



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Monthly Legislative Update

JULY 2018

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Mid-Ohio Regional
Planning Commission





TOP ADVOCACY ITEMS

<i>Priority</i>	<i>Status</i>
Highlight the Valuable Roles, Duties, and Rights of Local Governments	<p>In partnership with the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC), MORPC worked in hosting the OARC Candidates Forum on July 10 at the Columbus Hilton Downtown.</p> <p>Both major party candidates, former Director of the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau Richard Cordray and Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine provided speeches and were asked a variety of questions on how they'd grapple with aging roads and bridges, inadequate mass transit and other challenges. The event highlighted the critical role regional councils play, throughout the state, in assisting local communities with a diverse range of services from transportation to community development and to serve as a forum for collaboration. Both Cordray and DeWine promised, if elected governor, to empower local communities to help guide their administration's approach to infrastructure, workforce development and other pressing local issues.</p> <p>In June, we were hearing that House Bill 371, a bill that would exempt property taxation from the increased value of land subdivided for residential development until construction commences or the land is sold, was likely to receive a vote on the House floor. MORPC signed onto a letter, which was sent to Speaker Ryan Smith, with regional and state partners that expressed opposition to the bill. The bill did not go to the floor for a vote.</p>
Promote Energy Efficiency and an Abundant Supply of Safe, Reliable, and Affordable Sources of Energy for our Growing Region	<p>In May, a substitute version of House Bill 114 was offered and accepted to the Ohio Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Energy and Air Quality Director, Christina O'Keeffe submitted written opposition on House Bill 114 to the Senate Committee on June 20. O'Keeffe expressed how the sub-bill is an improvement from the House passed version, yet at this time it didn't merit a change in MORPC's opposing stance.</p> <p>In her testimony, O'Keeffe highlighted MORPC's support of certain provisions in the sub-bill. For example, no longer eliminating energy efficiency requirements and the inclusion of wind setback provisions that should spur wind energy development. However, she also conveyed areas of concern such as: the decrease in energy efficiency benchmarks, opt outs that significantly increase costs for consumers, and the removal of language that would provide additional funds to Home Energy Assistance Programs that would help low income residents reduce their energy costs. Staff will continue to monitor the bill as it goes through the legislative process..</p>



TOP ADVOCACY ITEMS

<i>Priority</i>	<i>Status</i>
<p>Establish MORPC as Top Resource on Transportation Issues</p>	<p>House Bill 95, which would create an enhanced driving penalty for “distracted driving” that only comes into play when a driver is pulled over for another moving violation, was passed overwhelmingly by the Senate and heads to the governor for his signature. MORPC Executive Director William Murdock had submitted written proponent testimony to both the House and Senate committees.</p> <p>House Bill 415, which would divert a portion of surplus revenues realized by the State of Ohio to transportation funding, passed the Ohio House of Representatives on February 28. The bill would allocate 50% of the state’s surplus revenue each year to a newly-created Local Government Road Improvement Fund that would be distributed to counties. The legislation had bipartisan support by an 81-15 margin. This legislation is now before the Senate Finance Committee. It has not received a hearing by that committee. Staff will continue to monitor it through the legislative process.</p>
<p>Seek Federal Funding for Regional Projects</p>	<p>MORPC began working with regional transportation leaders to develop applications for the newest federal transportation grant program known as BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) grants. USDOT plans to award \$1.5 billion in grants to transportation projects around the country. This amount is triple what was recently awarded under the program’s predecessor program, TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery). The most that any single project can receive from the program is \$25 million. Applications for this program are due on July 19, 2018.</p> <p>In June, USDOT announced the projects that received Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grants. Unfortunately, no Central Ohio projects were recipients.</p> <p>MORPC is also monitoring the FY 2019 federal appropriations legislation. Specifically, it is tracking the appropriations bill for Transportation Housing and Urban Development. The House has adopted its version of the legislation, and the Senate’s version has cleared the Appropriations Committee.</p>



TOP NEWS

Agriculture

Protecting landowners from state eminent domain laws is the goal of an Ohio Farm Bureau legal brief recently submitted in the *Knick v. Township of Scott, PA* case to the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS).

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) announced approval for local sponsors to purchase agricultural easements on 51 family farms representing 6,107 acres in 22 counties. Local sponsoring organizations, which include land trusts, counties and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, receive funding from the Clean Ohio Fund to manage the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program. The easement ensures farms remain permanently in agricultural production.

Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) formula changes in budget bill HB49 (R. Smith) have led to lower taxes for farmers in 2018, Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) Division of Tax Equalization Assistant Administrator Gloria Gardner said. “The capitalization rate for 2018 is 8 percent, a significant jump over the 6.6 percent rate in 2015. A higher capitalization rate means lower land values,” Gardner said during a public hearing on the proposed values for tax year 2018.

Arts, Sports + Entertainment

The Cincinnati Reds organization tried to persuade the Supreme Court of Ohio that the team should not have to pay state use tax on bobbleheads, baseball cards and other memorabilia distributed to fans at home games. The Ohio Department of Taxation countered that promotional items are gifts rather than merchandise and therefore due tax from the gratuity’s provider. The Major League Baseball club, whose roster collectively earns tens of millions of dollars in annual compensation, is looking at having to shell out \$88,000 for a three-year period if the state gets its way.

Elections 2018

A new poll on a special election in the 12th Congressional District by Monmouth University shows a lead for Republican Troy Balderson over Democrat Danny O’Connor, but not much enthusiasm by voters of either party. The poll found Balderson leading O’Connor 43 percent to 33 percent among potential voters, which Monmouth described as those who have participated in an election since 2010 or have newly registered to vote. The poll also found Green Party candidate Joe Manchik getting 1 percent, while another 21 percent are undecided.

Energy

Rural Ohio property owners packed the Senate Finance Hearing Room on to express their ardent opposition to provisions of HB114 (Blessing) reducing wind turbine setbacks.

The policy battle over the future of the coal-fired Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC) goes before the Supreme Court of Ohio when justices will consider whether subsidies approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for American Electric Power (AEP) of Ohio’s stake in OVEC constitute illegal “transition” charges in an otherwise deregulated market. The Court will hear oral argument in two AEP cases appealed by the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel (OCC) and Ohio Manufacturers’ Association (OMA), which point out that lawful utility charges to transition from a regulated to a deregulated generation market ended a long time ago in legislative terms — 2010 to be precise. They say AEP’s initial “placeholder” power purchase agreement (PPA) and subsequent billing rider supporting OVEC — both sanctioned by PUCO in the face of an unfavorable ruling by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) — violate the General Assembly’s move to electric competition.



TOP NEWS

Legislation seeking to change Ohio's energy standards isn't yet ready for a committee vote, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) said "There are still some things we are working on ...," Balderson said of HB114 (Blessing), which was not technically called up for a hearing during the meeting. "This bill is not dead. It's just not ready for passage out today. I know you've heard that more than once. I apologize. But I will say ... this is very close." Balderson said he and Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) will continue to work on the bill, and told stakeholders they would likely be ready for further meetings in a couple weeks after Beagle addresses business in his district.

Environment

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) is offering financial assistance through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) to help low- to moderate-income homeowners repair and replace failing home sewage treatment systems (HSTS). Depending on the household income and the number of residents, homeowners may qualify for 50 percent to 100 percent of the total costs for HSTS repair or replacement, Ohio EPA said in a news release.

Federal

Seeking to fend off a potential cut to thousands of defense jobs in Ohio, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown stood alongside local officials and economic development leaders in Columbus to highlight the impact such a cut would have on Whitehall, OH. Whitehall, a suburb of Columbus, is home to the Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC). The House version of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act included a provision that would cut finance, logistics and accounting jobs there and in Cleveland. While that version of the bill passed through the House, the provision in question was cut out in the U.S. Senate version. As Congress forms a conference committee, Brown hopes that provision stays out.

Local Government

The Ohio Supreme Court ruled in *Toledo v. State* that a trial court could not block implementation of the 2015 state law deducting funding to local governments that use traffic cameras to collect fines without first declaring the law unconstitutional.

Taxation

The latest version of legislation to change how sales tax is collected for hotel bookings through the likes of Expedia and Travelocity sparked debate in a House committee on whether it proposed simple parity among sellers or selective expansion of the tax to service fees. In HB571, Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) is proposing that online travel companies pay sales and lodging taxes based on the total price the customer pays for the room, not the wholesale rate the companies pay to the hotels.

The U.S. Supreme Court narrowly ruled to overturn a 26-year-old precedent preventing states from requiring that out-of-state online sellers collect and remit sales taxes. In the 5-4 ruling in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, justices overruled the court's prior holdings in *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota* and *National Bellas Hess v. Department of Revenue of Illinois*. The precedent in those previous cases had prevented states from requiring out-of-state sellers without a physical presence to collect sales tax. The Trump administration and Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, as well as the National Governors Association (NGA), National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and other representatives of government jurisdictions had filed briefs urging justices to overturn *Quill*.



TOP NEWS

Technology

DriveOhio, the state's new center for coordinating smart mobility initiatives, announced plans to study the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), sometimes called drones, to monitor traffic and roadway conditions from the air along the 33 Smart Mobility Corridor. The three-year, \$5.9 million study is a partnership between DriveOhio's UAS Center and the Ohio State University (OSU) College of Engineering. It is set to begin July 1, 2018.

Utilities

Senate members moved forward on submetered utility legislation sanctioned by the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), which personally thanked Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) and Senate Public Utilities Committee Chairman Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) for new changes to SB157 (Bacon). Committee members accepted a substitute bill that, for the first time, would give the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) regulatory power over submeterers of electric, gas, water and sewer service, including rulemaking authority to protect consumers. The bill also would bar submeterers from charging customers more than the local incumbent utility's standard service offer (SSO).

Workers' Compensation

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) announced Friday that 75 Ohio fire departments will be awarded funds from the Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant Program totaling \$745,000. The grants will help purchase safety gear, exhaust systems and specialized washing machines to help protect firefighters from carcinogens and other harmful elements.



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

Goal 1: Promote regionalism at the local, state, and federal levels of government fostering economic growth, prosperity, efficient use of resources, and a high quality of life for Central Ohio residents.

- HB3** DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION (DUFFEY M, HAGAN C) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make appropriations.
Current Status: 12/12/2017 - House Finance, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: [w://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-3](http://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-3)
- HB122** ESTABLISH ECONOMIC STUDY COMMITTEE (HAMBLEY S, ROGERS J) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances.
Current Status: 5/2/2018 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-122>
- HB168** CEMETERY MAINTENANCE AND REGISTRATION (STEIN D) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - PASSED BY SENATE; Vote 32-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-168>
- HB175** LIVESTOCK ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (BRINKMAN T) To allow an owner of residential property to keep, harbor, breed, or maintain small livestock on the property, and to prohibit zoning authorities from regulating certain agricultural activities conducted on residential property for noncommercial purposes.
Current Status: 1/30/2018 - House Agriculture and Rural Development, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-175>
- HB281** BROADBAND EXPANSION PROGRAM (CARFAGNA R) To establish the residential broadband expansion program within the Development Services Agency to award matching grants for last mile broadband expansion in municipal corporations and townships and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 6/19/2018 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-281>
- HB371** TAXES ON UNSOLD PROPERTY (MERRIN D) To exempt from property taxation the increased value of land subdivided for residential development until construction commences or the land is sold.
Current Status: 3/1/2018 - Re-Referred to Committee
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-371>



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

- HB378** OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT (SMITH R, CERA J) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 5/10/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-378>
- HB478** SMALL CELL WIRELESS (SMITH R, LATOURETTE S) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way.
Current Status: 5/2/2018 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-478>
- HB500** TOWNSHIP LAW (CARFAGNA R) To make various changes to township law.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - PASSED BY HOUSE; Vote 93-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-500>
- HB602** WATER AND SEWER RESTRICTIONS (DUFFEY M, LANESE L) To penalize a municipal corporation for engaging in certain actions related to its provision of water and sewer services outside of its territory by reducing or withholding payments the municipal corporation receives from the Local Government Fund and rendering the municipal corporation ineligible for state water and sewer development funds.
Current Status: 6/26/2018 - House Finance, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-602>
- SB135** SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION-VOTING PROGRAM (LAROSE F) To make supplemental operating appropriations for the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium and supplemental capital appropriations for the FY 2017-FY 2018 biennium to implement a voting machine and equipment acquisition program.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate does concur, Vote 31-1
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-135>
- SB203** MUNICIPAL TAX RULE REINSTATEMENT (DOLAN M) To reinstate the municipal income tax “throw-back rule” used in apportioning business income among municipalities.
Current Status: 11/15/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-203>
- SB225** OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (SCHIAVONI J, EKLUND J) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 6/5/2018 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & AMENDED, Senate Finance, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-225>
- SB239** REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS (DOLAN M) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate does concur, Vote 29-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-239>



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

Goal 2: Achieve an advanced and exceptional transportation system that connects Central Ohio's people and products to the world.

- HB95** DISTRACTED DRIVING PENALTY (HUGHES J, SEITZ B) To establish an enhanced penalty for committing a moving violation while distracted if the distraction is the apparent cause of the violation and to reenact provisions of law that specified that certain electronic wireless communications device violations were allied offenses of similar import.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - PASSED BY SENATE; Vote 31-1
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-95>
- HB190** RAILROAD CROSSING REQUIREMENTS (LEPORE-HAGAN M, SCHURING K) To require vehicle operators to watch, listen, and stop for on-track equipment that may be approaching a railroad crossing.
Current Status: 4/11/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-190>
- HB219** SPEED LIMIT SIGN DISTANCES (BOCCIERI J) To specify that a speed limit becomes effective at a reasonable distance from the appropriate sign giving notice of the speed limit.
Current Status: 11/8/2017 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-219>
- HB250** ELECTRIC BIKE REQUIREMENTS (BRINKMAN T) To establish requirements for the use of electric bicycles.
Current Status: 5/23/2018 - REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED, Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-250>
- HB415** LOCAL GOV ROAD IMPROVEMENT (GREENSPAN D, RYAN S) To allocate one-half of any surplus revenue to a new Local Government Road Improvement Fund, from which money will be distributed directly to local governments to fund road improvements.
Current Status: 3/21/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-415>
- HB436** NEIGHBORHOOD STOP SIGNS & SPEED LIMITS (BOGGS K, LELAND D) To permit a local resident, neighborhood association, or neighborhood organization to request the erection of a stop sign at an intersection and to support a request for a lower prima facie speed limit on certain streets and highways.
Current Status: 2/14/2018 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-436>
- HB676** TRAFFIC NOISE ANALYSIS (BARNES, JR. J) To require the Director of Transportation to conduct a traffic noise analysis and to construct noise barriers under specified circumstances.
Current Status: 6/5/2018 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-676>



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

- HB685** DRONES NEAR AIRPORTS (BARNES, JR. J) To regulate the operation of drones near airports and to impose certain record-keeping requirements on retail sellers of drones.
Current Status: 6/5/2018 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-685>
- HB699** AUTOMATED COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (LEPORE-HAGAN M, HUGHES J) To specify the requirements for operating an automated commercial motor vehicle in the state.
Current Status: 6/5/2018 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-113>
- SB6** OHIO BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HOAGLAND F) To extend the Ohio Bridge Partnership Program through the end of fiscal year 2019 and to require the Director of Transportation to submit a report to the Governor, Senate, and House of Representatives recommending ways to continue to fund the program.
Current Status: 12/13/2017 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-6>
- SB61** PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (SKINDELL M) To make appropriations related to public transportation.
Current Status: 12/13/2017 - Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-61>
- SB113** VEHICLE REGISTRATION TAX (COLEY W) To levy an additional registration tax on passenger cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars and trucks beginning on January 1, 2020; to authorize a per-gallon motor fuel retail price reduction for consumers that is equal to the state per-gallon motor fuel tax of \$.28; and to exempt each gallon of motor fuel that is sold at the reduced retail price from the state motor fuel tax.
Current Status: 9/20/2017 - Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-113>



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

Goal 3: Conserve and enhance the natural resources, water, air and land in our growing region.

- HB62** WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (PATTERSON J, SHEEHY M) To require the Director of Agriculture to adopt rules establishing the Ohio Water Quality Improvement Program, to exempt land enrolled in the Program from taxation, and to reimburse local taxing units for revenue lost due to that exemption.
Current Status: 5/10/2017 - House Agriculture and Rural Development, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-62>
- HB121** PIPE MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS (EDWARDS J) To require a public authority to consider all piping materials that meet the engineering specifications for a state-funded water or waste water project.
Current Status: 11/1/2017 - BILL AMENDED, House State and Local Government, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-121>
- HB643** LAKE ERIE PRESERVATION EQUIPMENT (ARNDT S, PATTERSON J) To allow equipment for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie to be purchased with proceeds from the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund and to appropriate funds for projects enhancing water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin.
Current Status: 6/19/2018 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT, House Finance, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-643>
- HR85** FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL OVERHAUL (YOUNG R) To respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to amend the Federal Clean Air Act to eliminate the requirement to implement the E-Check Program and direct the Administrator of USEP A to begin new rulemaking procedures under the Administrative Procedures Act to repeal and replace the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; to respectfully urge Congress and President Donald Trump to pass legislation to achieve improvements in air quality more efficiently while allowing companies to innovate and help the economy grow; to urge the Administrator of USEPA to alleviate burdensome requirements of the E-Check Program and the Clean Air Act if Congress and the President fail to act; and to encourage OEPA to explore alternatives to ECheck in Ohio.
Current Status: 5/24/2017 - ADOPTED BY HOUSE; Vote 72-25
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HR-85>
- HJR16** CLEAN WATER BONDS (ARNDT S, PATTERSON J) To permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund clean water improvements.
Current Status: 5/15/2018 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HJR-16>
- SB95** STATE PROJECTS-PIPING MATERIALS (TERHAR L) To require a public authority to consider all piping materials that meet the engineering specifications for a state-funded water or waste water project.
Current Status: 10/25/2017 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-95>



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

- SB112** GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (SCHIAVONI J) To establish the green infrastructure fund and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 9/6/2017 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-112>
- SB299** LAKE ERIE PROTECTION APPROPRIATIONS (GARDNER R) To allow equipment for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie to be purchased with proceeds from the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund, and to appropriate funds for projects enhancing water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - Consideration of House Amendments; The Senate does concur, Vote 29-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-299>
- SCR15** YEAR DESIGNATION-TRAILS (O'BRIEN S, WILSON S) To designate 2018 as "Ohio's Year of the Trails."
Current Status: 6/7/2018 - ADOPTED BY HOUSE; Vote 87-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SCR-155>
- SJR6** CLEAN WATER BONDS (GARDNER R, O'BRIEN S) If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this proposal, Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio shall take effect immediately.
Current Status: 5/10/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SJR-6>



MORPC LEGISLATIVE TRACKING

Goal 4: Promote energy efficiency and an abundant supply of safe, reliable, and affordable sources of energy for our growing region.

- HB114** RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS (BLESSING III L) To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.
Current Status: 6/27/2018 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (Eighth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-114>
- HB247** ELECTRIC UTILITY CONSUMER PROTECTION (ROMANCHUK M) To require refunds to utility customers who have been improperly charged, to eliminate electric security plans and require all electric standard service offers to be delivered through market-rate offers, and to strengthen corporate separation requirements.
Current Status: 1/23/2018 - House Public Utilities, (Sixth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-247>
- SB155** ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COST RECOVERY (TERHAR L, PETERSON B) To allow electric distribution utilities to recover costs for a national security generation resource.
Current Status: 1/10/2018 - Senate Public Utilities, (Seventh Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-155>
- SB184** WIND FARM SETBACK REQUIREMENTS (SKINDELL M) To alter the minimum setback requirement for wind farms of five or more megawatts.
Current Status: 9/27/2017 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-184>
- SB217** OIL, GAS REVISED ENFORCEMENT (SCHIAVONI J) To revise enforcement of the Oil and Gas Law, including increasing criminal penalties and requiring revocation of permits for violations of that Law relating to improper disposal of brine.
Current Status: 11/15/2017 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Natural Resources
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-217>
- SB238** WIND TURBINE SETBACKS (DOLAN M) Regarding wind turbine setbacks for wind farms of at least five megawatts.
Current Status: 1/10/2018 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-SB-238>

For more information please contact:

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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TEAM

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