



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Monthly Legislative Update

April 2022



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

Joseph Garrity
Senior Director of Government
Affairs + Community Relations
(614) 233-4127
jgarrity@morpc.org

What's Happening

State of the State Touts Achievements, Unveils Priorities

Before a joint session of the Ohio General Assembly, Governor Mike DeWine delivered his State of the State address on May 23rd, his first since 2019.

DeWine began his address by touting achievements from his first three years in office, including the Intel chip manufacturing announcement, water quality investments through H2Ohio and support for child welfare and health.

The second half of the address was devoted to several priorities DeWine said will be presented in further detail in the coming weeks.

The first priority are improvements to Ohio's community mental health treatment capacity. He said the system isn't broken so much as it was never built in the first place, despite promises made in decades past.

Next on the list, DeWine said he will ask lawmakers to reinvest in the state park system, something he said Ohioans "rediscovered" amid the pandemic. "Our dream is for Ohio to have the best state park system in the country," he said.

Additionally, DeWine pledged to work with lawmakers and community leaders on efforts to boost Appalachia -- "to revitalize and rebuild the economies and the Main Streets of the area where Ohio began." The initiatives he is proposing will address downtown redevelopment, broadband expansion, workforce development, education and addiction services.

The governor reiterated his for action on a few specific legislative proposals pending before the General Assembly.

Specifically, DeWine urged lawmakers to enact HB 283 (Abrams-Lampton), which would broaden distracted driving prohibitions and boost penalties due to concerns that distracted driving is a major factor in the spike in a disturbing trend in road deaths.

Furthermore, DeWine expressed support for legislation to increase police accountability and transparency by passing a bill sponsored by Reps. Cindy Abrams (R-Harrison) and Phil Plummer (R-Dayton).

Finally, the Governor urged adoption of proposals to increase penalties on repeat violent offenders who continue to use guns to commit crimes despite its being illegal for them even to possess one.

LaRose: Two Primary Dates Absent Legislative Action

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose sent a letter to Governor DeWine and the Ohio General Assembly on March 31st stating that unless the Ohio General Assembly voted by Friday, April 1st to move the May 3rd Primary Election to a later date, that a primary election will have to be split on two different dates. Ohio will have to proceed with a primary election



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for all offices except for the Ohio General Assembly and the state central committees on May 3rd. However, a second primary would need to be held on August 2nd for the offices of State Representative, State Senator, and members of the Republican and Democrat State Central Committees.

State policymakers had waited for a federal court decision ruling and a three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, effectively set in motion on Wednesday a bifurcated primary.

Secretary LaRose stated in the letter that the law requires him to instruct the 88 county boards of elections to begin sending ballots to military voters as soon as Saturday, April 2nd.

The boundary lines of Ohio's 99 Ohio House districts and 33 Ohio Senate districts have been litigated before the Ohio Supreme Court, which to date has invalidated three sets of maps that were approved by the seven member Ohio Redistricting Commission. The fourth set of these maps are now being litigated before the state's high court.

The ongoing litigation has led to complexities with elections administration. There are many logistical considerations to holding elections, including the procurement of nearly 4,000 polling locations, recruiting and training nearly 56,000 poll workers, and informing voters of changes to these election dates and venues.

Notably, a bill to eliminate August special elections due to administration costs and historically low turnout, House Bill 458, passed the Ohio House in December and is currently pending in the Ohio Senate.

U.S. House Announces FY23 Earmark Request Details

The Chair of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee recently announced that members of Congress may submit earmark requests for the federal Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations process. U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Connecticut), who chairs that committee, issued a "Dear Colleague" letter to explain the process, which is similar to the FY22 program.

The U.S. House Appropriations Committee and its subcommittees will be reviewing congressional requests through the end of April. Each subcommittee chair has provided details on which federal funding accounts will be open for earmarks.

Some members of Congress have begun announcing their own application deadlines to ensure adequate time for review prior to submission to the Committee.

Members of U.S. House will be allowed to submit up to 15 Community Project funding requests to Appropriations committee, which is increased from 10 last year.

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee has not yet announced details of the FY23 Congressionally Directed Funding program, but those details are expected soon.

General Assembly Appropriates \$85 Million for Infrastructure Investments

The Ohio Senate amended into a bill that generally requires agricultural lease agreements to be terminated in writing with an \$85 million appropriation for a newly created Investing In Ohio Fund with the Ohio Department of Development. The source of funding comes from a transfer from the General Revenue Fund by the Office of Budget and Management.

The language of the amendment to House Bill 397 (Stewart, Kick) states that the purpose of these dollars is to "promote economic development throughout the state, including infrastructure improvements." However, it was explained in the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources by a representative from Governor Mike DeWine's administration, that the intent of the amendment is to assist local governments in Licking County make infrastructure improvements in preparation for the new proposed Intel microchip factory.

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"This amendment for \$85 million is to keep pace with Intel's aggressive construction schedule. This money will be used to support local governments needing to do local roads, water, and sewer projects," said Meghan Wadsworth of Governor DeWine's office.

The Ohio Senate passed the bill as amended on April 6th, 32-0. Senator Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster), who chairs the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, stated on the Senate Floor that Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted believes that the new Investing In Ohio Fund will be "a catalyst for new economic development projects," especially the recently announced Intel project in Licking County.

Similarly, the Ohio House of Representatives voted to concur in the Senate amendments to HB 397 that same day in an 85-8 vote.

Joint sponsor Rep. Brian Stewart (R-Ashville) lauded the appropriation on the House Floor.

"Anybody who has been involved in economic development knows that for a project of that magnitude we have got an awful lot of roadwork, sewer work, water work, and these get started right away," said Stewart. "So that money is General Revenue Fund money that is going to support the local entities that have to do the work on the ground to get that project going."

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FY22-23 Budget

Lower than expected income tax refunds drove tax collections a quarter billion dollars over estimates in February, according to preliminary figures from the Office of Budget and Management (OBM). Income tax collections of \$301.9 million were more than 150 percent above estimates because of the fluctuation in refunds. For the fiscal year so far, income tax collections are 11.7 percent or \$669.1 million above estimates, reaching more than \$6.3 billion total. Sales taxes also beat estimates, bringing in \$20.2 million or 2.5 percent more, with roughly equal contributions from the non-auto sales tax (\$11.1 million or 1.6 percent above estimates) and auto sales tax (up \$9.1 million or 7.9 percent). Sales taxes so far this fiscal year are ahead of estimates 3.8 percent or almost \$308 million.

FY23-24 Capital Reappropriations/Appropriations

Asked about the timeline for the capital bill, Senate President Matt Huffman (R-Lima) said the public and local entities were asked to have requests in to their individual senators by Friday, March 18, and the requests from senators to Senate Finance Chairman Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) by Friday, April 1. He said he expects the bill to pass by the end of May or the beginning of June.

The capital reappropriations bill, HB597 (Oelslager), passed unanimously in the House after remarks by Reps. Scott Oelslager (R-North Canton) and Bride Sweeney (D-Cleveland). Oelslager discussed how reappropriations were constitutionally necessary for previously approved projects to continue and talked about the effects of the pandemic on the projects' schedule. The bill reflects that Ohio is in a "very strong fiscal position" and well below the Ohio Constitution's 5 percent debt service limitation.

Economic Development

JobsOhio's quarterly board of directors meeting represented a victory lap over Intel's investment with President and CEO J.P. Nauseef and Chairman Bob Smith both mentioning it in their opening comments. Lt. Gov. Jon Husted also thanked JobsOhio for its efforts in short virtual remarks to the board.

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Smith said “quiet momentum” was being made on the Intel effort when 2021 ended, as part of repeated discussion on how that represented a “record” year for the private economic development entity.

Energy

Ohio Citizen Action’s Power a Clean Future Ohio (PCFO) coalition, noting the hundreds of billions of dollars for green energy, smart grids and carbon reduction in the Biden administration and Congress’ Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), is launching the Infrastructure Grant Assistance Program (IGAP) to help jurisdictions and institutions compete for federal IIJA funding.

Environment

The H2Ohio initiative is investing \$4 million to locate, remove and replace toxic lead pipes in various communities throughout the state, Gov. Mike DeWine announced. Most water service lines in the U.S. are currently made of copper or galvanized iron, but an estimated 6.1 million lead water lines remain across the nation. Lead primarily enters drinking water when materials containing lead in water distribution systems and household plumbing corrode.

General Assembly/Statehouse

House Republicans voted to name Shawn Stevens of Sunbury as the replacement for Rep. Rick Carfagna, who recently resigned to take a position with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Stevens, who owns a title company, bested former Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhl and Beth Lear, who works for Associated Builders and Contractors, for the caucus nod.

Governors, state lawmakers, members of Congress, jurists, former staffers and many others joined family of the late Speaker William G. Batchelder III for a Columbus memorial service to recall his faith, principles and wit. In front of hundreds who packed the Statehouse Atrium, he was frequently described as a lifelong learner and a man whose faith guided him always, with a preference for the rough-and-tumble House over the staid Senate. Though speakers at time fought through tears, the tales of his life and experiences more often drew laughter from the crowd. “It’s fair to say he did not love government, but he loved the Ohio Legislature -- OK, he tolerated the Senate,” said his son, William Batchelder IV, who delivered the eulogy.

The Senate unanimously sent the capital reappropriations bill to Gov. Mike DeWine for his signature. HB597 (Oelslager) reappropriates \$2 billion in capital projects for FY23-24. Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) said that because of when the General Assembly passed the last capital budget as well as issues from the pandemic, a number of projects were not finished. He said HB597 needs to be in place by July 1 so the projects are not disrupted which means it must be passed by April 1. The bill does not include any new money.

The Senate also passed HB175 (Hillyer), which Sen. Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster) said will clarify which ephemeral water features are regulated in the state and will align the state with federal policy. The bill passed 25-8 along party lines.

While most bills on the calendar passed with broad support, a few drew substantial opposition, including HB519 (Roemer-Lanese), which lowers the maximum penalty for failure to file a municipal income tax return to \$25, and specifies that municipalities can send notices to taxpayers who haven’t filed, except those who’ve requested an extension on state and federal returns. The bill then passed 59-29.

Governor

Gov. Mike DeWine said it is time for Ohio to take action to improve safety on Ohio roads by passing a distracted driving bill, saying lawmakers should make its passage a priority. DeWine renewed his calls for passage of the bill at an event held to announce the next phase of the I-70/I-71 split. The project will build new ramps to move traffic into downtown Columbus, as well as replacing and improving bridges and infrastructure through the corridor. The governor noted that the corridor averages 900 crashes per year, and said the next phase of the project, which will cost \$280 million, will help improve road safety in downtown Columbus.

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Higher Education

Lt. Gov. Jon Husted announced that the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) will serve as the industry partner on Ohio State University's (OSU) \$3 million Broadband and 5G Sector Partnership grant. This is the latest step in the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation (OWT) and BroadbandOhio's "Strengthening Ohio's Broadband & 5G Workforce" strategy, first announced in September 2021. Husted's office said the WIA will give OSU "insight into the telecommunications skills gap and industry need." The grant is an effort to design and distribute curriculum and training programs around Ohio, promoting career awareness to give the broadband industry skilled workers as it expands.

Housing/Homelessness

The General Assembly's Federally Subsidized Housing Study Committee heard from a mix of witnesses including recently departed state representative Rick Carfagna, senior vice president of government affairs for the Ohio Chamber of Commerce (OCC), who reminded members that workforce readiness goes beyond job training and credentialing and includes items such as access to transportation, child care and affordable housing. Carfagna said only three of Ohio's most common jobs pay the hourly rate of \$16.64 required for a "modest" two-bedroom apartment. "This causes a significant rent burden not only among Ohio's lowest income but also moderate-income renters across the state."

Local Government

Townships testified against legislation that would limit the ability of local entities to regulate short-term rentals such as the ones found through websites including VRBO and Airbnb. HB563 has been introduced by Reps. Sarah Fowler Arthur (R-Rock Creek) and Ron Ferguson (R-Wintersville), who said in their sponsor testimony that local governments have been placing burdensome regulations or outright bans on short-term rentals. They also said the bill allows property owners to retain their constitutional right to use their property as they see fit. Those testifying against the bill in the House State and Local Government Committee said local governments are the best to address the issues, with some pointing to complaints residents in their areas have made against such rentals.

Public Safety

The Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) released a new dashboard devoted to seatbelt enforcement and education. The "Safety Belt Dashboard" is a detailed view of unbelted crashes across Ohio and the work that troopers around the state are doing to ensure motorists are buckled up. The dashboard can be viewed at <http://www.SafetyBeltDashboard.ohio.gov>.

The state recently announced a partnership between the Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO) and the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) to raise awareness about the resources available to help teens drive safely. OTSO houses the Teach Your Teen to Drive (TYTTD) website, which includes links to short videos for teens to learn how to safely enter and exit a highway, change lanes, and manage intersections. Other links feature a guide with tips and tricks to prepare for behind-the-wheel practice, Ohio driving laws and requirements, and a tool to help families track their progress and record which driving environment their teens need more practice with. The website can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/54jbr3ym>.

State Of The State

Ohio should upgrade and expand community mental health treatment, invest in state parks and natural areas and prioritize the development of its Appalachian communities, Gov. Mike DeWine said in his "State of the State" before a joint session of the General Assembly. The governor at first took a victory lap on priorities and good news from his first three years in office, including the Intel chip manufacturing announcement, water quality investments through H2Ohio and support for child welfare and health. He then turned to plans for the investments in mental health, parks and Appalachia, as well as advocacy for enactment of new laws on public safety and crime. The event put the Ukrainian fight against Russian invaders front and center as well. "On behalf of the people of the state of Ohio and all who love freedom, I say in salute, glory to Ukraine," said DeWine at the beginning of his speech, shortly after the invocation was delivered by a Ukrainian priest, Bishop Bohdan Danylo of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat. DeWine also paid tribute to the late Speaker of the House Bill Batchelder, inviting Judge Alice Batchelder, his wife of several decades, and other family members to come forward.

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Telecommunications/Broadband

BroadbandOhio released a new mapping resource Tuesday that “more accurately shows how many of the state’s households are connected to high-speed Internet” and provides a better look at availability gaps. It can be found at <https://broadband.ohio.gov/view-maps>, and includes profiles for all 88 counties. BroadbandOhio previously released a map of existing service that includes counties and the legislative districts in place for 2012 to 2022. The map on availability gaps used 15 months of speedtest records to measure four different Internet speeds in Megabits per second (Mbps): under 10, under 25, under 50 and 50 to 100 or more. This supplements the other currently available data to provide more information to the public, state and federal officials, Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other stakeholders.

Gov. Mike DeWine announced three quarters of a billion dollars in broadband investments to move over a third of the state into the 21st Century and provide locals and transplants new opportunities in rural and Appalachian Ohio. Joined by Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, DeWine said grants of \$232 million to 11 Internet service providers in 31 counties will be more than doubled by matching industry dollars and additional investments, bringing reliable, affordable broadband to nearly 100,000 households in underserved areas.

Transportation/Infrastructure

The House Criminal Justice Committee adopted several amendments to distracted driving measure HB283 (Abrams).

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) approved a \$50,000 grant to assist Cincinnati Bulk Terminals (CBT) with its on-site rail expansion needs. CBT plans to expand its rail infrastructure to allow for greater flexibility in shipping and receiving activities with its serving railroad, the Central Railroad of Indiana (CIND), ORDC said. The grant will allow CIND to move more cars at one time through CSX’s Queensgate Yard in Cincinnati, aiding in the reduction of congestion in that area.

State leaders were on hand for the grand opening of Honda’s latest Ohio operation, a \$124 million wind tunnel at the new Honda Automotive Laboratories of Ohio (HALO) facility at the independent Transportation Research Center. According to Honda, the facility includes the world’s most advanced wind tunnel, with three testing functions for aerodynamics, aeroacoustics and racing.

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Director Jack Marchbanks appeared before the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee to update the members on the federal infrastructure law, to request a couple of law changes to make Ohio’s use of those funds possible, and to discuss the impact should Sen. Steve Huffman’s (R-Lima) SB277 -- the gas tax rollback -- pass. He said there were a number of caveats around the federal money including that, although it includes \$550 billion in new federal spending over the next five years, only the money for the current fiscal year has been appropriated. In addition, he said the funds come with “a lot of strings and carveouts.” For Ohio that means while the state is due to receive more than \$11 billion over the five years, “a decent portion of that is already spoken for” He went on to mention the funding targeted for bridge repair and replacement including the Cincinnati Brent-Spence Bridge, as well as the new electric vehicle charging infrastructure and “unprecedented” amounts targeted to public transit and airports.

Legislative Updates

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.

HB63 AMEND EMINENT DOMAIN LAWS (CUTRONA A, STOLTZFUS R) To amend the law regarding eminent domain and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/2/2021 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-63>

HB66 REVIEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS (HOOPS J) To require the reporting of information on and legislative review of property tax exemptions.
Current Status: 10/19/2021 - BILL AMENDED, Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-66>

HB71 EXEMPT CERTAIN HOUSING FROM PROPERTY TAXATION (PLUMMER P, HICKS-HUDSON P) To exempt from property taxation qualifying housing for individuals diagnosed with mental illness or substance use disorder and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - House Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-71>

HB77 PERMIT HIGHER ED BOARD OF TRUSTEES ATTEND ELECTRONICALLY (MANCHESTER S, SWEENEY B) To allow the board of trustees of a state institution of higher education to adopt a policy allowing the trustees to attend a board meeting via means of electronic communication.
Current Status: 5/26/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Workforce and Higher Education
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-77>

HB143 REGARDS THE CLEAN OHIO PROGRAM (HILLYER B) Relating to the Clean Ohio Program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-143>

HB228 STATE-ADMINISTERED MUNICIPAL NET PROFIT TAXES (ROEMER B) To make changes related to state-administered municipal net profits taxes.
Current Status: 11/8/2021 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-228>

HB237 REQUIRE ELECTRONIC MEANS OF RECORDING INSTRUMENTS, INCREASE FEES (HILLYER B) To require counties to provide an electronic means of recording instruments and accessing them, to allow county recorders to charge a document preservation surcharge, to increase recording fees for certain instruments, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 3/15/2022 - House Finance, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-237>

HB264 MODIFY TAX RULE FOR EMPLOYEES OF TEMPORARY WORKSITE (SMITH M, SOBECKI L) To amend Section 29 of HB197 of the 133rd General Assembly to modify the municipal income tax withholding rule for employees working at a temporary worksite.
Current Status: 4/22/2021 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-264>

Legislative Updates

- HB275** EXPAND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION JOINT PURCHASING AUTHORITY (LAMPTON B) To expand political subdivision joint purchasing authority to expressly include purchases for construction services.
Current Status: 5/12/2021 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-275>
- HB290** EXPRESS INTENT FOR SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA (MCCLAIN R, JOHN M) To express the intent of the General Assembly to establish a school funding formula that allows families to choose the option for all computed funding amounts associated with students' education to follow them to the public and nonpublic schools they attend.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-290>
- HB357** INDEX HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AMOUNTS STEPHENS J, LARE J) To index the homestead exemption amounts to inflation.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-357>
- HB364** WATERWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION (PATTON T) To make changes to the application process for the waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - BILL AMENDED, House Public Utilities, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-364>
- HB365** DRINKING WATER SAFETY RULES (LIGHTBODY M, RUSSO A) To require the Director of Environmental Protection to adopt rules establishing maximum allowable contaminant levels in drinking water and water quality standards for certain contaminants.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - House Agriculture and Conservation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-365>
- HB377** CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY (HALL T, SWEARINGEN D) To amend Section 220.11 of H.B. 168 of the 134th General Assembly to make an appropriation related to coronavirus local fiscal recovery.
Current Status: 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-377>
- HB386** REQUIRE FIRE, POLICE CHIEF RESIDE IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (INGRAM C, HICKS-HUDSON P) To allow a municipal corporation to require its fire chief or chief of police to reside within the municipal corporation during the chief's first five years.
Current Status: 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-386>
- HB397** AGRICULTURAL LEASES, PUBLIC WORKS (STEWART B, KICK D) To revise the law regarding agricultural leases and soil and water conservation districts; to modify the laws governing the Ohio Public Works Commission, district public works integrating committees, and natural resources assistance councils; to convey state-owned land in Fairfield County to the board of commissioners of Fairfield County; to create the Investing in Ohio Fund; to revise the law governing the issuance of unit operation orders under the Oil and Gas Law; to make changes to the law regarding battery-charged fences; and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - Consideration of Senate Amendments; House Does Concur, Vote 85-8
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-397>

Legislative Updates

- HB422** BILLING - MUNICIPAL SERVICES (FRAIZER M, WEST T) To limit the amount municipal corporations can recover from property owners of non-owner-occupied properties for unpaid municipal utility and other service rates and charges and to create an appeals process for improper billing of municipal services.
Current Status: 3/2/2022 - REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED, House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-422>
- HB430** PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (CROSS J) Relating to property development and protecting underground utility facilities during construction and to designate April as "Ohio Work Zone Safety Awareness Month."
Current Status: 4/5/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-430>
- HB463** ELIMINATE HEALTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCILS (STEPHENS J) To eliminate district advisory councils for general health districts, and transfer their duties and responsibilities to boards of county commissioners.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-463>
- HB519** MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX FILINGS (ROEMER B, LANESE L) To modify the law regarding extensions for filing municipal income tax returns and to limit penalties for late filings.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-519>
- HB546** INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (GRENDALL D) To allow local governments to establish investment funds and use interest earnings to reduce taxes and special assessments on senior citizen homesteads.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-546>
- HB560** TAX CREDIT FOR AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING (HOOPS J, PAVLIGA G) To authorize a nonrefundable tax credit for the construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Families, Aging and Human Services
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-560>
- HB563** LIMIT LOCAL REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROPERTY (FOWLER S, FERGUSON R) To limit local regulation of short-term rental property.
Current Status: 3/22/2022 - House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-563>
- HB566** VACANT PROPERTY OWNERS - CONTACT INFO (BLACKSHEAR W, WHITE A) To require owners of vacant property to file contact information with the county auditor.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-566>
- HB581** COUNTY CREDIT CHARGES (MILLER J, HOLMES A) To allow county credit card charges for temporary and necessary assistance care provided by a county veterans service office.
Current Status: 3/1/2022 - Referred to Committee House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-581>

Legislative Updates

- SB15** FISCAL OFFICERS-LIABILITY (WILSON S) To change the circumstances in which certain fiscal officers may be held liable for a loss of public funds.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - PASSED BY HOUSE; Vote 96-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-15>
- SB20** COUNTY UTILITY SUPPLY CONTRACTS (HACKETT R) To exempt county utility supply contracts entered into under a joint purchasing program from the 10-year maximum period for such contracts and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-20>
- SB24** FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS (GAVARONE T, PETERSON B) To enact the First-time Home Buyer Savings Act, authorizing income tax deductions for contributions to and earnings on savings accounts designated for the purchase of a home.
Current Status: 10/19/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-24>
- SB45** TAX INDUCEMENTS CERTAIN BUSINESSES (PETERSON B, KUNZE S) To enhance state and local tax inducements for businesses making substantial fixed asset and employment investments and their suppliers.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-45>
- SB172** TAX CREDIT-NONRESIDENT TAXPAYERS (SCHAFFER T) To require municipal corporations with more than \$100 million in annual income tax collections to provide a tax credit to nonresident taxpayers.
Current Status: 5/4/2021 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-172>
- SB193** UNPAID WATER CHARGES (WILLIAMS S) To prohibit political subdivisions from placing a lien on property for unpaid water charges.
Current Status: 4/5/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-193>

Legislative Updates

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

- HB27** INCREASE PENALTY FOR FAILING TO SECURE VEHICLE LOAD (PATTON T) To increase the criminal penalties associated with failing to secure a load on a vehicle.
Current Status: 3/16/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Judiciary
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-27>
- HB47** ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATION GRANT REBATE (LOYCHIK M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 6/22/2021 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-47>
- HB70** REVISE LAW FOR PASSING SCHOOL BUS (BROWN R) To make changes to the law governing passing a school bus.
Current Status: 5/6/2021 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-70>
- HB111** ALTER USE OF CELLPHONES WHILE DRIVING LAWS (LIGHTBODY M) To alter the law governing the use of a handheld electronic wireless communications device while driving.
Current Status: 5/11/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-111>
- HB141** MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS (SKINDELL M, UPCHURCH T) To make appropriations related to public transportation.
Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-141>
- HB283** EXPAND DISTRACTED DRIVING LAWS (ABRAMS C, LAMPTON B) To expand the texting while driving prohibition to a general prohibition against using an electronic wireless communications device while driving, with certain exceptions, and to create data collection requirements based on associated violations of the distracted driving laws.
Current Status: 3/3/2022 - BILL AMENDED, House Criminal Justice, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-283>
- HB346** REGARDING ELECTRIC MOTOR VEHICLES (MILLER J, WEINSTEIN C) To alter the definitions of "plugin electric motor vehicle" and "hybrid motor vehicle" under the motor vehicle law and to halve the additional registration fees for those two types of motor vehicles.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-346>
- HB347** REQUIREMENTS FOR REPLICATOR MOTOR VEHICLES (FOWLER S) To establish requirements relative to the titling and use of replica motor vehicles.
Current Status: 3/8/2022 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-347>

Legislative Updates

- HB361** UNLAWFUL BLOCKS OF RAILROAD CROSSING (HALL T, MIRANDA J) To establish new requirements and increased penalties that apply to a railroad company that unlawfully blocks a railroad crossing.
Current Status: 10/26/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-361>
- HB465** ODOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS-SCHOOLS (SHEEHY M, BIRD A) To establish requirements regarding Department of Transportation projects, specifically as they relate to schools and school zones.
Current Status: 3/22/2022 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-465>
- HB524** NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED BY STATE AGENCIES (HALL T) To modify the law governing notifications issued by state agencies.
Current Status: 4/7/2022 - House Government Oversight, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-524>
- HB531** COUNTY PROSECUTOR LEGAL SERVICES (GHANBARI H) To allow a county prosecutor to provide legal services to a metropolitan planning organization, regional transportation planning organization, or regional council of governments.
Current Status: 3/16/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government and Elections
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-531>
- HB547** TRAFFIC PHOTO-MONITORING DEVICES (PATTON T) To prohibit a municipal corporation or township that does not operate either a fire department or an emergency medical services organization from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-547>
- HB548** TRAFFIC MONITORING DEVICES - POPULATION REQUIREMENTS (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority with a population of 200 or fewer from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-548>
- HB549** TRAFFIC TICKET REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority, in any year, from issuing a total number of traffic tickets based on the use of traffic law photo-monitoring devices that exceeds two times the population of the local authority.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-549>
- HB550** TRAFFIC TICKET REQUIREMENTS - ANNUAL REVENUE (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority from deriving more than 30 per cent of the total annual revenue of the local authority from the issuance of tickets for traffic law violations based on evidence recorded by traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-550>
- HB551** TRAFFIC TICKET REVENUE - LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES (PATTON T) To require 80 per cent of all revenue from a traffic camera ticket be used for law enforcement expenses.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-551>

Legislative Updates

- HB552** PROHIBIT TRAFFIC CAMERAS NEAR INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS (PATTON T) To prohibit placement of a traffic camera within one-half mile of an interstate highway entrance.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-552>
- HB553** TRAFFIC CAMERA REQUIREMENTS (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority, located in a county with a population of one million or more, from using traffic cameras to enforce traffic violations on interstate highways.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-553>
- SB23** ILLEGALLY PASSING SCHOOL BUS (GAVARONE T) To impose a civil penalty when a driver who illegally passes a school bus cannot be identified, to designate the month of August as "School Bus Safety Awareness Month," and to designate this act as the School Bus Safety Act.
Current Status: 12/7/2021 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, Senate Veterans and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-23>
- SB32** ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION (RULLI M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-32>
- SB277** FUEL TAXES-TEMPORARY REDUCTION (HUFFMAN S) To temporarily reduce motor fuel excise tax rates and suspend collection of the additional motor vehicle registration taxes on electric and hybrid vehicles, both for five years, and to amend the version of section 4503.10 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on October 1, 2022, to continue the changes to that section on and after that date.
Current Status: 2/16/2022 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-277>
- SB279** STATE AGENCY NOTIFICATIONS (WILSON S) To modify the law governing notifications issued by state agencies.
Current Status: 3/16/2022 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-279>
- SB307** ELECTRIC VEHICLE INCENTIVES, UTILITIES (RULLI M) To authorize incentives for the manufacture and usage of electric vehicles, to permit electric distribution utilities to create, and recover costs of, transportation electrification programs, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 4/5/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-307>

Legislative Updates

Goal 3: Pursue sustainability solutions that protect and conserve our natural resources and promote a diverse supply of clean, affordable, and reliable sources of energy for our growing region.

- HB10** REPEAL HB6 - REVISE ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE LAW (LELAND D) To repeal Section 5 of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to make changes regarding electric utility service law, to allow the implementation of energy waste reduction programs, and to repeal certain provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-10>
- HB18** REPEAL HB6 (LANESE L) Repeal HB 6 of the 133rd GA
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-18>
- HB57** REPEAL HB6 ENERGY LAWS (SKINDELL M, O'BRIEN M) To repeal the changes made by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to the laws governing electric service, renewable energy, and energy efficiency and the changes made to other related laws.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-57>
- HB175** DEREGULATE CERTAIN EPHEMERAL WATER FEATURES (HILLYER B) To deregulate certain ephemeral water features under various water pollution control laws.
Current Status: 3/30/2022 - PASSED BY SENATE; Vote 25-8
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-175>
- HB192** PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM STOPPING CERTAIN ENERGY GENERATION (CUTRONA A) To prohibit counties, townships, and municipal corporations from prohibiting energy generation from fossil fuels and gas pipelines.
Current Status: 5/6/2021 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-192>
- HB245** EXPAND ELIGIBILITY - COUNTY SEWER DISCOUNTED RATES (INGRAM C) To expand eligibility for county sewer discounted rates or charges.
Current Status: 4/14/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-245>
- HB351** REPEAL NONBYPASSABLE COST RECOVERY MECHANISMS (LANESE L, STOLTZFUS R) To repeal the nonbypassable cost recovery mechanisms associated with legacy generation resources and to provide customer refunds.
Current Status: 10/27/2021 - House Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-351>
- HB381** ELECTRIC CHARGES - OTHER STRUCTURES (GREDEL D) To allow for certain structures on a retail electric customer's property to be charged the same as the primary residence.
Current Status: 11/10/2021 - House Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-381>

Legislative Updates

- HB389** REGARDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY (LELAND D, SEITZ B) To permit electric distribution utilities to establish energy efficiency and peak demand reduction portfolios.
Current Status: 11/17/2021 - REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED, House Public Utilities, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-389>
- HB429** CLEAN ENERGY JOBS (WEINSTEIN C) To establish programs and state policies regarding clean energy jobs and energy justice, to create the Governor's Office of Energy Justice, to make changes to the environmental, electric utility, and other public utility laws, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-429>
- HB464** ELIMINATE WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (WIGGAM S) To eliminate public water system asset management program requirements and to require the Director of Environmental Protection to rescind rules governing that program.
Current Status: 3/8/2022 - House Agriculture and Conservation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-464>
- SB19** REGARDING PROPERTY TAXATION (SCHAFFER T) To modify the law regarding property taxation and sales and use tax.
Current Status: 2/7/2022 - House Appoints Managers; D. Merrin, R. Stoltzfus & L. Sobeki Named as House Conferees
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-19>
- SB29** ELIMINATE AUTO ENROLLMENT-UTILITY AGGREGATION (HOAGLAND F) To eliminate automatic enrollment in governmental electric and natural gas aggregation programs.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-29>
- SB44** REVISE HB6 FROM 133RD G.A. (RULLI M, CIRINO J) To repeal the nuclear resource credit payment provisions, and amend, and rename as solar resource, the renewable resource credit payment provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.
Current Status: 3/9/2021 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-44>
- SB89** RENEWABLE ENERGY (DOLAN M) To extend the renewable portfolio standard, increase solar energy benchmarks, and extend the property tax exemption for qualified energy projects that use renewable energy resources.
Current Status: 9/21/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-89>
- SB95** REGULATE UTILITY RESELLERS (MAHARATH T) To require refunds to utility customers who have been improperly charged and to regulate certain resellers of utility service.
Current Status: 3/31/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-95>
- SB96** PREVENT UTILITY DISRUPTION-COVID (WILLIAMS S) To prevent the disruption of utility service during the state of emergency declared regarding COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/31/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-96>

Legislative Updates

- SB117** REPEAL LEGACY GENERATION PROVISIONS-HB6 (ROMANCHUK M, CRAIG H) To repeal the legacy generation resource provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly and provide customers refunds.
Current Status: 6/15/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-117>
- SB127** PREVENT LOCALITIES-LIMIT USE OF NATURAL GAS (LANG G, RULLI M) To prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas.
Current Status: 5/12/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-127>

Legislative Updates

Goal 4: Promote effective data policies and the equitable deployment of digital infrastructure that benefit Central Ohio communities.

HB278 REVISE MARCS LAWS (HILLYER B) To make changes to laws governing the multi-agency radio communications system (MARCS).
Current Status: 5/4/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-278>

HB432 DATA BREACHES (CROSSMAN J, SOBECKI L) Regarding data breaches on state agency computer systems.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Technology and Innovation
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-432>

HB445 9-1-1 SERVICES, TRAINING (CARFAGNA R, SMITH K) To make changes to the law governing 9-1-1 service and to repeal program requirements for emergency-service-telecommunicator training.
Current Status: 12/7/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-445>

SB8 BROADBAND-ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EASEMENTS (MCCOLLEY R) Regarding broadband expansion, including access to electric cooperative easements and facilities, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-8>

Goal 5: Raise awareness or racial and social justice issues and work to continually improve communities within our growing region.

HB341 CREATE BUREAU OF HATE CRIMES (MILLER A, WEINSTEIN C) To create the Bureau of Hate Crimes in the Office of the Attorney General and to authorize the Attorney General to prosecute a hate crime.
Current Status: 6/10/2021 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-341>

HCR6 DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (HOWSE S, CRAWLEY E) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.
Current Status: 6/23/2021 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HCR-6>

SB48 CULTURAL COMPETENCY-HEALTH CARE (MAHARATH T, ANTONIO N) To require certain health care professionals to complete instruction in cultural competency.
Current Status: 6/16/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-48>

SB105 MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (SYKES V, SCHURING K) To require political subdivisions to recognize state certifications of minority business enterprises.
Current Status: 3/2/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-105>

Legislative Updates

- SB125** BIRTH EQUITY (KUNZE S, MAHARATH T) To enact the Save Our Mothers Act regarding birth equity, peripartum racial and ethnic disparities, and implicit bias in the health care system and to designate May as “Maternal Mortality Awareness Month.”
Current Status: 11/17/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-125>
- SB158** EXPUNGEMENT-EVICTION RECORDS (CRAIG H, KUNZE S) Related to expungement of eviction case court files.
Current Status: 10/19/2021 - Senate Judiciary, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-158>
- SB310** REAL PROPERTY-DISCRIMINATORY COVENANTS (CRAIG H) To address discriminatory covenants in recorded real property documents.
Current Status: 3/16/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government and Elections
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-310>
- SCR4** DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (CRAIG H, WILLIAMS S) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.
Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-4>
- SCR5** DENOUNCE RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION-COVID-19 (MAHARATH T, THOMAS C) To denounce all forms of stigmatization, racism, and discrimination occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Current Status: 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-5>

For more information please contact:

Joseph Garrity | Senior Director of Government Affairs + Community Relations | jgarrity@morpc.org | 614.233.4127

Your Government Affairs Team



Steve Tugend
Director +Chair, Government Affairs
(614) 462-5424
stugend@keglerbrown.com



Tony Fiore
Of Counsel
(614) 462-5428
afiore@keglerbrown.com



Rusty Schuermann
Director
(614) 462-5440
rschuermann@keglerbrown.com



Robert Dove
Associate
(614) 462-5443
rdove@keglerbrown.com



Mike Culp
Government Affairs Advisor
(614) 462-5477
mculp@keglerbrown.com



Andy Shifflette
Government Affairs Advisor
(614) 462-5491
ashifflette@keglerbrown.com



Beverly Staten
Government Affairs Specialist
(614) 462-5455
bstaten@keglerbrown.com