Library Fund for losses caused by other tax changes contained in [HB 375](#). Second, the remaining money would be distributed to counties in proportion to the statewide share of oil and gas they produce as follows:

- 25 percent would go to counties, with a budget commission deciding what must be used on capital among the county, townships and municipalities with a county. 20 percent of this allocation would be set aside for grants to townships to mitigate wear on roads and bridges caused by the presence of producing wells (this equates to 5 percent of the overall "local share").
- 75 percent would go to the Ohio Shale Gas Infrastructure Development Fund, with the Ohio Shale Gas Regional Commission making awards.
 - Of this, 85 percent would go to infrastructure projects and 15 percent to a legacy fund.
 - Ohio Shale Gas Regional Commission would include three county commissioners, three township trustees, three municipal leaders, one economic development leader, and one representative of the oil and gas industry.

This language is pretty similar to a [proposal](#) jointly offered by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, Ohio Municipal League and the Ohio Township Association. However, the local government groups would still like to see 25 percent given to local governments. In addition, CCAO and the other associations are seeking the following amendments:

- Remove the role of the budget commission to disburse the 20% portion to local governments and allocate such funds using the county undivided local government fund distribution formulas.

- Provide that the big statewide Local Government Fund is reimbursed off the top from the state severance tax revenues prior to the “local share” being calculated.

The bill does not change the first \$21 million in revenue that will go to fund the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for regulatory functions, the department’s idle and orphan well program, and the department’s geological mapping program.

House Ways and Means Chairman Jeff McClain (R-Upper Sandusky) said it is his intention to move the bill during the next committee meeting, which will be held Tuesday, May 13. If you would like additional information on the proposal, please contact CCAO Staff John Leutz or Brian Mead at jleutz@ccao.org and bmead@ccao.org.

Senate begins hearings on big MBR bill – HB 483

The tug of war between differing approaches on respective House and Senate priority policy positions surfaced Thursday in the Senate Finance Committee hearing on a mid-biennium review (MBR) bill, [HB 483](#) (Amstutz).



Director Tracy Plouck

Early in April, the House added most of the provisions of its [HB 369](#) (Sprague), one of the 14 or so bills that grew out the study committee on opiate addiction in the state that proscribes a full spectrum of treatment services across the state, to HB483 to underscore its "commitment to addressing the opiates crisis in Ohio."

But senators on Thursday were questioning the approach at the expense of local decision making regarding what they said might be local priorities different from the opiate epidemic.

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addition Services (OhioMHAS) Director Tracy Plouck was caught in the middle as she testified about how the Administration proposed using \$47.5 million in the Community Behavioral Health line item set aside for FY15 before the state expanded its Medicaid program -- much of which the House had redirected to opiate addiction treatment and prevention.

Plouck spent some time reviewing each of the following elements in the administration's proposal:

- \$7.5 million -- Doubling the Residential State Supplement program to offer this subsidy that is often used for housing in Adult Care Facilities to an additional 1,000 enrollees.
- \$30 million -- Addressing gaps in care identified in consultation with boards of mental health and addiction services, with an emphasis on averting crisis services and meeting housing-related challenges.
- \$15 million -- Money not in [HB 483](#) but in the capital bill for housing and community needs within behavioral health. This is the largest amount of community capital funding in 10 years for behavioral health and represents the first time that a capital investment will be made available for addiction needs, according to Plouck.
- \$1.5 million -- Ensuring funding stability for women’s treatment programs.

- \$6.5 million -- Providing a one-time infusion of funds to be used for system improvements in the "Start Talking!" drug prevention campaign. Investments will be made in a statewide youth survey to gather county-level data on the needs of children, training for local coalitions to enhance planning and guidance on how to reduce the youth behavioral health risk factors in communities, expansion of proven practices and prevention capacity, and support for participation in Ohio's Youth-led Prevention Network.
- \$2 million -- Targeted to investment in an electronic medical records system for the state's psychiatric hospitals.

Besides the funding issues, Plouck said, "While we have worked closely with Rep. Sprague and members of the House on all of the opiate bills the House has put forward, there are elements of HB369 (which has been amended into HB 483) about which we remain concerned. In particular, we do not want to create a separate system of care for opiate addiction only. One of the primary goals of the consolidation of ODADAS and ODMH was to better align the care continuum with better care for Ohioans in mind."

Additional hearings on HB 483 are scheduled for the coming week. Amendments sought by senators must be submitted to the Chair by May 15th for consideration. If you have questions about HB 483, please contact the CCAO Policy Team at 614-221-5627.

CCAO has concerns on local gov't budgeting bill

CCAO continues to communicate with members of the House State & Local Government Committee the Association's concerns with a bill that revises budgeting requirements on local governments and makes other changes. The concerns with certain aspects of [HB 337](#), sponsored by Rep Lou Terhar (R-Cincinnati), include the suspension of certain state funding and the possible prohibition of selling property placed under a fiscal watch.



Specifically, HB 337 permits the suspension of certain state funding to counties by the director of OBM upon a finding by the auditor of state that a county has violated some aspect of the uniform bond law (ORC Chapter 133), the fiscal officer's certificate of estimated resources law (ORC 5705.39) or Financial Planning and Supervision Law (ORC Chapter 118). State funds that could be withheld include, but are not limited to, local government fund allocations, tangible personal property tax replacement payments, and property tax reduction reimbursement payments. It would not include any of the following:

- Appropriations for current expenses;
- Any funds provided pursuant to a contract, including casino revenues to counties.
- Amounts certified, generally, for public retirement system purposes.

CCAO believes that this grant of authority is too broad and would have serious unintended consequences in the form of disrupted services to constituents. Counties receive several critical funding streams from the state, such as: local government funds, homestead reimbursements, all tangible personal property tax reimbursements, and numerous direct allocations..

In addition, HB 337 prohibits the sale of real and tangible personal property by a county that is declared to be in fiscal watch or fiscal emergency if ordered by the auditor of state (proposed ORC Section 118.40).

This provision could effectively prevent a political subdivision from accessing one of the tools that is normally available to any government for raising revenue and disposing of assets that the county does not need. Particularly in a time of fiscal crisis, citizens will expect local elected officials to be responsible for making difficult decisions around disposition of local assets to balance a budget.

The bill is scheduled on May 13th for a fourth hearing in the House State & Local Government. Possible amendments and a substitute bill could be offered, along with a possible vote on the entire measure. CCAO staff is advocating the above concerns be addressed prior to a committee vote. If you would like further information, please contact CCAO Managing Director of Research Brad Cole at bcole@ccao.org or at 614-220-7981.

Statehouse Etcetera



Legislature begins one-month sprint to summer. Lawmakers returned following the May primary election to work on the various mid-biennium review bills (MBRs), following a three-week hiatus of most committees. Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) said he doesn't have firm targets in mind for processing the Governor's MBRs. "Some will get done now. Some will get done a little later. Some will get done even after that," said President Faber.

Senate rejects House change to land bank bill; conference committee will be established. Senators voted 33-0 to reject House amendments to a proposal (SB 172) adjusting laws regarding land use programs and property tax foreclosures. Senator Patton (R-Strongsville) said that while he supports most of the House amendments, one change dealing with the definition of occupied property needs additional review. A conference committee will be established to resolve the differences between the Ohio House and Senate.

Senate supports House changes to nutrient management measure. Senator Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) urged senators to concur with the House amendments to a measure (SB 150) that seeks to limit the amount of nutrients that flow into Ohio's waterway from farm fields. Peterson explained that the House amendments make only technical changes and clarify the amount of land a person would need to have to fall under the bill's provisions. The Senate concurred with a 33-0 vote.

Bill to permit Electronic Tolling to pay for Replacement of Brent Spence Bridge heard by House Finance.

Representative Ross McGregor (R-Springfield) provided sponsor testimony before the House Finance Committee in support of bipartisan legislation (HB 533) to help pay for the planned \$2.6 billion reconstruction of the Brent Spence Bridge that spans the Ohio River from Cincinnati to Kentucky.

The bridge which is owned by Kentucky links 10 states and carries about \$4.7 billion in freight annually. ODOT estimates that the freight alone represents 3% of the nation's gross domestic product. The bridge was built in the 1950's and



carries more than twice the intended capacity of 80,000 vehicles per day. Representative McGregor said that congestion and safety problems could have a negative impact on Ohio's economy.

Key provisions of the bill include:

- Aligns Ohio law with federal standards to allow tolling on the bridge and implements "All Electronic Tolling" (AET)
- Authorizes the Director of Transportation to enter into interstate agreements regarding any bridge carrying an interstate highway over the Ohio River
- Establishes due process procedures by which user fees and any associated administrative fees may be contested.
- Alters the law related to Public Private Partnerships (P3s) that would allow the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor project to be more cost effective and generate more interest from industry
- Establishes procedures for the collection of data and procedures for keeping such data secure

ODOT issued a statement in support of the legislation calling the Brent Spence Bridge corridor "a vital component of Ohio's transportation system." ODOT characterized the All Electronic Tolling as easier on motorists, on the environment and businesses hauling freight across the river. While acknowledging that the bridge is part of the federal highway system ODOT contends that the federal government is either "unwilling or unable to construct a bridge for us" and that tolling is one way to move the project forward.

For additional information regarding this issue please contact Brad Cole of the CCAO staff at bcole@ccao.org

Legislation of Interest



SB 334 ■ **AGRITOURISM** ([Jones, S.](#), [Peterson, B.](#)) To limit the authority of a board of county commissioners or board of township trustees to prohibit agritourism through zoning, to apply current agricultural use valuation to land used for agritourism for property tax purposes, to establish immunity in a civil action for agritourism providers, and to authorize the Director of Agriculture to adopt rules regarding amusement rides at agritourism locations. Am. 303.21, 519.21, 1711.57, and 5713.30 and to enact section 901.80

SB 335 ■ **BRIDGE FUNDING** ([Seitz, B.](#), [Kearney, E.](#)) To provide that a toll project may include the substantial reconstruction or replacement of an existing toll-free highway, bridge, or tunnel, to amend the law governing public-private agreements relative to transportation facilities, and to provide for the collection of user fees on toll projects by toll project operators. Am. 5501.44, 5501.70, 5501.71, 5501.73, 5501.78, 5531.11, 5531.12, 5531.13, 5531.14, 5531.15, 5531.16, and 5739.02 and to enact sections 5531.141, 5531.142, 5531.143, 5531.144, 5531.145, 5531.146, 5531.147, 5531.148, and 5531.149

Upcoming Legislative Committee Calendar



Tuesday, May 13

House Agriculture & Natural Resources, (Chr. Hall, D., 466-2994), Rm. 116, 10:00 am

HB 515 ■ **TIMBER HARVESTING** ([McGregor, R.](#)) To establish requirements governing contracts for the harvesting of timber and enforcement procedures regarding and penalties for the theft of timber. --
1st Hearing-Sponsor

HB 490 ■ **MBR ENVIRONMENT** ([Hall, D.](#), [Thompson, A.](#)) To revise certain laws governing agriculture, natural resources, and environmental protection. --**4th Hearing-Proponent**

House Insurance, (Chr. Hackett, B., 466-1470), Rm. 313, 10:00 am

HB 526 ■ **VEHICLE REPAIRS** ([Lynch, M.](#), [Hagan, R.](#)) To prohibit auto insurers from requiring, recommending, or suggesting that a claimant on a policy have the claimant's vehicle repaired at a particular repair shop or by a particular person unless the claimant requests a recommendation or suggestion. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

Senate Finance, (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 10:00 am

HB 486 ■ **MBR WORKFORCE** ([Baker, N.](#), [Stebelton, G.](#)) To establish the adult career opportunity pilot program; to revise the coordination of workforce development and economic development programs; to synchronize the due dates of several reports due from the Development Services Agency, the Ohio Venture Capital Authority and the Third Frontier Commission; to revise the law regarding innovation financial assistance and research and development financial assistance; and to permit the Director of Commerce, the State Fire Marshal, and the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board to establish compliance incentive programs. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

HB 320 ■ **HEALTH CARE SERVICES** ([Young, R.](#)) To create a state income tax deduction regarding certain health care services provided at a free clinic; to extend qualified immunity from civil liability for certain volunteer health care services provided to individuals eligible for or receiving Medicaid; to authorize a person practicing under a volunteer's certificate to provide health care services to any person; to create a volunteer's certificate for retired nurses; and to designate December as "Free Clinic Appreciation Month." --**2nd Hearing-Proponent**

HB 483 ■ **MBR APPROPRIATIONS** ([Amstutz, R.](#)) To make operating and other appropriations and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony**

HB 484 ■ **MBR HIGHER EDUCATION** ([Rosenberger, C.](#), [Brown, T.](#)) With respect to the coordination and administration of higher education programs. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony**

HB 492 ■ **MBR TAX ADMINISTRATION** ([Scherer, G.](#)) To provide authorization and conditions for the levy and administration of taxes in this state. --**3rd Hearing-All testimony**

SB 287 ■ **DEPOSITORY ACT** ([Hughes, J.](#)) To modify authorized investments of interim moneys and inactive moneys under the Uniform Depository Act. --**4th Hearing-All testimony**

HB 289 ■ **DEVELOPMENT ZONES** ([Schuring, K.](#)) To terminate the authority to create new or substantially modified joint economic development zones (JEDZ), to require the creation of review councils to approve and to evaluate the progress of JEDZ development plans, and to authorize businesses and their employees to bring a civil action seeking termination of the JEDZ contract or income tax if the council finds that the development plan is not being complied with. --**4th Hearing-All testimony**

House Public Utilities, (Chr. Stautberg, P., 644-6886), Rm. 121, 10:00 am

[SB 310](#) ■ **RENEWABLE ENERGY** ([Balderson, T.](#)) To make changes to the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction requirements and to create a study committee. --**1st Hearing-All testimony-Pending referral**

House Ways & Means, (Chr. McClain, J., 644-6265), Rm. 017, 10:00 am

[HB 375](#) ■ **OIL & GAS SEVERANCE TAX** ([Huffman, M.](#)) To levy a severance tax on well owners of oil and gas severed from horizontal wells, to create a nonrefundable income tax credit for the amount of horizontal well severance tax paid, to repeal a cost recovery assessment imposed on oil and gas well owners, to reduce the severance tax rate on natural gas extracted from nonhorizontal wells, to exclude from the tax base of the commercial activity tax gross receipts from the sale of oil or natural gas severed through use of a horizontal well, and to make an appropriation. --**9th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

House Finance & Appropriations, (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 313, 1:00 pm

[HB 459](#) ■ **DEPOSITORY ACT** ([Sprague, R.](#)) To modify authorized investments of interim moneys and inactive moneys under the Uniform Depository Act --**3rd Hearing-All testimony**

[HB 533](#) ■ **TOLL BRIDGE** ([McGregor, R.](#), [Mallory, D.](#)) To provide that a toll project may include the substantial reconstruction or replacement of an existing toll-free highway, bridge, or tunnel, to amend the law governing public-private agreements relative to transportation facilities, and to provide for the collection of user fees on toll projects by toll project operators. --**2nd Hearing-All testimony**

House State & Local Government, (Chr. Blair, T., 466-6504), Rm. 116, 3:00 pm

[SB 3](#) ■ **RULEMAKING** ([LaRose, F.](#)) To reform rule-making and rule-review procedures and regulatory processes. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[HB 321](#) ■ **GOVERNMENT RECORDS** ([Duffey, M.](#), [Hagan, C.](#)) To create the DataOhio Board, and to specify requirements for posting public records online. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[HB 322](#) ■ **UNIFORM ACCOUNTING** ([Duffey, M.](#), [Hagan, C.](#)) To require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[HB 323](#) ■ **PUBLIC DATA** ([Duffey, M.](#), [Hagan, C.](#)) To establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[HB 324](#) ■ **LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION** ([Duffey, M.](#)) To establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program and to make an appropriation. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

[HB 337](#) ■ **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGETS** ([Terhar, L.](#)) To revise budgeting requirements that apply to local governments, mandate that certain actuarial standards be applied in political subdivisions that have independent retirement systems, and authorize the Auditor of State to impose sanctions on local governments that fail to comply with budget, debt, or pension requirements under state law. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote**

[HCR 14](#) ■ **WATER PROJECTS** ([Romanchuk, M.](#)) To express the General Assembly's support of federal legislation to remove the State Volume Cap for Private Activity Bonds for water and wastewater infrastructure projects. --**4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote**

Wednesday, May 14

House Health & Aging, (Chr. Wachtmann, L., 466-3760), Rm. 116, 9:30 am

- [HB 511](#) ■ **HEALTH INSURANCE** ([Sears, B.](#)) To suspend the operation of continuation of coverage requirements and make other insurance-related changes. --5th Hearing-Possible amendment & vote
- [SB 278](#) ■ **INFANT DEATH** ([Jones, S.](#)) To require the completion of a sudden unexplained infant death investigation reporting form (SUIDI reporting form) developed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or an alternative reporting form developed by the Director of Health, whenever a child one year of age or younger dies suddenly when in apparent good health and to require that the appropriate child fatality review board receive a copy of each completed form. --4th Hearing-All testimony
- [HB 509](#) ■ **CORONERS** ([Johnson, T.](#)) To encourage the completion of a sudden unexplained infant death investigation reporting form (SUIDI reporting form) developed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or a similar form, whenever a child one year of age or younger dies suddenly when in apparent good health, and to make changes to the law governing coroners. - -1st Hearing-Sponsor

Senate Finance, (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:30 am

- [HB 85](#) ■ **HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION** ([Terhar, L.](#), [Gonzales, A.](#)) To enhance the homestead exemption for military veterans who are 100% disabled from a service-connected disability. --1st Hearing-Sponsor
- [HB 223](#) ■ **FORECLOSURE PROCESS** ([Grossman, C.](#), [Curtin, M.](#)) To establish summary actions to foreclose mortgages on vacant and abandoned residential properties, to expedite the foreclosure and transfer of unoccupied, blighted parcels, to make other changes relative to residential foreclosure actions, and to terminate certain provisions of this act on December 31, 2019, by repealing sections 3767.51, 3767.52, 3767.53, 3767.54, 3767.55, and 3767.56 of the Revised Code on that date. --1st Hearing-Sponsor
- [HB 486](#) ■ **MBR WORKFORCE** ([Baker, N.](#), [Stebelton, G.](#)) To establish the adult career opportunity pilot program; to revise the coordination of workforce development and economic development programs; to synchronize the due dates of several reports due from the Development Services Agency, the Ohio Venture Capital Authority and the Third Frontier Commission; to revise the law regarding innovation financial assistance and research and development financial assistance; and to permit the Director of Commerce, the State Fire Marshal, and the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board to establish compliance incentive programs. --2nd Hearing-Proponent
- [HB 492](#) ■ **MBR TAX ADMINISTRATION** ([Scherer, G.](#)) To provide authorization and conditions for the levy and administration of taxes in this state. --4th Hearing-All testimony
- [HB 483](#) ■ **MBR APPROPRIATIONS** ([Amstutz, R.](#)) To make operating and other appropriations and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs. --4th Hearing-All testimony
- [HB 484](#) ■ **MBR HIGHER EDUCATION** ([Rosenberger, C.](#), [Brown, T.](#)) With respect to the coordination and administration of higher education programs. --4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote
- [HB 320](#) ■ **HEALTH CARE SERVICES** ([Young, R.](#)) To create a state income tax deduction regarding certain health care services provided at a free clinic; to extend qualified immunity from civil liability for certain volunteer health care services provided to individuals eligible for or receiving Medicaid; to authorize a person practicing under a volunteer's certificate to provide health care services to any person; to create a volunteer's certificate for retired nurses; and to designate December as "Free Clinic Appreciation Month." --3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote

[SB 287](#) ■ **DEPOSITORY ACT** ([Hughes, J.](#)) To modify authorized investments of interim moneys and inactive moneys under the Uniform Depository Act. --**5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

[HB 289](#) ■ **DEVELOPMENT ZONES** ([Schuring, K.](#)) To terminate the authority to create new or substantially modified joint economic development zones (JEDZ), to require the creation of review councils to approve and to evaluate the progress of JEDZ development plans, and to authorize businesses and their employees to bring a civil action seeking termination of the JEDZ contract or income tax if the council finds that the development plan is not being complied with. --**5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote**

House Public Utilities, (Chr. Stautberg, P., 644-6886), Rm. 121, 10:00 am

[SB 310](#) ■ **RENEWABLE ENERGY** ([Balderson, T.](#)) To make changes to the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction requirements and to create a study committee. --**2nd Hearing-All testimony-Pending referral**

Senate Commerce & Labor, (Chr. Bacon, K., 466-8064), North Hearing Rm., 10:45 am

[HB 493](#) ■ **MBR WORKERS' COMPENSATION** ([Sears, B.](#), [Henne, M.](#)) To make changes to Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law and to make an appropriation. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

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

House Session, (Chr. Batchelder, B., 466-3357), House Chamber, 2:00 pm

Senate Public Safety, Local Government & Veterans Affairs, (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 4:00 pm

[HB 488](#) ■ **MBR VETERANS** ([Dovilla, M.](#), [Landis, A.](#)) To require state institutions of higher education to award credit for military training, and to make other changes regarding state support and benefits for veterans and their spouses. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**

[SR 296](#) ■ **AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCIES** ([Kearney, E.](#)) To encourage local community emergency response teams to incorporate training for agricultural emergencies and disasters in their training programs. --**1st Hearing-Sponsor**