



## NAWBO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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- HB38**      **COMMERCIAL CREDIT REPORTING** (HILLYER B) To require a commercial credit reporting agency to provide credit reports to businesses and to establish a procedure whereby a business may dispute statements on the report.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-38>
- HB81**      **WORKERS COMP-BODILY FLUID EXPOSURE** (PERALES R) Regarding Workers' Compensation coverage of post-exposure medical diagnostic services for a detention facility employee's exposure to another person's blood or bodily fluids.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Sent to Governor for Signature  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-81>
- HB159**      **INDEMNITY PROVISIONS-PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS** (BLESSING III L) To regulate the use of indemnity provisions in professional design contracts related to public improvements.  
*Current Status:* 6/2/2020 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-159>
- HB218**      **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS** (PATTON T) To authorize certain public entities to enter into public-private initiatives with a private party through a public-private agreement regarding public facilities.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-218>
- HB242**      **BAN PLASTIC BAG FEES** (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.  
*Current Status:* 5/27/2020 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 23-9  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-242>

- HB251**      **CONTRACT ACTION-PERIOD OF LIMITATION** (LANG G, HILLYER B) To shorten the period of limitations for actions upon a contract.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Judiciary, (Sixth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-251>
- HB258**      **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE-APPRENTICESHIP** (POWELL J) To require a licensing authority to issue an occupational license to an applicant who completes a registered apprenticeship program and meets other requirements for licensure.  
*Current Status:* 6/11/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Economic and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-258>
- HB263**      **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING-CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS** (KOEHLER K) To revise the initial occupational licensing restrictions applicable to individuals convicted of criminal offenses.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 90-1  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-263>
- HB308**      **PTSD COVERAGE - FIRST RESPONDERS** (PATTON T) Concerning workers' compensation and disability retirement for peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury.  
*Current Status:* 6/3/2020 - Senate General Government and Agency Review , (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-308>
- HB339**      **INSURANCE CODE CORRECTIONS** (MERRIN D) To enact the "Insurance Code Correction Act" to make technical and corrective changes to the laws governing insurance.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-339>
- HB368**      **COMPUTER CRIMES** (BALDRIDGE B) To enact the Ohio Computer Crimes Act.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Judiciary  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-368>
- HB380**      **CONTRACTOR PAYMENT DEADLINE** (CROSS J, SWEENEY B) To require owners of construction projects to pay a contractor within thirty-five days of receiving a request for payment.  
*Current Status:* 5/20/2020 - House Commerce and Labor, (Fourth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-380>

- HB390**      **REGARDING INSURANCE PREMIUMS, BENEFITS** (CROSSMAN J, CLITES R) Regarding health insurance premiums and benefits.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - House Insurance, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-390>
- HB429**      **ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM** (LARE J, ABRAMS C) To make changes to the Address Confidentiality Program administered by the Secretary of State.  
*Current Status:* 6/11/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 92-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-429>
- HB442**      **PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT CERTIFICATE** (ROEMER B, WEST T) To modify the requirements to obtain a certified public accountant certificate.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 92-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-442>
- HB469**      **HEALTH INSURANCE COST-SHARING** (MANCHESTER S, WEST T) To prohibit certain health insurance cost-sharing practices.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - House Health, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-469>
- HB534**      **IDENTIFYING INFORMATION - COMPENSATION CLAIMS** (UPCHURCH T, CRAWLEY E) Regarding identifying information in the medical management of workers' compensation claims.  
*Current Status:* 6/3/2020 - House Insurance, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-534>
- HB581**      **ADDRESS COVID-19 CONCERNS** (CALLENDER J) To address immediate concerns related to COVID-19.  
*Current Status:* 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Health  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-581>
- HB582**      **MAKE APPROPRIATIONS, REAPPROPRIATIONS** (CALLENDER J) To make appropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, and capital reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2022.  
*Current Status:* 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Finance  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-582>
- HB586**      **STATE AGENCIES - PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS** (GREENSPAN D, KELLY B) To require any state agency seeking to purchase supplies or services to comply with an applicable first or second procurement program and to prohibit any governmental ordering office from combining multiple parts of a larger related project to avoid using the procurement list maintained by community rehabilitation programs.

*Current Status:* 5/6/2020 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-586>

**HB593**      **REQUIRED PAID LEAVE - COVID-19** (BOYD J, BOGGS K) To require paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation, to create a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

*Current Status:* 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-593>

**HB605**      **COVID-19 - OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE** (KELLY B, PATTON T) To make COVID-19 contracted by an employee of a retail food establishment or food processing establishment an occupational disease under the Workers' Compensation Law under certain circumstances and to declare an emergency.

*Current Status:* 5/28/2020 - House Insurance, (First Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-605>

**HB606**      **CIVIL IMMUNITY - COVID-19 TRANSMISSION** (GRENDALL D) To grant civil immunity to a person who provides services for essential businesses and operations for injury, death, or loss that was caused by the transmission of COVID-19 during the period of emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, and to declare an emergency.

*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Senate Judiciary, (First Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-606>

**HB607**      **GENDER PAY DISPARITY TASK FORCE** (HOWSE S, LEPORE-HAGAN M) To create the Gender Pay Disparity Task Force.

*Current Status:* 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-607>

**HB609**      **TEMPORARY TAX AMNESTY PROGRAM** (WEST T) To require the Tax Commissioner to administer a temporary amnesty program from August 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, with respect to delinquent state taxes and fees, and to repeal Section 1 of this act on January 1, 2021.

*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Senate Ways and Means, (First Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-609>

**HB614**      **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION REFORM** (FRAIZER M, RICHARDSON T) To study and reform the application, processing, and administration infrastructure of Ohio's unemployment compensation system.

*Current Status:* 6/11/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 90-0

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-614>

- HB624 COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION RELEASE** (GRENDALL D) To require the reporting and release of certain COVID-19 testing and related information and to declare an emergency  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 61-34  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-624>
- HB631 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCES** (ROGERS J, HAMBLEY S) To authorize municipal corporations to establish regional economic development alliances for the sharing of services or resources among alliance members.  
*Current Status:* 6/11/2020 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-631>
- HB632 ROLLOVER PROTECTIVE GRANT PROGRAM** (KELLER C) To establish the rollover protective structure grant program for eligible tractors.  
*Current Status:* 5/19/2020 - Referred to Committee House Agriculture and Rural Development  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-632>
- HB633 COVID-19 - OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE** (BOGGS K) To make COVID-19 contracted by specified types of employees an occupational disease under the Workers' Compensation Law under certain circumstances and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 5/19/2020 - Referred to Committee House Insurance  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-633>
- HB666 SALE, DELIVERY - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** (SWEARINGEN D, LARE J) To enact provisions of law relative to the sale and delivery of alcoholic beverages by liquor permit holders and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-666>
- HB669 SALE, DELIVERY - ALCOHOL** (SWEARINGEN D, LARE J) To enact provisions of law relative to the sale and delivery of alcoholic beverages by liquor permit holders and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 87-8, Emergency Clause 89-6  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-669>
- HB671 PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER LIMITS** (ABRAMS C, STEPHENS J) To establish limits on certain public health orders issued by boards of health and the Department of Health, to prohibit a licensing authority from taking disciplinary action against a licensee for engaging in permitted activities during a pandemic, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-671>

**HB672**      **WORKER PROTECTION ACT** (LELAND D, SOBECKI L) To enact the "Worker Protection Act" to require the Director of Job and Family Services to consider certain factors related to COVID-19 when determining, for purposes of unemployment benefit eligibility, whether an individual had just cause to quit work or refuse employment and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House Insurance  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-672>

**HB673**      **BUSINESS OPERATION, EDUCATION COMPLETION** (ROEMER B) Regarding the operation of businesses, practice of certain professions, and completion of education as it relates to COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Amended on Floor, Bill Vote 94-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-673>

**HB674**      **REVISES LIQUOR LAWS** (HILLYER B) To revise specified provisions of the liquor control law and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/11/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Amended on Floor to Remove Emergency Clause, Bill Vote 76-16  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-674>

**HB680**      **MAIL VOTING-HEALTH EMERGENCY** (ABRAMS C) To create a procedure to conduct an election entirely by mail in the case of a public health emergency, to modify certain deadlines for absent voting, and to direct the Secretary of State's use of federal CARES Act funds.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-680>

**HB693**      **SCHOOLS OPENING TIMELINE** (SWEARINGEN D, MANNING G) To prohibit, for the 2020-2021 school year only, public and chartered nonpublic schools from opening for instruction prior to the Wednesday after Labor Day and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-693>

**HB701**      **SOCIAL IMPACT BOND FUND, PROGRAM** (HOLMES A, CROSSMAN J) To establish the social impact bond fund and the social impact bond program to be administered by the department of rehabilitation and correction.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Introduced  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-701>

- HCR27**      **HEALTHCARE INSURANCE ACCESS** (RUSSO A) To urge the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to immediately issue a special enrollment period through healthcare.gov for uninsured Ohioans who may be unable to access COVID-19 testing and treatment.  
*Current Status:* 5/19/2020 - House Insurance, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HCR-27>
- HCR28**      **DENOUNCE STIGMATIZATION** (BRENT J) To denounce all forms of stigmatization, racism, and discrimination occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.  
*Current Status:* 5/12/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HCR-28>
- HR347**      **THREATS TO EQUALITY ACT** (GALONSKI T) To urge the Congress of the United States to enact the National Opposition to Hate, Assault, and Threats to Equality Act of 2019.  
*Current Status:* 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HR-347>
- SB1**        **REDUCE REGULATORY RESTRICTIONS** (MCCOLLEY R, ROEGNER K) To require certain agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions and to continue the provision of this act on and after August 18, 2019.  
*Current Status:* 6/4/2020 - House Appoints Managers; S. Wiggam, B. Seitz & B. Kelly Named as House Conferees  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-1>
- SB21**      **BENEFIT CORPORATIONS** (DOLAN M) To allow a corporation to become a benefit corporation.  
*Current Status:* 5/12/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Civil Justice, (Fifth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-21>
- SB95**      **STATE AND LOCAL TAX INDUCEMENTS** (KUNZE S, PETERSON B) To enhance state and local tax inducements for businesses making substantial fixed asset and employment investments and their suppliers.  
*Current Status:* 5/19/2020 - House Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-95>
- SB156**     **DRUG SCREENINGS** (GAVARONE T) To prohibit defrauding an alcohol, drug, or urine screening test.  
*Current Status:* 5/28/2020 - House Criminal Justice, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-156>



- SB159**      **TAX CREDITS-BEGINNING FARMERS** (PETERSON B) To allow income tax credits for beginning farmers who participate in a financial management program and for businesses that sell or rent agricultural land, livestock, facilities, or equipment to beginning farmers.  
*Current Status:* 5/13/2020 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-159>
- SB175**      **CIVIL IMMUNITY-NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS** (SCHAFFER T) To grant civil immunity to nonprofit corporations and persons associated with them for certain injuries, deaths, or losses resulting from the carrying of handguns.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-175>
- SB181**      **WORKFORCE-EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS** (COLEY W) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create a template for workforce-education partnership programs.  
*Current Status:* 5/26/2020 - House Higher Education, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-181>
- SB257**      **ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATIONS** (O'BRIEN S, RULLI M) To authorize tax incentives for the purchase of plug-in electric motor vehicles and charging stations.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-257>
- SB274**      **CREATE LIQUOR PERMIT** (WILLIAMS S) To create the F-11 liquor permit, which authorizes specified entities to sell beer and wine at special functions, including social and benevolent functions.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-274>
- SB276**      **LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES** (ROEGNER K) To enact the Ohio Revised Limited Liability Company Act.  
*Current Status:* 6/3/2020 - Senate Judiciary, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-276>
- SB282**      **UNEMPLOYMENT COMP COMPLAINTS** (HOAGLAND F) To require the Director of Job and Family Services to establish a process for employers to make complaints regarding unemployment compensation benefits.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-282>



- SB293**      **OPEN MEETINGS LAW COMPLAINTS** (MANNING N, BLESSING III L) To create a procedure within the Court of Claims to hear complaints alleging a violation of the Open Meetings Law.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 32-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-293>
- SB299**      **REQUIRE PAID LEAVE** (CRAIG H) To require paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation, to create a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 5/6/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-299>
- SB307**      **SALES TAX EXEMPTION-PPE** (GAVARONE T) To authorize a temporary sales and use tax exemption for personal protective equipment and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-307>
- SB308**      **CIVIL LIABILITY-EMERGENCY SERVICES** (HUFFMAN M) To revise the law governing immunity from civil liability and professional discipline for health care providers during disasters or emergencies, to provide qualified civil immunity to service providers providing services during and after a government-declared disaster, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee House Civil Justice  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-308>
- SB310**      **FEDERAL COVID FUNDING** (DOLAN M) To provide for the distribution of some federal coronavirus relief funding to local subdivisions, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate Does Not Concur, Vote on Emergency Clause 10-22  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-310>
- SB311**      **RESCIND DIRECTOR OF HEALTH ORDERS** (MCCOLLEY R, ROEGNER K) To rescind certain orders of the Director of Health regarding COVID-19, to require the approval of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review for Department of Health orders to be effective for more than fourteen days, to require statewide Department of Health orders to include the Governor's signature, to modify the Department's rulemaking authority, to allow in-person high school graduation ceremonies, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-311>

- SB314 BUSINESS RELOCATIONS (BRENNER A)** To prohibit state agencies from charging a fee to professional license holders in relation to a business relocation during the COVID-19 declared state of emergency and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 5/20/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate General Government and Agency Review  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-314>
- SB318 EXTEND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION (KUNZE S, WILLIAMS S)** To extend the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission until December 31, 2021.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 32-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-318>
- SB319 EDUCATION LAW-COVID-19 (HUFFMAN M)** To make changes to education law for the 2020-2021 school year in response to implications of COVID-19, to require the Department of Education to make an additional payment in fiscal year 2020 or 2021 to certain school districts that experience a decrease in the taxable value of the district's utility tangible personal property, to permit furloughing of certain school employees through June 30, 2021, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Senate Education, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-319>
- SB320 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR (HUFFMAN M)** To require public and private schools to decide whether to be open for instruction in the 2020-2021 school year, to permit parents providing home instruction to determine whether a building in which they provide instruction has adequate safety measures to address COVID-19, to prohibit other public officials from closing schools in that school year, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Education  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-320>
- SB323 ABSENTEE VOTING, ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION (ANTONIO N, WILLIAMS S)** To modify the law governing absent voting and online voter registration, to make other changes to the Election Law, and to declare an emergency.  
*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SB-323>
- SJR3 REQUIRE SUPERMAJORITY-INCOME TAX INCREASE (BURKE D)** Proposing to enact Section 7 of Article XII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require that any increase in income tax rates be approved by a supermajority of the membership of each house of the General Assembly.  
*Current Status:* 6/9/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Ways and Means, (Sixth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SJR-3>

**SJR4**      **REPAY FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT ADVANCES** (PETERSON B) Proposing to enact Section 18 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide for the issuance of obligations to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program of the state.

*Current Status:* 6/10/2020 - **ADOPTED BY SENATE**; Vote 32-0

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-SJR-4>

## THE NEWS IN REVIEW:

### ATTORNEY GENERAL

In his latest action on harassing robocalls, Attorney General Dave Yost announced a multi-state lawsuit Tuesday charging Houston-based JSquared Telecom and Rising Eagle Capital Group with "billions" of illegal calls triggering \$500-\$1,500 in federal damages "per violation."

### FY20-21 BUDGET

State tax collections were \$271.3 million below projections in May, bringing the shortfall for the fiscal year so far to more than \$1 billion with one month to go, according to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM). Sales taxes constituted the bulk of the drop, bringing in \$167 million less than expected; within that total, non-auto sales taxes accounted for \$133 million of the drop, a 16.4 percent underage. Auto sales taxes were down nearly \$34 million or 25 percent. For FY20 so far, sales tax collections are \$326.5 million or 3.3 percent below projections of \$10.02 billion. Income taxes were \$91.3 million or 15.1 percent below projections for May and are \$767 million or 9.7 percent under for FY20 to-date.

The Office of Budget and Management (OBM) Wednesday pegged the state's FY21 budget shortfall at \$2.43 billion. Four taxes account for the bulk of the underage, with the auto and non-auto sales tax estimated to fall 13 percent below the estimates upon which the budget, HB166 (Oelslager), was based. The Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) is estimated to come in nearly 10 percent lower, while the personal income tax will be an estimated 7.2 percent lower.

### CORONAVIRUS

Gov. Mike DeWine announced on Friday, June 5 a reopening date of Friday, June 19 for casinos, racinos, amusement parks and water parks. DeWine took time to address calls for him to completely open the economy without restrictions on businesses or public places. He said his phased, "layered" approach to reopening the economy is meant to mitigate risks as state officials were not sure what the result of opening the state back up would be. Officials wanted to be able to monitor results, he said.

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) announced recently that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will distribute \$314 million to Ohio skilled nursing facilities which continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic.

A group of bars and restaurants has filed a lawsuit against Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Amy Acton and Gov. Mike DeWine, arguing that provisions in the administration's public health orders are "unconstitutionally vague" and improperly expose business owners to criminal and administrative penalties.

Fifty-five pallets of donated hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment (PPE) have been shipped to area agencies on aging (AAAs) around the state to protect home and community-based providers and to help prevent the spread of COVID19 among older Ohioans, Gov. Mike DeWine announced Monday.

Columbus Public Health (CPH) announced Wednesday that free, drive-thru COVID-19 testing is now available at its 240 Parson Ave. location. Anyone with symptoms can now receive a test from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Health insurance is not required.

As of Thursday, June 11, COVID-19 data reported by the Ohio Department of Health showed 40,004 cases and 2,490 deaths during the pandemic. Cases have resulted in 6,753 hospitalizations and 1,732 intensive care unit admissions.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Gov. Mike DeWine's administration announced Monday the approval of assistance for 17 projects expected to create 1,943 new jobs and retain 2,247 jobs statewide. During its monthly meeting, the Ohio Tax Credit Authority (TCA) reviewed economic development proposals brought by JobsOhio and its regional partners. The projects are expected to collectively result in more than \$107 million in new payroll and spur more than \$252 million in investments across Ohio.

## **ECONOMY**

If the April employment declines caused by the COVID-19 disruptions continue throughout 2020 in a similar magnitude, total employment is predicted to decrease at an annual rate of -61.62 percent for the next six months in Ohio, according to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) in its latest leading indicators report. "Given the gradual reopening of Ohio's economy, we anticipate a smaller decrease in employment in Ohio and all MSAs (metropolitan service areas)," ODJFS said.

## **EDUCATION**

The State Board of Education rearranged its schedule Tuesday for a morning vote on emergency child care rules to enable programs under its regulation to reopen if they can meet the requirements of the DeWine administration's pandemic health orders. Meanwhile, board President Laura Kohler said ODE's legal team determined the board lacked the authority to adopt a resolution passed last month instituting pay cuts for members.

Public testimony via videoconference at Tuesday's virtual State Board of Education meeting featured several speakers calling for schools to resume in-person classes in the fall and saying

mask use and social distancing would be an impediment to learning. The board itself could not reach agreement later in the day on a resolution saying local authorities should have "full power and trust" to decide how to reopen schools.

## **ELECTIONS 2020**

Post-primary campaign filings show both Republican incumbents on the Ohio Supreme Court have a sizable cash-on-hand advantage compared to their Democratic challengers in the only statewide November elections. The pre-primary filings showed the Democrats ahead in fundraising for that period, but still behind in overall cash. According to data posted by the secretary of state's office Friday, Justice Judith French raised \$48,058, spent \$65,188.53 and retained \$398,572.10 on hand. Her opponent Jennifer Brunner, a former secretary of state and current Ohio appeals court judge, raised \$63,456, spent \$3,618.53 and has \$201,358.52. In the other Court race, Justice Sharon Kennedy holds a nearly five-to-one cash advantage, with \$629,753.45 on hand compared to Cuyahoga County Judge John O'Donnell's \$136,020.90. Kennedy raised \$101,318.02 and spent \$75,200.24 while O'Donnell raised \$50,320 and spent \$18,584.06.

## **EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT**

The latest jobs report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) for May indicated a rebound from April's historic unemployment data (see *The Hannah Report*, 5/8/20), with unemployment falling from 14.7 percent to 13.3 percent. However, BLS later said a "misclassification error" means the actual May rate may be around 3 percentage points higher.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported Thursday an additional 35,430 initial jobless claims over the past week, bringing Ohio's total to 1,327,843 individuals who have filed for unemployment compensation (UC) over the last 12 weeks -- more than the combined total over the last three years. This is slightly more than the 34,575 initial claims reported a week ago.

## **GAMING/GAMBLING**

While the state's four casinos and seven racinos will be allowed to reopen on Friday, June 19, the gambling facilities will need to reconfigure the physical arrangement of slot machine and video lottery terminals (VLTs) to comply with the DeWine administration's new protocols designed to limit the spread of COVID-19.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE**

Legislation increasing penalties imposed on public officials for stealing taxpayer dollars passed the House unanimously on Tuesday after being amended to include the as-introduced language in "long arm" bill HB272 (Hillyer-Oelslager) and new language clarifying tolling provisions passed in coronavirus omnibus HB197 (Powell-Merrin). The bill, SB10 (Wilson), would make it a second-degree felony to steal between \$150,000 and \$749,999.99, and a first-degree felony to

steal \$750,000 or more. Under current law, the highest penalty a public official can receive for theft in office is a third-degree felony, which can be imposed when \$7,500 or more is stolen. The most contentious bill on the floor Tuesday was HB496 (Stein-Hoops), which grants immunity to a registered apiary owner for damages caused by bee stings, as long as the owner does the following: complies with beekeeping industry best management practices as established by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA); keeps complete records of such compliance; complies with local zoning ordinances on beehives; and operates the apiary in compliance with state law governing apiaries. Also passing Tuesday were HB263 ((Koehler), regarding professional licenses for people with criminal records; HB616 (Miranda), a road naming omnibus; HB442 (Roemer-West), which modifies the requirements to obtain a certified public accountant certificate; HB450 (Stephens), which creates succession guidelines for fiscal officers of political subdivisions; HB340 (Cupp), which deals with drainage laws; HB104 (Stein), which enacts the Advanced Nuclear Technology Helping Energize Mankind (ANTHEM) Act by establishing the Ohio Nuclear Development Authority and the Ohio Nuclear Development Consortium.

Tuesday's meeting of the Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee lasted more than 10 hours, with the panel chaired by Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville) receiving testimony from more than 100 proponents of SCR14, which would declare racism a "public health crisis" in Ohio and ask Gov. Mike DeWine to establish a working group to promote racial equity in the state.

The Senate voted Wednesday to require health authorities to get consent when performing contact tracing, though with more latitude than provided in a House measure passed recently. The upper chamber also passed an education bill granting broad flexibility to schools for the coming year in light of the pandemic, and a proposal to amend the Ohio Constitution to allow the use of bonds for unemployment compensation debt. And the chamber converted a state land sale omnibus on the floor into a vehicle for capital appropriations and distribution of federal funding for coronavirus expenses. The House last week took the Senate's vehicle for sending federal CARES Act money to local governments, SB310 (Dolan), and rolled in the reappropriations, pay freezes for non-union state employees and exemptions from the Commercial Activity Tax for loan money businesses got under the CARES Act, among other changes. The Senate in turn voted Wednesday to attach some of the House-passed amendments to HB481 (Fraizer). The chamber also voted Wednesday to reject House amendments to SB310. Also passing were HB61 (Lanese-Liston), an address confidentiality bill amended on the floor to include another address confidentiality bill, SB31 (Roegner), as well as to set new requirements on the public health practice of contact tracing; HB165 (Ginter), a student religious expression bill amended to include a variety of pandemic-related education law changes; SJR4 (Peterson), to authorize issuing bonds to cover unemployment debt as an alternative to borrowing from the federal government; HB11 (Manning-Howse), a maternal health bill amended to accommodate additional federal Medicaid funding transfers; HB160 (Ingram), an alcohol omnibus; HB65 (Carfagna), regarding reports of safety violations at child care facilities, which was amended to include swimming lesson measure SB309 (Gavarone); SCR6 (Burke), urging greater federal action against robocalls; SB272 (Roegner-Blessing), regarding physical therapy licensure; SB280 (Blessing), regarding credit services organizations; SB293 (Manning-Blessing), creating a process for the Court of Claims to review allegations of open meeting laws; and SB318

(Kunze-Williams), to extend the existence of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission through 2021.

The Ohio House Wednesday adopted legislation that would require the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to collect and display more data regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Supporters of HB624 (Grendell) argued on the floor that the bill is about transparency and giving Ohioans all of the information they need to know the facts about the coronavirus outbreak in Ohio, while opponents said that much of the information is already available and that the bill could create confusion. Also passing were SB163 (Brinkman), regarding local government funds and local government utility charges; HB669 (Swearingen-LaRe), to codify some of the liquor sale flexibility put in place via emergency rules during the pandemic; HB673 (Roemer), regarding temporary nursing licenses during the pandemic and pharmacists' ability to administer COVID tests; HB67 (Brinkman-Kelly), regarding loan repayments for veterinarians; HB436 (Baldrige), regarding dyslexia screenings for children; HB484 (Abrams-Carfagna), regarding athletic training; HB679 (Fraizer-Holmes), regarding telehealth; and SB163 (Kunze), an omnibus license plate and road naming bill.

Saying it could potentially violate the First Amendment and derail fair update bill HB665 (Jones-Wilkin), Republican members of the House Agriculture and Rural Development Committee on Wednesday voted down an amendment that would have prohibited vendors at county and independent fairs to sell, display, possess or distribute Confederate memorabilia.

At Wednesday evening's meeting of the Sunset Review Committee, members heard testimony from the Ohio History Connection, the Ohio Board of Voting Machine Examiners, the Ohio Advisory Council for Aging, and a number of other groups seeking continued operation in the state.

The Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee continued its review of state licensing boards Wednesday, hearing from three agencies in the Department of Commerce (DOC): Ann Petit, superintendent of the DOC Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing; Carol Ross, executive secretary of the DOC Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board; and Andrea Seidt, Ohio Securities Commissioner in DOC.

Legislation reappropriating \$1.28 billion in capital funds and distributing \$350 million in federal coronavirus aid is headed to Gov. Mike DeWine's desk after the House approved HB481 (Fraizer) as an emergency measure on Thursday. The bill, originally focused on authorizing the conveyance of state-owned property, was amended on the Senate floor Wednesday to include some of the language the House had attached to SB310 (Dolan). The House voted to concur with the Senate amendments by a vote of 85-0. The House also concurred with Senate amendments to HB11 (Manning-Howse), a maternal health bill; HB65 (Carfagna), regarding reports of safety violations at child care facilities; HB164 (Ginter), a student religious expression bill amended to give schools flexibility as they reopen in the fall. The chamber also spent hours working late into Friday morning to debate whether to prohibit or discourage Confederate memorabilia at county fairs, with Republicans eventually tabling both proposals from Rep. Juanita Brent (D-Cleveland) before passing fair update bill HB665 (Jones-Wilkin) by a vote of 62-25. After session, House Speaker Larry Householder (R-Glenford) said the First Amendment couldn't be overcome, and



that the state government taking this action toward county fairs is different than the Ohio State Fair or NASCAR making the decision to prohibit the display of Confederate flags. The House also passed HB425 (Wiggam), regarding concealed carry; SB4 (Rulli-Kunze), providing capital funding for K-12 and public workers construction projects; HB13 (Carfagna-Oâ€™Brien), regarding residential broadband expansion; HB674 (Hillyer), an alcohol omnibus; HB429 (Abrams-LaRe), regarding the Safe at Home program; HB614 (Richardson-Fraizer), regarding unemployment compensation; HB270 (Merrin), regarding unclaimed funds; and HB33 (Lanese-Carruthers), regarding animal abuse reporting. The chamber re-referred HB539 (Ghanbari-Blair) to the House Criminal Justice Committee.

Sen. Steve Huffman (R-Tipp City) is apologizing for a question he asked during a Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee meeting earlier in the week that groups are calling racist. The committee was hearing testimony on SCR14 (Williams-Craig), which would declare racism a public health crisis, when Huffman asked a witness about why African-Americans are more susceptible to dying from COVID-19. "Could it just be that African-Americans or the colored population do not wash their hands as well as other groups or wear a mask or do not socially distance themselves?" Huffman asked. Huffman was later fired from his job as an emergency physician, and some groups have called for him to resign from the General Assembly.

In other legislative action, House Commerce and Labor Committee reported out HB674 (Hillyer), regarding liquor laws; House Transportation and Public Safety Committee reported out road naming and license plate bills HB664 (Galonski), HB688 (Carruthers), HB689 (LaRe); Senate Finance Committee reported out SB313 (Johnson), regarding school funding; Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee reported out HB341 (Ginter), regarding addiction treatment drugs; Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee reported out HB339 (Merrin), regarding insurance code corrections; Senate Ways and Means Committee reported out SJR3 (Burke), proposing a constitutional amendment requiring a supermajority to pass income tax increases in the General Assembly; House Ways and Means Committee reported out HB255 (Hoops), regarding review of property tax exemptions; HB541 (Perales), regarding valuation of destroyed properties; and HB602 (Rogers-Lipps), regarding foreclosure notices.

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Lack of abortion access, reduced reproductive health care funding and racial disparities in health care all continue to plague Ohio, according to a new report from the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) Pro-Choice Ohio Foundation. The "State of Choice in Ohio" report laments the fact that half of Ohio's abortion clinics have closed since 2011, and the fact that funding for abstinence-only programs far exceeds that of comprehensive sex education programs.

Dr. Amy Acton resigned effective Thursday as director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) but will continue to have Gov. Mike DeWine's ear as his chief adviser on health issues. Lance Himes, general counsel at ODH and the department's leader at the end of the Kasich administration, will take over as interim director. Acton said she'd been considering the move for

a while, saying it was unsustainable to try much longer to perform work that could be three separate jobs - leader of ODH, head of pandemic response and counselor to the governor.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

The DeWine administration announced new grant eligibility Friday for STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds supporting "culturally specific communities" affected by race and ethnicity. The Ohio Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) issued a request for proposal (RFP) with an application deadline of Tuesday, June 9.

## **STATE GOVERNMENT**

The Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) completed its business Monday in short order, with all items on the agenda cleared without question or public comment. The items included one from the Cosmetology and Barber Board related to handwashing for infection control and rules from the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) on providing Medicaid services in schools.

## **WORKFORCE**

Ohio will receive an \$8.5 million federal Employment Recovery National Dislocated Worker grant to help reemploy individuals who lost their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and to help employers rebuild their workforces, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced Thursday. The agency said it will work collaboratively with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation to assist Ohioans whose jobs have been impacted by COVID-19 as they prepare for the next step in their careers.