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| **GOVERNMENTAL POLICY GROUP, INC.**  17 SOUTH HIGH STREET – SUITE 245  COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3413  PHONE: 614-461-9335  FAX: 614-461-9336  **Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts**  Legislative Activities Report  **January 2019** |

Legislators put their finishing touches on the 132nd Ohio General Assembly in December, albeit later than expected as lawmakers held a rare session after the Christmas holiday to override vetoes issued by Governor Kasich. The legislature successfully overrode Governor Kasich's vetoes of SB 296, which included pay raises for legislators, and HB 228, which dealt with the use of force in self-defense. However, the final session day of the 132nd General Assembly will be best remembered for a failed veto override attempt to HB 258, the controversial "heartbeat bill." The House successfully overrode the veto; however, the vote failed in the Senate by just one vote.

In addition to the veto overrides, the legislature also passed HB 422, which would establish a system within the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio that would determine the fair market value of a water and sewer system when it is taken over by a private entity. The bill received support from a wide range of entities, who believed the bill will encourage private investment in struggling public systems. HB 422 was unanimously passed in the Senate and passed 86-1 in the House.

In other lame duck news, the Senate took the rare step of rejecting a gubernatorial appointment to the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission. The chamber voted 24-8 to reject the appointment of Bethany Gibson to the commission. The commission is the panel that has been reviewing the governor’s proposal to enact stricter rules for farmers operating in watersheds that are declared as under distress. Gibson has been a supporter of the governor’s efforts, which have been heavily criticized by the farming community and members of the legislature. Earlier in December, members of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review voted to have the Department of Agriculture revise and refile the controversial Lake Erie rules. Senator Bob Peterson said that Ms. Gibson is “an impressive individual” but that Governor-elect Mike DeWine should be the one to make the appointment.

Looking ahead, there will be some leadership changes in both the House and Senate entering the 133rd General Assembly. The Senate Republican Caucus will continue to be led by Senate President Larry Obhof. Joining Sen. Obhof in the caucus leadership team will be Sen. Bob Peterson, as president pro tempore, and Sen. Randy Gardner, as majority floor leader. Sen. Matt Huffman was chosen as majority whip to replace term-limited Sen. Gayle Manning. Senate Democrats reelected Sen. Kenny Yuko to lead the caucus. Sen. Cecil Thomas was elected assistant minority leader, Sen. Sean O’Brien was elected as minority whip and Sen. Sandra Williams was chosen to be assistant minority whip. On the House side, Democrats reelected Rep. Fred Strahorn as minority leader. Rep. Emilia Sykes will take over as assistant minority leader. Rounding out the leadership team are Rep. Brigid Kelly as minority whip and Rep. Kent Smith as assistant minority whip. Smith formerly served as the caucus’s policy chair. Questions surrounding the next speaker of the House remain unanswered. While an informal vote by the GOP caucus resulted in current House Speaker Ryan Smith retaining the House's top spot, the vote was heavily criticized by supporters of Rep. Larry Householder. Those supporters boycotted the vote, leaving Smith with just 34 Republican supporters, significantly shy of the necessary 50 votes. If the caucus cannot come to a consensus before the first organized session on January 7th, then the candidate with the most votes after 11 rounds of voting will become the victor. Similar to how Smith was elected speaker over the summer.

Governor-elect Mike DeWine spent the past month filling open positions in his administration. Laurel Dawson will serve as chief of staff when his administration takes office next year. Dawson served as DeWine’s chief of staff in the U.S. House and U.S. Senate. DeWine also announced Mary Mertz, who is currently first assistant attorney general, as his pick to head up the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). Mertz oversaw the legal and administrative operations of his office as attorney general and was his chief of staff as lieutenant governor. DeWine also pulled from his attorney general staffers when selecting Kimberly Murnieks as the director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM). DeWine also selected former state legislator Jeff McClain as his tax commissioner and Matthew Damschroder, current chief of staff for Secretary of State Jon Husted, as director of the Department of Administrative Services. DeWine also named long-time lobbyist Dan McCarthy as his legislative director, Michael Hall as his director of policy, and Ryan Burgess as director of cabinet affairs.

            As with the most recent General Assembly, the start of next session will be highlighted by the introduction of Governor-elect DeWine’s first biennial operating budget. While hundreds of bills will be introduced during the legislative session, none will impact state government more than the biennial budget bill. DeWine has until March to introduce the bill, and the legislature will spend months debating the measure. Ohio’s Constitution requires that the budget be enacted by June 30th.

We tracked the following legislation during the 132nd General Assembly:

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| **HB3** | **DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION** (DUFFEY M) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/28/2018 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 90-0 |
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| **HB26** | **TRANSPORTATION-PUBLIC SAFETY BUDGET** (MCCOLLEY R) To make appropriations for programs related to transportation and public safety for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2019, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of those programs. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/31/2017 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Some provisions line-item vetoed, eff. 6/30/2017 |
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| **HB29** | **MUNICIPAL WATER RESERVOIR BUFFERS** (LELAND D, BOGGS K) To eliminate law authorizing the maintenance of buffers around municipal water reservoirs by contiguous property owners. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 4/25/2017 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB31** | **CONTRACTING ADVISORY COUNCIL-ABOLITION** (CUPP B) To abolish the Government Contracting Advisory Council. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/21/2017 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 2/20/18 |
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| **HB40** | **GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE** (DEVER J) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/15/2018 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 76-14 |
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| **HB49** | **OPERATING BUDGET** (SMITH R) Creates FY 2018-2019 main operating budget. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/22/2017 - Consideration of Governor's Veto |
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| **HB51** | **DEPARTMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE** (FABER K) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/16/2017 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB54** | **STATE REVENUE OBLIGATIONS** (BLESSING III L, GAVARONE T) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/26/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Finance, (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB69** | **TOWNSHIP REVENUE ISSUES** (CUPP B) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district, to authorize subdivisions to remove territory from existing joint economic development zones (JEDZs), to authorize townships to enter into enterprise zone agreements with retail businesses with the approval of the affected school district, to allow a county or transit authority to levy sales tax in increments of 0.25%, to modify the procedures by which resolutions proposing the levy of property taxes are submitted to electors, and to increase the appropriation for the Medicaid Local Sales Tax Transition Fund. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/22/2017 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 3/23/2018 |
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| **HB103** | **FISCAL EMERGENCY PROVISIONS** (REINEKE W) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/17/2017 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 10/17/17 |
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| **HB114** | **RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARDS** (BLESSING III L) To modify requirements for renewable energy and energy efficiency, to permit mercantile customers to opt out of utility plans for energy efficiency and peak demand reduction, and to modify requirements for wind projects and wind farms. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/27/2018 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (Eighth Hearing) |
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| **HB121** | **PIPE MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS** (EDWARDS J) To require a public authority to consider all piping materials that meet the engineering specifications for a state-funded water or waste water project. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/1/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, House State and Local Government, (Fifth Hearing) |
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| **HB122** | **ESTABLISH ECONOMIC STUDY COMMITTEE** (HAMBLEY S, ROGERS J) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances, to revise the criteria for the issuance of D-5j and D-51 liquor permits, to ratify a tenyear term for a fire levy approved as such at the 2017 general election, to extend the authority to levy a single property tax for both fire and police purposes to municipalities, and to ratify levies for that purpose already approved by voters. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/2/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 8/1/18 |
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| **HB163** | **PREVAILING WAGE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS** (ROEGNER K, RIEDEL C) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/19/2017 - House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB180** | **EQUAL PAY ACT** (CLYDE K, HOWSE S) To require a contractor or person submitting a bid or other proposal for a state contract or a business entity applying for a grant or other economic incentive from a state agency to obtain an equal pay certificate, to require state agencies and political subdivisions to establish a job evaluation system to identify and eliminate sex-based wage disparities among classes of employees, and to prohibit an employer from retaliating against an employee who discusses the employee's salary or wage rate with another employee. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/1/2017 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HB221** | **PRIVATE PROPERTY SEWER AND WATER** (HOLMES G) To expressly include, as eligible projects under the State Capital Improvements Program administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission, water and sewer laterals located on private property. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/6/2018 - House Finance, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB249** | **RESIDENTIAL UTILITY RESELLING** (DUFFEY M) To permit the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules governing residential utility reselling. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/22/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, House Public Utilities, (Sixth Hearing) |
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| **HB254** | **POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE** (WIGGAM S) To enact the POW/MIA Remembrance Act requiring the POW/MIA flag to be displayed at certain buildings operated by the state on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Veterans' Day. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/3/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 11/2/18 |
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| **HB262** | **INDEPENDENT BUDGET PROCESS** (BUTLER, JR. J, ROMANCHUK M) To provide for the preparation of a state biennial budget independent of that submitted by the Governor and to authorize the Legislative Service Commission, upon the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate, to arrange for an independent actuarial review of a proposed bill, specified analyses of economic policy initiatives and state benchmarking data, and a study of the state's long-range financial outlook. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/20/2017 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HB267** | **LOCAL LIABILITY-VEHICLE NEGLIGENCE** (INGRAM C) To eliminate certain defenses to political subdivision liability for an employee's negligent operation of a motor vehicle and to reduce damages recoverable against a political subdivision in such actions by the contributory fault of the plaintiff or other parties. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/20/2017 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB271** | **ACCESSIBILITY LAW VIOLATION NOTICE** (MCCOLLEY R, REZABEK J) To authorize an alleged aggrieved party to provide a notice of an alleged accessibility law violation in advance of filing a civil action and to establish the circumstances under which an alleged aggrieved party is entitled to attorney's fees in a civil action based on the violation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/19/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 90 days |
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| **HB276** | **THREATENING UTILITY WORKERS** (REZABEK J, GREENSPAN D) To expand the offense of aggravated menacing to prohibit threatening a utility worker with intent to obstruct the operation of a utility. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/28/2018 - Senate Judiciary, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB291** | **EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY INSURANCE** (WIGGAM S) To allow certain political subdivisions to adopt a policy authorizing the use of an "employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy" instead of individual surety bonds for officers, employees, and appointees who are otherwise required by law to give bond before entering upon the discharge of duties. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/19/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 90 days |
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| **HB298** | **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SICK DAYS** (MERRIN D) To make changes with respect to the number of sick days provided to public employees. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/24/2018 - House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB301** | **COURT SETTLEMENT RESTRICTIONS** (BUTLER, JR. J) To require the approval of the General Assembly for a state agency to agree to a consent decree or court-approved settlement agreement that would alter or prohibit the enforcement of a law of this state. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/14/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB303** | **SERVICE ANIMAL USE** (LIPPS S, KELLY B) To prohibit places of public accommodation from preventing the use of a service animal. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/10/2017 - House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB312** | **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARDS** (SCHURING K, GREENSPAN D) To regulate the use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions, to modify the duties and powers of the Auditor of State, to specify that electronic submission of a public record request entitles the requestor to damages if the public office fails to comply with the Public Records Act, to make changes to the law governing financial planning and supervision commissions, and to authorize a property tax abatement for certain property subject to a submerged land lease and held by a municipal corporation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/3/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 11/2/18 |
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| **HB342** | **LOCAL TAX ISSUES-ELECTION DATES** (MERRIN D) To modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/28/2018 - Senate Ways and Means, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB371** | **TAXES ON UNSOLD PROPERTY** (MERRIN D) To exempt from property taxation the increased value of land subdivided for residential development until construction commences or the land is sold. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/1/2018 - Re-Referred to Committee |
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| **HB378** | **OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT** (SMITH R, CERA J) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program, to encourage the Department of Transportation to work with telecommunications providers to lay fiber optic cable, and to make an appropriation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/10/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance |
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| **HB380** | **WORKERS COMP-ILLEGAL ALIENS** (SEITZ B, HOUSEHOLDER L) To prohibit illegal and unauthorized aliens from receiving compensation and certain benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/27/2018 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB382** | **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW** (SCHURING K) To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/21/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Twentieth Hearing) |
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| **HB393** | **OIL AND GAS BRINE SALES** (DEVITIS A) To establish conditions and requirements for the sale of brine from certain oil or gas operations as a commodity and to exempt such a commodity from requirements otherwise applicable to brine. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/6/2018 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 54-33 |
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| **HB399** | **HEALTH INSURANCE SAVINGS INCENTIVES** (HENNE M, BUTLER, JR. J) To enact the Ohio Right to Shop Act to require health insurers to establish shared savings incentive programs for enrollees. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/6/2018 - House Health , (First Hearing) |
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| **HB413** | **OPERS COLA ADJUSTMENT** (SCHERER G) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) annual cost-of-living adjustments granted to allowance and benefit recipients and PERS service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/6/2018 - House Aging and Long Term Care, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB419** | **EMERGENCY VEHICLE LIGHTS AND SIRENS** (HENNE M) To modify the defense to the liability of a member of a police or fire department or emergency medical service of a political subdivision for the negligent operation of a motor vehicle in response to an emergency by requiring that the vehicle has its lights and sirens simultaneously activated. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/16/2018 - **REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED**, House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB422** | **MUNICIPAL WATER-WORKS ACQUISITIONS** (GINTER T, ROGERS J) To govern acquisitions of municipal water-works and sewage disposal system companies by certain larger nonmunicipal water-works or sewage disposal system companies. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/28/2018 - Sent to Governor for Signature |
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| **HB460** | **RIPARIAN BUFFERS-TAX EXEMPTION** (PATTERSON J, SHEEHY M) To exempt qualifying riparian buffers in the Western Basin of Lake Erie from property taxation, to reimburse local taxing units for resulting revenue losses, and to require soil and water conservation districts to assist landowners with the creation and maintenance of riparian buffers. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/13/2018 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB469** | **TAX CREDIT-MIXED USE PROJECTS** (SCHURING K) To authorize a nonrefundable insurance company tax credit for contributions of capital to transformational mixed use development projects. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/12/2018 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB470** | **TAX LEVY-PUBLIC LIGHTING** (EDWARDS J) To authorize a property tax levy specifically to fund lighting for roads and public places. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/20/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB478** | **SMALL CELL WIRELESS** (SMITH R, LATOURETTE S) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/2/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 8/1/18 |
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| **HB488** | **PROPERTY TAX LEVY-BALLOT LANGUAGE** (HOOD R) To modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/20/2018 - House Ways and Means, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB529** | **CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS** (RYAN S) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/30/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 6/29/18 |
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| **HB553** | **EXPAND THEFT IN OFFICE PENALTIES** (CUPP B) To expand the increased penalties for theft in office based on the amount of property or services stolen and to include as restitution certain audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss involved in the offense. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 4/10/2018 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB554** | **PUBLIC DESIGN CONTRACTS-INDEMNITY** (SEITZ B) To regulate the use of indemnity provisions in professional design contracts related to public improvements. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/23/2018 - House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB583** | **LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING LIMITS** (HENNE M) To limit the occupational license and registration requirements and fees that a political subdivision may impose on state-regulated occupations, to establish a waiver exempting certain persons from paying occupational license or registration fees, and to revise the licensing restrictions applicable to individuals convicted of criminal offenses. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/22/2018 - House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB602** | **WATER AND SEWER RESTRICTIONS** (DUFFEY M, LANESE L) To penalize a municipal corporation for engaging in certain actions related to its provision of water and sewer services outside of its territory by reducing or withholding payments the municipal corporation receives from the Local Government Fund and rendering the municipal corporation ineligible for state water and sewer development funds. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/26/2018 - House Finance, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB605** | **OVERTIME LAW EXEMPTION** (KELLY B, SMITH K) To raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/22/2018 - House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB620** | **REGULATION REDUCTION** (ROEGNER K, RIEDEL C) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/15/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HB643** | **LAKE ERIE PRESERVATION EQUIPMENT** (ARNDT S, PATTERSON J) To allow equipment for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie to be purchased with proceeds from the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund and to appropriate funds for projects enhancing water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/19/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, House Finance, (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB654** | **APPROPRIATION-DISBURSEMENTS TO SUBDIVISIONS** (SMITH K, BOGGS K) To make a supplemental appropriation under the budget of the Auditor of State to make disbursements to political subdivisions appearing on the Auditor of State's fiscal caution, fiscal watch, or fiscal emergency list during the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/13/2018 - House Finance, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB655** | **FERTILIZER APPLICATION RATES** (SHEEHY M) To generally require the application of fertilizer in the western Lake Erie basin to be applied onto an actively farmed field at the agronomic rate, and to require the application of manure in the western Lake Erie basin to be applied onto an actively farmed field at either the agronomic rate or while utilizing specified best available technologies. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/6/2018 - House Agriculture and Rural Development, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB668** | **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FACILITIES** (PATTON T) To authorize state agencies, state institutions of higher education, counties, townships, municipal corporations, school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and college-preparatory boarding schools to enter into public-private initiatives with a private party through a public-private agreement regarding public facilities. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/5/2018 - House Higher Education and Workforce Development, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB671** | **SCHOOL DRINKING WATER TESTS** (BARNES, JR. J) To require the Director of Environmental Protection to adopt rules establishing procedures and requirements governing annual testing of school drinking water for lead, to name this act the State Water Quality Act for Kids, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/27/2018 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB695** | **RURAL INDUSTRIAL PARK LOAN FUND** (THOMPSON A, EDWARDS J) To reinstate the rural industrial park loan fund and to make an appropriation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/26/2018 - House Finance, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB703** | **CONCEALED CARRY-PUBLIC PREMISES** (BECKER J) To enact the "Decriminalization Effort For Ending Notorious Deaths -- Teachers With Options (DEFEND-TWO)" to allow a concealed handgun licensee or qualified military member to carry a concealed handgun in certain public premises, to reduce the penalty for a concealed handgun licensee who carries a concealed handgun in a prohibited place, and to prohibit public employers and universities from disciplining employees or students who lawfully carry a concealed handgun on the premises. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/26/2018 - House Federalism and Interstate Relations, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB708** | **PUBLIC PENSION DOUBLE DIPPING** (BECKER J) To enact the "Double Dippers Inappropriately Privileged (DDIP)" to provide that an individual retiring on or after the effective date of this act from one of the state's public retirement systems who is re-employed as a public employee will not receive the pension portion of the retirement allowance for the period of employment. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/28/2018 - House Aging and Long Term Care, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB709** | **SHORELINE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT** (ROGERS J, YOUNG R) To authorize the creation of a special improvement district to facilitate shoreline improvements. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/13/2018 - Referred to Committee House Finance |
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| **HB715** | **WATER-SEWER FUND USAGE** (SCHURING K, WEST T) To authorize a municipal corporation to use up to 5% of its water and sewer funds for sewerage or water system extensions in each fiscal year when the extension is for economic development purposes. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/27/2018 - **REPORTED OUT**, House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB737** | **IMMUNITY-HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES** (ARNDT S) To establish immunity from liability for a release or threatened release of hazardous substances from a facility for certain bona fide prospective purchasers. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/13/2018 - Referred to Committee House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor |
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| **HB784** | **PREVAILING WAGE-LGF FUNDING** (BECKER J) To repeal the Prevailing Wage Law, to distribute an additional $25 million annually among townships in equal amounts through the Local Government Fund, and to make an appropriation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/6/2018 - Introduced |
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| **HJR4** | **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BONDS** (SCHURING K) To allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/21/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Twentieth Hearing) |
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| **HJR7** | **PUBLIC SECTOR UNION PROHIBITIONS** (BECKER J, RIEDEL C) Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of public sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember public sector employees in employment-related matters. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HJR8** | **PRIVATE SECTOR UNION PROHIBITIONS** (BECKER J, RIEDEL C) Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of private sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember private sector employees in employment-related matters. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HJR9** | **PUBLIC CONTRACTOR WAGE PROHIBITIONS** (BECKER J, RIEDEL C) Proposing to enact Section 43 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor on a public improvement to pay the contractor's workers the prevailing rate of wages for work performed on the public improvement. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HJR10** | **GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS-REQUIREMENT PROHIBITIONS** (BECKER J, RIEDEL C) Proposing to enact Section 2 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit certain requirements or prohibitions regarding labor agreements in government contracts. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HJR11** | **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS** (BECKER J, RIEDEL C) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to subject any public employee collective bargaining representative to an annual election to remain certified as the exclusive representative. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HJR12** | **PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS-LABOR DUES** (BECKER J, RIEDEL C) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit dues and other fees payable to an employee organization from being deducted from the payroll check of a public employee and to prohibit those dues and fees from being used for political purposes unless authorized by the public employee. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/16/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **HJR14** | **SEWER AND WATER IMPROVEMENT BONDS** (SMITH K, LEPORE-HAGAN M) To permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund sewer and water capital improvements. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/15/2018 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing) |
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| **HJR16** | **CLEAN WATER BONDS** (ARNDT S, PATTERSON J) To permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund clean water improvements. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/13/2018 - House Finance, (First Hearing) |
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| **HJR19** | **MODIFY INITIATIVE PETITION PROCESS** (LATOURETTE S, HOLMES G) Proposing to amend Sections 1a, 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to modify the requirements for the initiative petition process. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/12/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (Sixth Hearing) |
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| **SB2** | **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS LAWS** (HITE C) To revise specified laws relating to environmental protection. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/7/2017 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 10/6/2017 |
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| **SB3** | **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** (BEAGLE B, BALDERSON T) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/6/2017 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Eff. 2/5/2018 |
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| **SB31** | **HEALTH RULE WITHDRAW PROCESS** (EKLUND J) To authorize a board of county commissioners or municipal legislative authority to elect to withdraw the county or municipal corporation from the application of any rule adopted by the Department of Health after January 1, 2014, that governs the design of household sewage treatment systems. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/18/2017 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB51** | **LAKE ERIE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT** (SKINDELL M) To authorize the creation of a special improvement district to facilitate Lake Erie shoreline improvement, to revise other laws governing taxation and public property and otherwise provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs, to make appropriations, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/19/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 90 days |
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| **SB72** | **PREVAILING WAGE LAW** (HUFFMAN M) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/27/2018 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB79** | **STATE DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW SCHEDULE** (JORDAN K) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 4/10/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (First Hearing) |
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| **SB88** | **SUBDIVISION COMMISSIONS-FISCAL EMERGENCY** (TERHAR L) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/9/2017 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
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| **SB95** | **STATE PROJECTS-PIPING MATERIALS** (TERHAR L) To require a public authority to consider all piping materials that meet the engineering specifications for a state-funded water or waste water project. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/25/2017 - Senate Energy and Natural Resources, (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB157** | **PUBLIC UTILITY RESELLING REGULATION** (BACON K) To regulate the reselling of public utility service. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/26/2018 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED**, Senate Public Utilities, (Fifth Hearing) |
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| **SB168** | **MEDICAID EXPANSION** (JORDAN K) To prohibit the Medicaid program from covering the expansion eligibility group and to require aggregate General Revenue Fund appropriations for state agencies to be reduced by specified amounts for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, and ending on June 30, 2019. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/27/2018 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing) |
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| **SB174** | **WAGE PROTECTIONS-FAIR ACT** (TAVARES C) To enact the "Fair and Acceptable Income Required (FAIR) Act" and to revise the enforcement of the prohibitions against discrimination in the payment of wages. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/14/2018 - Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB239** | **REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS & DESIGNATIONS** (DOLAN M) to modify the law concerning regional councils of governments to clarify that a municipal corporation eligible to designate a tourism development district may designate more than one district, to specify that the American Law Institute's approved "Restatement of the Law, Liability Insurance" does not constitute the public policy of Ohio, to designate a portion of U.S. Route 33 in Meigs County as the "Steve Story Memorial Highway," to designate a portion of Interstate Route 270 in Franklin County as the "Officers Anthony Morelli and Eric Joering Memorial Highway," and to designate the portion of U.S. Route 24 in Henry County as the "Henry County Veterans Highway." | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/30/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 10/29/2018 |
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| **SB247** | **PERS-SPOUSAL BENEFITS** (DOLAN M) To require the Public Employees Retirement System to permit certain spouses of retired or deceased members to continue receiving allowances to pay for health care expenses under the System's group health care care plans. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/15/2018 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB250** | **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITY TRESPASS** (HOAGLAND F) To prohibit criminal mischief, criminal trespass, and aggravated trespass on a critical infrastructure facility, to impose fines for organizations that are complicit in those offenses, and to impose civil liability for damage caused by trespass on a critical infrastructure facility. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/6/2018 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 23-5 |
|  | | |
| **SB266** | **CAPITAL BUDGET** (OELSLAGER S) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/6/2018 - Senate Finance, (Third Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB268** | **THEFT IN OFFICE PENALTIES** (WILSON S) To expand the increased penalties for theft in office based on the amount of property or services stolen, to include as restitution certain audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss involved in the offense, for any other offense, to allow restitution for the cost of accounting or auditing done to determine the extent of economic loss, to require certain convention and visitors' bureaus to make available for inspection by the public all meeting minutes, vendor payment information, and financial information, to permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances, to provide for a hardship exemption from the requirement that financial statements filed under the Securities Law be audited, to replace expungement with sealing of ex parte protection orders and records under certain circumstances, and to clarify the appellate process for the court's refusal to grant certain protection orders. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/31/2018 - Informally Passed |
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| **SB292** | **CREDIT UNION LAW REVISIONS** (TERHAR L) To revise the laws governing credit unions and to allow credit unions to serve as public depositories. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/5/2018 - Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB293** | **REDUCTION OF AGENCY REGULATIONS** (PETERSON B, MCCOLLEY R) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/28/2018 - House Government Accountability and Oversight, (First Hearing) |
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| **SB299** | **LAKE ERIE PROTECTION APPROPRIATIONS** (GARDNER R) To credit additional amounts of the Local Government Fund to fund public safety services in areas that experienced a 30% or more decrease in the taxable value of certain power plants between 2016 and 2017, to phase out the payments over ten years, to increase the appropriation to the Local Government Fund; to support broadband development; to establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project; and to make appropriations, including appropriations for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie and the National Guard Scholarship Program. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/11/2018 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Appropriations eff. immediately, language eff. 10/10/2018 |
|  | | |
| **SB303** | **AGRICULTURAL OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT** (BROWN E) To revise the law governing agricultural operation and management plans, and to require certain animal feeding facilities to annually report the amount of manure that is applied by or for the facilities. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/5/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Agriculture |
|  | | |
| **SB304** | **LAKE ERIE-FERTILIZER APPLICATION** (BROWN E, YUKO K) To generally require the application of fertilizer in the western Lake Erie basin to be applied onto an actively farmed field at the agronomic rate, and to require the application of manure in the western Lake Erie basin to be applied onto an actively farmed field at either the agronomic rate or while utilizing specified best available technologies. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/5/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Agriculture |
|  | | |
| **SB307** | **ELIMINATE RULE OF CONSTRUCTION** (OBHOF L) To eliminate the rule of construction regarding a court's considerations in determining the intention of the legislature when a statute is ambiguous. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/5/2018 - Referred to Committee House Government Accountability and Oversight |
|  | | |
| **SJR4** | **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUNDING** (SCHIAVONI J) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund sewer and water capital improvements. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/6/2017 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SJR6** | **CLEAN WATER BONDS** (GARDNER R, O'BRIEN S) If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this proposal, Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio shall take effect immediately. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/10/2018 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance |