**Main Operating Budget Bill**

State leaders finished work on the overdue biennial budget last month with final changes in the conference committee on HB166 (Oelslager) on July 16th, floor votes on July 17th and a signing with 25 vetoes from Gov. Mike DeWine on the morning of July 18th. The compromise version of the state operating budget passed conference committee 5-1 on the night of July 16th. The conference report passed the Senate 29-1 and the House 75-17. DeWine received the bill about 11:45 p.m. on July 17th and signed it the morning of July 18th, in the process excising more than two dozen provisions, many related to Medicaid and health care policy.

Among the provisions of the enacted budget include a $10 million increase in the Local Government Fund over the biennium by increasing the percentage of General Revenue Fund tax revenues to 1.68 percent from 1.66 percent. Cities, villages, townships, counties and park districts shall receive the additional revenue from this change.

Additionally, Governor DeWine line-item vetoed from the biennial budget a provision that would have required that agricultural property subdivided into residential units be valued at a rate other than market value. The language was from House Bill 149 that initially was inserted into the House passed version of the budget bill. MORPC testified for the removal of this provision before the Senate Finance Committee, as it would have negatively impacted communities by usurping local decision making on land use, community planning and economic development. Furthermore, the provision would have resulted in revenue losses to local governments and school districts.

**Update on House Bill 6**

The House narrowly concurred on July 23rd with Senate changes to the energy policy overhaul in HB6 (Callender-Wilkin), sending the bill to Gov. Mike DeWine, who quickly signed it later that day. The 51-38 vote tally was not as close as it might have been had more dissenters shown up from the House’s previous vote on the bill. Major Senate amendments changed few minds, with Rep. Richard Brown (D-Canal Winchester) being the only Democrat to switch from “yea” to “nay” and no Republicans switching from no to yes. A referendum campaign effort quickly emerged to seek repeal of the law via the ballot box, with the formation of Ohioans Against Corporate Bailouts.

The as introduced version of the bill eliminated funding for low income home weatherization programs. After many hours of advocacy efforts, the House substitute bill added a provision to increase the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) transfer to weatherization up to 25 percent. The first Senate substitute bill removed the HEAP transfer provision, but reinstated energy efficiency mandates.

Following continued advocacy, the Senate amended the bill to require the Director of the Development Services Agency to submit in each fiscal year, beginning in FY 2021, a completed waiver request to expend 25 percent of federal low-income HEAP funds from the home energy assistance block grants for weatherization services. This remained in the enacted version and will benefit the low income families that MORPC helps serve through its home energy efficiency and safety services.
**Agriculture**

Ohio farmers will soon be allowed to legally cultivate hemp, and consumers can immediately buy hemp-derived products such as cannabidiol (CBD) at Ohio retailers after Gov. Mike DeWine signed SB57 (S. Huffman-Hill) Tuesday at the Ohio State Fair.

Buckeye Hills Regional Council is among 47 entities that will receive technical assistance to implement long-term economic development plans, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced. “USDA and its partners are bringing local leaders and economic development experts together to create opportunity in some of the nation’s most economically challenged rural communities,” Acting Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Joel Baxley said.

**Ballot Issues**

A group seeking to put a referendum on energy legislation HB6 (Callender-Wilkin) before voters filed its summary petition language and initial signatures with the secretary of state and attorney general’s offices. Ohioans Against Corporate Bailouts (OACB), a group formed to overturn HB6 with the backing of environmental, renewable and other energy interests, said it filed 2,866 signatures along with summary petition language. The group needs 1,000 valid signatures for the attorney general’s office to review the proposed referendum.

**Census**

The 2020 Decennial Census questionnaire is being printed without a citizenship question, according to Trump administration officials from the U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC) and U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). The U.S. Supreme Court blocked the addition of the question to the 2020 Census, ruling that the Trump administration’s explanation for including the question was “contrived” and “incongruent with what the record reveals about the agency’s priorities and decision-making process.” However, President Donald Trump created some confusion July 3 by seemingly contradicting administration officials and tweeting, “The news reports about the USDOC dropping its quest to put the citizenship question on the census is incorrect, or to state it differently, fake! We are absolutely moving forward, as we must, because of the importance of the answer to this question.” By July 11, he had given up on the Census question, reportedly looking to other ways to get the information.

**Disasters**

Gov. Mike DeWine announced that Ohio has received federal assistance for individuals in 10 counties hit by tornadoes, severe storms, straight-line winds, flooding, and landslides in May. The Presidential Disaster Declaration was issued for Auglaize, Darke, Greene, Hocking, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Muskingum, Perry, and Pickaway counties. In addition to possible low-interest loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the declaration opens up the following assistance programs: Individual Assistance Program; Disaster Legal Services Program; and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a flood-related disaster declaration for Auglaize County and six adjacent counties, opening low-interest disaster loans to business owners, homeowners and renters. The SBA declaration covers those in Auglaize, Mercer, Van Wert, Allen, Hardin, Logan and Shelby counties.

**Economic Development**

The Ohio Development Services Agency (DSA) recently awarded $28,033,063 in Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credits for the rehabilitation of 49 historic buildings in the state. Together, the projects are expected to leverage approximately $280 million in private investments in 13 communities. The awards include projects in three new communities (Coshocton, Bellefontaine and Miamisburg), bringing the total number of Ohio communities with historic preservation tax credit projects to 71.
Top News

Elections
Morgan Harper, a former senior advisor at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), announced that she will be running as a Democrat for the Third Congressional District. The seat is currently held by U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus), who is expected to run for re-election and which would set up a Democratic primary.

A community activist announced she will be running for the Democratic nomination for Ohio Senate District 16. The seat is currently held by Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hillard), who is expected to run for re-election. Crystal Lett said her campaign will highlight her advocacy for affordable health care after her family’s personal struggle with medical costs related to her son’s rare genetic disorder.

Employment/Unemployment
The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) announced that it was re-introducing the “Leading Indicators” report, which forecasts near-term employment levels for Ohio and its eight largest metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). The reports use a statistical model that employs U.S., state and regional level data to produce an annualized growth rate for the next six months. Since a new methodology was used for this report it is not comparable to the previous Leading Economic Index, ODJFS noted, and new reports will be available monthly.

Energy
The Enbridge Line 5 pipeline provides reliable fuel and more than 1,000 jobs to residents of both Ohio and Michigan and shouldn’t be eliminated, Gov. Mike DeWine and Lt. Gov. Jon Husted wrote to Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in a letter. DeWine thanked Whitmer for discussing the issue during the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers 2019 Leadership Summit.

The nation’s supply of natural gas has greatly increased since 2000, the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee was told, although the number of active drilling rigs has decreased in the past 10 years. The committee heard an update on the natural gas industry from Jimmy Stewart, the executive director of the Ohio Gas Association and a former legislator. Chairman Sam Randazzo of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) and the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) gave the House Public Utilities Committee a brief overview of both agencies Wednesday and answered questions on the location of generation plants within the 13-state regional transmission organization encompassing Ohio and the future of Ohio’s system of electric billing riders.

The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) approved two Columbus office buildings and three small Ohio businesses in Hamilton, Richland and Franklin counties for up to a total of $5.2 million to install new equipment that will save energy, improve energy efficiency and preserve air quality.

A pair of experts told the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel (OCC) Governing Board that the real outcome in passing energy subsidy bill HB6 (Callender-Wilkin) would not be to help a legacy generation technology survive a competitive electric market skewed by historically low natural gas prices, but rather to bail out the poor management practices of FirstEnergy Solutions (FES) and its out-of-state investors.

General Assembly/Statehouse
The Senate unanimously passed SB2 (Peterson-Dolan) to establish a watershed planning structure in the state that one of its sponsors said will make sure that any dollars allocated to clean up Ohio’s waterways will be “wisely spent and effectively used.” The chamber also passed SB95 (Kunze-Peterson), which would extend the maximum term of the job creation tax credit for businesses making substantial fixed asset and employment investments.
All four bills on the House’s floor calendar passed with unanimous votes, including another priority bill of the chamber. HB9 (Jones-Sweeney), which addresses credit transfers and other higher education issues, became the latest priority bill with joint sponsors to clear the House, leaving just two of the 13 yet to come to the floor. HB3 (Boyd-Carruthers), addressing domestic violence, is currently in the House Criminal Justice Committee, while the House Finance Committee continues to consider HB13 (Carfagna-O’Brien) addressing residential broadband.

“I want them to know I serve at their will and I want to be a resource to them and bring resources to them,” Crawley said.

Senate session included passage of SB39 (Schuring), which would grant insurers tax credits for participation in financing large mixed-used development projects.

Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid) resigned as House minority whip and was replaced at session by Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo), who was promoted from assistant whip. Democrats elected Rep. Richard Brown (D-Canal Winchester) to take Hicks-Hudson’s former position.

Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) said he won’t run for re-election to his 69th House District seat next year, saying he will seek his old position as Medina County commissioner instead. Hambley was elected to the seat in 2014, succeeding former House Speaker William Batchelder (R-Medina). He currently serves as the chairman of the House Civil Justice Committee and co-chairs the Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee.

Judicial
The Ohio Supreme Court is weighing the extent to which townships may regulate surface mining through a comprehensive zoning plan containing general community standards that exceed R.C. 519.02’s express limit on such regulations to “public health and safety.” Surface mining of sand, gravel and other aggregates is a billion-dollar-plus industry that employs some 4,000 Ohioans in 80 counties and supports construction of interstate highways, streets, bridges, parking lots, sidewalks, commercial and residential buildings, and other infrastructure projects statewide, as well as producing lime for agriculture. The Court heard arguments Tuesday in the three-year-old dispute between Harrison Township in Pickaway County and reputedly the state’s largest surface mining company, Shelly Materials Inc.

Local Government
While saying it is a “case-by-case basis” and not citing any specific policy in general, Gov. Mike DeWine told reporters that he has expressed to the General Assembly that “as much as possible, we don’t want to be in a position to tell local governments what they can pass and what they can’t pass.” DeWine’s comments come as the General Assembly is considering bills to have state law supersede local ordinances banning plastic grocery bags, among other preemption laws.

Military Affairs
Cyberattacks on government agencies and critical infrastructure are an increasing concern and are being incorporated into the Ohio National Guard’s preparedness exercise this year, set to be the largest in its history. Maj. Gen. John Harris, Ohio’s adjutant general, discussed elements of the exercise with Hannah News, noting he could not share all details as it is a test of participants’ abilities to respond to unknown circumstances.

Natural Resources
After increasing throughout 2018, Ohio’s horizontal shale well production dropped during the first quarter of 2019, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). The state’s horizontal wells produced 5.1 million barrels of oil and 609 billion cubic feet of natural gas during Q1 2019, down from Q4 2018’s totals of 5.8 million barrels of oil and 663 billion cubic feet of natural gas.
The House’s proposed H2Ohio program could annually disburse $100 million — up from $50 million — for water quality projects across the state under the substitute version of HB7 (Ghanbari-Patterson) accepted by the House Finance Committee. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Forestry will hold four regional open houses to give the public the opportunity to learn more about management plans for Ohio’s state forests and to provide feedback. Held annually, this year’s open houses are scheduled for late July and early August.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) will distribute more than $485,000 in federal funding to 18 counties, the department announced. The dollars will primarily go toward improving schools and roads, ODNR said. “Sensible management of Ohio’s natural resources continues to pay dividends across the state,” ODNR Director Mary Mertz said. “This is a great opportunity to invest in infrastructure and services that residents value.”

Poverty
Ohioans receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits can visit any of 92 farmers’ markets around the state to buy fresh, locally-grown food, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) said. The department’s 2019 Ohio Farmers’ Market Directory is online (jfs.ohio.gov/form00569), and all entities listed accept the Ohio Direction Card. SNAP provides monthly benefits to more than 1.4 million Ohioans, according to ODJFS.

Taxation
Ohio’s gasoline tax increased 10.5 cents per gallon on Monday, July 1, while the state’s diesel tax rose by 19 cents, per the transportation budget passed in March, HB62 (Oelslager). The hike is expected to raise an additional $1 billion annually for Ohio Department of Transportation road and bridge maintenance projects. The average driver getting 28 miles per gallon can expect to pay an additional $45 in taxes for each 12,000 miles driven.

Technology
Microsoft announced that it is partnering with Watch Communications, an Internet service provider (ISP) in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, to expand broadband access, especially in rural areas. The partnership is part of Microsoft’s Airband Initiative, aimed at extending broadband access to three million people in rural America by July 2022. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has found that 21 million Americans lack broadband access, while Microsoft found that 162 million people do not use the Internet at broadband speeds, including 17 million people in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

One of the country’s most prominent business groups brought its “TecNation” event to Columbus, highlighting the Buckeye State’s focus on technology and innovation in the public and private sectors. “We have brought together a lot of smart people to talk about a couple of the hottest topics in Ohio, and quite frankly, everywhere — data and technology. This is exactly where these topics — that are complex, encompassing and economically critical — should be discussed, at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI),” U.S. Chamber Technology Engagement Center (C_TEC) Senior Vice President Tim Day said in remarks kicking off the event, which featured guest panels including Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Chief Information Officer Ervan Rodgers, Columbus State Community College Executive Vice President Rebecca Butler, Columbus City Council President Shannon Hardin and Ohio State University Executive Vice President and Provost Bruce McPheron.

Transportation/Infrastructure
The Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) has begun the process of selecting projects for this year’s “major new” construction funding cycle, with 27 projects seeking nearly $917 million in funding. TRAC will hold public hearings on the proposed list in August and September, then vote to accept a draft list in October and a final list in November.
Memorial Day tornadoes cost the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) more than $500,000, Director Jack Marchbanks told the House ODOT Oversight Study Committee on Tuesday. Marchbanks gave the committee — made up of members of the House Finance Transportation Subcommittee and created to get regular updates on ODOT’s activities — an overview of what the agency has done since the passage of HB62 (Oelslager), the transportation budget, earlier this year.

Ohio is now home to the “largest, most comprehensive contained testing site in North America for advanced vehicle technologies,” Transportation Research Center (TRC) executives and DeWine administration leaders said. Lt. Gov. Jon Husted and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Jack Marchbanks were among the state officials helping TRC and its partners cut the ribbon at the $45 million SMARTCenter, located on TRC’s approximately 4,500-acre property in East Liberty.

Local and regional leaders from the capital area responded to a proposed rebranding of the existing Rickenbacker International Airport as the “North American International Freight Center” to capture Columbus and Ohio’s unique geographic advantages in warehousing and distribution. The area south of the capital would not rest on its logistics reputation, however, but would diversify its industry mix with a new smart technology hub, microgrid and solar arrays, and a Rickenbacker Energy Consortium promoting renewable generation, energy efficiency and smart transportation to, from and within the hub.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), reporting that recent trends in safety, demographics and demand have spurred it to develop the first-ever policy plan for walking and biking, is seeking stakeholder and public input to “help ensure that policies and investments meet the needs of people walking and biking.” ODOT is seeking input into the plan regarding the vision and goals of the plan as well as barriers and needs for walking and biking through a series of stakeholder meetings and an online survey. It will also look at how new mobility and its associated technologies will affect how Ohioans walk and bike in the future. The survey can be found online [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WalkBikeOhio?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WalkBikeOhio?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery).

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Gov. Mike DeWine Tuesday announced that a new system to detect and deter wrong-way drivers is being installed along an 18-mile stretch of Interstate 71 in Hamilton County. Describing it as a “first-of-its-kind system” aimed at stopping wrong-way drivers, ODOT said the system will include 92 electronic signs and 82 detection devices at 23 locations from downtown Cincinnati to Fields-Ertel Road.

Utilities
The Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) has begun the process of selecting projects for this year’s “major new” construction funding cycle, with 27 projects seeking nearly $917 million in funding. TRAC will hold public hearings on the proposed list in August and September, then vote to accept a draft list in October and a final list in November.

The Ohio Consumers’ Counsel (OCC) redoubled its lobbying efforts for a state policy shift favoring utility customer refunds. Its Governing Board is urging the General Assembly to pass enabling legislation and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to make refunds a routine requirement in ratemaking cases, also issuing a unanimous resolution to that effect. Consumers’ Counsel Bruce Weston called the $1.2 billion that utilities have improperly collected over the last 10 years but do not have to repay a “travesty of justice.” He said his agency has been pressing the Legislature and PUCO to address the issue in commission filings and committee testimony.

Workers’ Compensation
The Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation (BWC) is considering reducing premium rates for public employers by an average of 10 percent next year, following a 20 percent reduction for private employer rates that took effect on July 1, and a $1.5 billion refund going to Ohio employers as well. The reduction is backed by Gov. Mike DeWine, and if approved by the board on Aug. 23, it would be the 11th reduction for public employers since 2009 and equal to the third-largest since 1986. BWC Chief Actuarial Officer Chris Carlson said the reduction would save public employers $17.8 million over their 2019 premiums.
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.

**HB54**  
**Title:** LGF TAX REVENUE INCREASE (CERA J, ROGERS J)  
**Current Status:** 2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means  

**HB72**  
**Title:** CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND (ROGERS J, CERA J)  
**Current Status:** 2/20/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance  

**HB84**  
**Title:** CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS-SEWER LATERALS (HOLMES G)  
**Current Status:** 3/27/2019 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)  

**HB124**  
**Title:** RESIDENTIAL SMALL LIVESTOCK (BRINKMAN T)  
**Current Status:** 3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Agriculture and Rural Development  

**HB133**  
**Title:** MILITARY-TEMPORARY LICENSURE (PERALES R, WEINSTEIN C)  
**Current Status:** 6/19/2019 - PASSED BY HOUSE; Vote 97-0  

**HB149**  
**Title:** PROPERTY TAX EXEMPT-RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION (MERRIN D)  
**Current Status:** 4/10/2019 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing)  

**HB152**  
**Title:** TAX LEVY-SUBDIVISION CREATOR (BRINKMAN T)  
**Current Status:** 4/10/2019 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)  

**HB163**  
**Title:** WATER AND SEWER PRACTICES (BRINKMAN T)  
**Current Status:** 6/19/2019 - House Public Utilities, (Fourth Hearing)  
### Legislative Updates

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<th>Bill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB166</td>
<td>OPERATING BUDGET (OELSLAGER S) To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.</td>
<td>7/18/2019 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; Eff. Immediately</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-166">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-166</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB242</td>
<td>CONTAINER USE RESTRICTIONS (LANG G, JONES D) To authorize the use of an auxiliary container for any purpose, to prohibit the imposition of a tax or fee on those containers, and to apply existing anti-littering law to those containers.</td>
<td>6/26/2019 - REPORTED OUT, House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-242">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-242</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SB114</td>
<td>NOISE REGULATION-TOWNSHIPS (HOTTINGER J) To expand the authority of a township to regulate noise within the unincorporated area of the township.</td>
<td>5/21/2019 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (Second Hearing)</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-114">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-114</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Goal 2: Achieve an advanced, inclusive, and exceptional transportation system that connects Central Ohio’s people and products to the world.

#### HB48
LOCAL GOVT ROAD IMPROVEMENT FUND [GREENSPAN D] To provide for a new Local Government Road Improvement Fund for local governments to fund road improvements.  
**Current Status:** 2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance  

#### HB93
PUBLIC TRANSIT INVESTMENT [SKINDELL M, UPCHURCH T] To make appropriations related to public transportation.  
**Current Status:** 3/5/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance  

#### HB97
MINORS-BIKE HELMETS [SKINDELL M] To require bicycle operators and passengers under 18 years of age to wear protective helmets and to establish the Bicycle Safety Fund.  
**Current Status:** 3/12/2019 - House Transportation and Public Safety, [First Hearing]  

#### HB116
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH [BRINKMAN T] To make an appropriation related to transportation planning and research.  
**Current Status:** 3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance  

#### HB202
ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE [SMITH K, WEINSTEIN C] To establish the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Study Committee.  
**Current Status:** 6/25/2019 - House Transportation and Public Safety, [Second Hearing]  

#### SB73
PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALKS [BRENNER A] To alter the law governing yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks.  
**Current Status:** 3/26/2019 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, [Second Hearing]  

#### SB85
SCHOOL ZONE SPEED LIMITS [MAHARATH T] To establish signage requirements for indicating school zones for speed limit purposes, and to make an appropriation.  
**Current Status:** 3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance  

#### SB132
GAS TAX-LOCAL GOVERNMENT ALLOCATION [WILLIAMS S] To modify the amount of revenue derived from any increase in the motor fuel tax rate that is allocated to local governments and to change the manner in which that revenue is divided between municipal corporations, counties, and townships.  
**Current Status:** 5/1/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce  

#### SB161
PEER-TO-PEER CAR SHARING [HOTTINGER J, DOLAN M] To specify requirements related to peer-to-peer car sharing in Ohio.  
**Current Status:** 6/13/2019 - Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, [Second Hearing]  
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Bill No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB6</td>
<td>CLEAN AIR PROGRAM (CALLENDER J, WILKIN S)</td>
<td>To create the Ohio Clean Air Program, to facilitate and encourage electricity production and use from clean air resources, to facilitate investment to reduce the emissions from other generating technologies that can be readily dispatched to satisfy demand in real time, and proactively engage the buying power of consumers in this state for the purpose of improving air quality in this state.</td>
<td>7/23/2019 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; Eff. 90 days</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-6">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-6</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB7</td>
<td>H2OHIO PROGRAM (GHANBARI H, PATTERSON J)</td>
<td>To create the H2Ohio Trust Fund for the protection and preservation of Ohio’s water quality, to create the H2Ohio Advisory Council to disburse money from the Fund for water quality programs, and to create the H2Ohio Endowment Board to make recommendations to the Treasurer of State regarding the issuance of securities to pay for costs related to the purposes of the Fund.</td>
<td>7/17/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-7">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-7</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB2</td>
<td>STATEWIDE WATERSHED PLANNING (PETERSON B, DOLAN M)</td>
<td>To create a statewide watershed planning structure for watershed programs to be implemented by local soil and water conservation districts.</td>
<td>6/19/2019 - Referred to Committee House Energy and Natural Resources</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-2">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-2</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SJR1</td>
<td>CLEAN WATER IMPROVEMENTS (GAVARONE T, O’BRIEN S)</td>
<td>Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund clean water improvements.</td>
<td>5/14/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance</td>
<td><a href="https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SJR-1">https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SJR-1</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal 4: Promote effective data policies and the equitable deployment of digital infrastructure that benefit Central Ohio communities.

**HB13** RESIDENTIAL BROADBAND (CARFAGNA R, O’BRIEN M) To establish the residential broadband expansion program and to make an appropriation.
*Current Status: 6/19/2019 - House Finance, (Third Hearing)*

**HB46** STATE GOVT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (GREENSPAN D) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database.
*Current Status: 5/15/2019 - REPORTED OUT, House State and Local Government, (Fifth Hearing)*

**HB190** FIBER BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT (SMITH R) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program, to encourage the Department of Transportation to work with telecommunications providers to lay fiber optic cable, and to make an appropriation.
*Current Status: 4/10/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance*

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