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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  **December 2020** |

With the elections now in the rearview mirror, lawmakers have returned to the Statehouse to begin the hectic lame duck session. Legislators are expected to spend the next month working on dozens of issues, including education reforms, providing funding for community construction projects, addressing COVID-19 related issues, revising Ohio’s criminal sentencing reforms, and overhauling the controversial HB 6 energy policy. Any legislation left pending at the end of the year will need to be reintroduced next session.

One bill we hope will be passed and signed into law is HB 264, legislation allowing the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) to provide for the refinancing of loans for public water and wastewater infrastructure projects. The measure received unanimous support in both the House and Senate; however, the Senate added an amendment making technical changes to HB 6, the controversial energy legislation, which has been at the heart of the corruption case involving former House Speaker Larry Householder. Because of those changes, the measure was sent to conference committee. We hope the conference committee will meet to report the bill before the end of the year. CORD testified in support of the measure before both the House and Senate.

Hearings continue in the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee on HB 665, legislation aimed at modernizing state fair laws aid the pandemic. HB 665 includes a controversial provision that would exempt land owned by agricultural societies from stormwater fees charged by 6119 regional districts. CORD testified in both the House and Senate and are working with committee members on removing the language. In its testimony, CORD highlighted the fact that the legislation unfairly targets 6119 regional districts, which would only exempt one fairground in the entire state (others are served by municipal and county systems).

CORD was happy to see HB 404, which extended certain deadlines in response to the pandemic, signed into law. HB 404 originally started as a bill to permit state institutions of higher education to establish a policy allowing its trustees to attend board meetings using a means of electronic communication. HB 404 picked up an omnibus amendment to extend a number of COVID-related provisions originally enacted in HB 197 earlier this year. Those changes include:

* Extending the temporary authorization for members of a public body to hold and attend meetings virtually until July 1, 2021.
* Extends, from December 1, 2020, until July 1, 2021, the temporary extension of deadlines to maintain a valid license, for deadlines that fall on or before April 1, 2021.
* Extends, from December 1, 2020, until July 1, 2021, the temporary law allowing a license that would otherwise expire on or before April 1, 2021, to remain valid until July 1, 2021.
* Require any unspent Coronavirus Relief Fund money that cannot be redistributed locally to be paid to the state treasury.
* Extend to July 1, 2021, the ability of a school or entity to exempt participants in summer food service programs from regulation as food processing establishments.
* Extend to July 1, 2021, the temporary penalty waiver for retired state employees who are reemployed by certain agencies.
* Extend certain state agency deadlines until July 1, 2021.
* Extend education-related provisions involving College Credit Plus, school employee evaluations, diagnostic assessments, community school transportation and kindergarten and first grade health screenings.

Work continues on legislation (SB 246) that would implement long-sought occupational licensing reforms that would make it easier for people with licenses in other states to practice or work in Ohio. Proponents for universal occupational licensing reciprocity argue that HB 246, will make it easier for licensed professionals in other states, to come to Ohio and begin working. Proponents also suggest that high fees and training requirements make Ohio less competitive and less attractive to entrepreneurs and their employees. The legislation was initially met with concerns from engineers, who feared that the legislation did not include a requirement for the successful completion of the examination authored by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). These concerns were addressed through amendments accepted to the bill during the committee process.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Chairman Sam Randazzo submitted his letter of resignation to Governor Mike DeWine following an FBI search of his Columbus home. His resignation is the latest development in the ongoing investigation into corruption allegations regarding HB 6. FirstEnergy recently disclosed to federal regulators that its CEO and two other senior executives were fired after a $4.3 million payment in January 2019 to an unidentified official who in April 2019 became a state public utility regulator. "I have submitted my resignation letter to the governor's chief of staff and refer you to the full content of that letter," Mr. Randazzo said via email. Randazzo was appointed to chair the PUCO in February 2019. State ethics commission records show that Randazzo has been a principal in two consulting companies later identified as unsecured creditors in the bankruptcy proceedings of former FirstEnergy subsidiary FirstEnergy Solutions.

Following the governor’s announcement of additional restrictions tied to COVD-19, legislators passed two measures aimed at limiting the power of the executive branch amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The House voted 75-11 to pass HB 621, which would enable businesses required to limit or cease operations by health orders or regulations due to dangerous diseases to remain open if they observe the same safety requirements imposed on businesses not required to be closed or facing restrictions. Also known as the Business Fairness Act, HB 621 addresses disparate treatment among big box stores, as well as between big box stores and small retailers according to joint sponsor Rep. Jon Cross (R-Kenton). HB 621 has been sent to the Senate and has been referred to the Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee, chaired by Senator Rob McColley.

Similarly, both chambers passed and sent to the governor SB 311—legislation that would allow the General Assembly to adopt a concurrent resolution to rescind certain Ohio Department of Health orders or rules for preventing the spread of contagious or infectious diseases. SB 311 also prohibits ODH from issuing a general, mandatory statewide or regional quarantine or isolation order that applies to and is enforced against individuals who have not been either directly exposed to or medically diagnosed with the disease that is the subject of the order. The bill passed both chambers on largely party-line votes. Proponents of the measure say the proposed law changes would provide a needed check on wider orders that impact residents’ civil liberties, lives and livelihoods. Opponents, however, argue that the legislation would harmfully limit health officials’ ability to effectively address infectious diseases and outbreaks. As expected, Governor DeWine vetoed the bill stating, “this bill is not in the best interest of protecting the health and safety of Ohioans.” President Obhof, who originally suggested his chamber would immediately take up a vote to override the veto, has said he continues to meet with the DeWine Administration to discuss changes to Ohio law that would ease the concerns of lawmakers.

House Speaker Bob Cupp (R-Lima) was unanimously re-elected to serve as speaker for the 134th General Assembly. The caucus also announced that Rep. Tim Ginter (R-Salem) will serve as speaker pro tempore; Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) will serve as majority floor leader; Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Westerville) will serve as assistant majority floor leader; Rep. Don Jones (R-Freeport) will serve as majority whip; and Rep. Cindy Abrams (R-Harrison) will serve as assistant majority whip. Rep. Seitz has been serving as House majority floor leader throughout the 133rd General Assembly.

The House Democratic Caucus leadership team will remain unchanged in the 134th General Assembly despite losing seats in the most recent election cycle. Minority Leader Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) will continue to lead the caucus after members held a remote, informal vote. The minority leadership team will also include: Rep. Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus) as assistant minority leader, Rep. Paula Hicks Hudson (D-Toledo) as minority whip, and Rep. Richard Brown (D-Canal Winchester) as assistant minority whip.

The Senate GOP unanimously chose Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) to serve as president of the Senate for the upcoming G.A. The majority caucus also announced that: Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) will serve as president pro-tempore; Sen. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) as majority floor leader and Sen. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) as majority whip.

Senate Democrats selected Sen. Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Heights) to once again lead the caucus. Sen. Cecil Thomas (D-Cincinnati) will also retain his place as assistant minority leader. Also joining the team are Senator Nickie Antonio (D-Lakewood), who will serve as minority whip, and Sen. Tina Maharath (D-Canal Winchester), who will serve as assistant minority whip.

Below is a list of legislation we are currently tracking during the 133rd Ohio General Assembly:

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| **HB7** | **H2OHIO PROGRAM** (GHANBARI H, PATTERSON J) To create the H2Ohio Trust Fund for the protection and preservation of Ohio's water quality, to create the H2Ohio Advisory Council to establish priorities for use of the Fund for water quality programs, and to authorize the Ohio Water Development Authority to invest the money in the Fund and to make recommendations to the Treasurer of State regarding the issuance of securities to pay for costs related to the purposes of the Fund. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/22/2019 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB27** | **PUBLIC MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY** (INGRAM C) To modify political subdivision liability for an employee's negligent operation of a motor vehicle. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/19/2019 - House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB46** | **STATE GOVT EXPENDITURE DATABASE** (GREENSPAN D) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/1/2020 - Senate General Government and Agency Review , (Ninth Hearing) |
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| **HB62** | **TRANSPORTATION BUDGET** (OELSLAGER S) To increase the rate of and modify the distribution of revenue from motor fuel excise taxes, to make appropriations for programs related to transportation and public safety for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of those programs. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 4/3/2019 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Various effective dates; taxes eff. 7/1/19 |
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| **HB78** | **PREVAILING WAGE-PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS** (RIEDEL C, MANCHESTER S) 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:*** | 12/11/2019 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB79** | **INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION BUDGET** (OELSLAGER S) To make appropriations for the Industrial Commission for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of Commission programs. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/27/2019 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 6/27/19 |
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| **HB80** | **BWC BUDGET** (OELSLAGER S) To make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the bureau's programs. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/22/2019 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Eff. 7/22/19. Certain provisions effective 10/21/19 |
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| **HB84** | **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS-SEWER LATERALS** (HOLMES G) To expressly include, as eligible projects under the State Capital Improvements Program, water and sewer laterals located on private property. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/27/2019 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB95** | **BRINE-CONVERSION OF WELLS** (SKINDELL M) To alter the Oil and Gas Law with respect to brine and the conversion of wells. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/17/2019 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB115** | **REGULATOR RESTRICTION REDUCTION** (RIEDEL C, ROEMER B) To require certain agencies to reduce the number of regulator restrictions and to amend the versions of sections 106.021 and 106.03 of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect August 18, 2019, to continue the provision of this act on and after that effective date. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 4/10/2019 - House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB163** | **WATER AND SEWER PRACTICES** (BRINKMAN T) To create a process for withholding local government funds and state water and sewer assistance from municipal corporations that engage in certain water and sewer practices with respect to extraterritorial service. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/21/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Public Utilities |
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| **HB166** | **OPERATING BUDGET** (OELSLAGER S) To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/18/2019 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Operating appropriations and tax levy generally effective 7/18/19. Some provisions subject to special effective dates. |
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| **HB168** | **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE-HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES** (HAMBLEY S) To establish an affirmative defense to a release or threatened release of hazardous substances from a facility for certain bona fide prospective purchasers. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/16/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 9/15/20 |
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| **HB197** | **OMNIBUS MEASURES ON CORONAVIRUS** (POWELL J, MERRIN D) To continue essential operations of state government and maintain the continuity of the state tax code in response to the declared pandemic and global health emergency related to COVID-19, to make appropriations, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/27/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Emergency: effective 3/27/20 |
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| **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:*** | 11/17/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, House State and Local Government, (Fifth Hearing) |
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| **HB220** | **GOVERNMENT BLOCKCHAIN USE** (CARFAGNA R) To allow a governmental entity to utilize distributed ledger technology, including blockchain technology. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/2/2020 - Bills for Third Consideration |
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| **HB238** | **WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS** (CERA J, SCHERER G) To revise Ohio's whistleblower protection laws. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/26/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Civil Justice, (Sixth Hearing) |
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| **HB263** | **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING-CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS** (KOEHLER K) To revise the initial occupational licensing restrictions applicable to individuals convicted of criminal offenses. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/2/2020 - Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB264** | **WATER DEVELOPMENT-LOAN REFINANCING** (WILKIN S, O'BRIEN M) To allow the Ohio Water Development Authority to provide for the refinancing of loans for certain public water and waste water infrastructure projects, to waive certain deadlines for qualifying renewable resources that applied for renewable energy credits before March 1, 2020, and to provide for payment of Ohio Air Quality Development Authority administrative costs under the law governing nuclear resource and renewable energy credits. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/19/2020 - Consideration of Senate Amendments; House Does Not Concur, Vote 0-88 |
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| **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:*** | 11/18/2020 - Senate General Government and Agency Review , (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB326** | **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT-DISABILITY BENEFIT** (MILLER A) To allow a Public Employees Retirement System or School Employees Retirement System disability benefit recipient elected to certain offices to continue receiving a disability benefit during the term of office. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/12/2019 - House Insurance, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB340** | **DRAINAGE LAW** (CUPP B) To revise the state's drainage laws. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/2/2020 - Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources, (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB343** | **EMERGENCY WATER AND SEWER** (PATTERSON J) To make an appropriation related to emergency water and sewer system funding. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/26/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, House State and Local Government, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB368** | **COMPUTER CRIMES** (BALDRIDGE B) To enact the Ohio Computer Crimes Act. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/2/2020 - Senate Judiciary, (Fourth Hearing) |
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| **HB370** | **HISTORICAL SYMBOLS, MONUMENTS** (HILLYER B, BALDRIDGE B) To allow the Attorney General to defend political subdivisions in certain actions brought under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or analogous provisions of the Ohio Constitution. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/10/2019 - House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing) |
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| **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) |
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| **HB398** | **GENERAL ELECTIONS - LEGAL HOLIDAY** (CRAWLEY E, SWEENEY B) To establish the day of each general election as a legal holiday for which government employees receive paid leave. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB404** | **ALLOW UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES TO MEET ELECTRONICALLY/EXTEND COVID-19 GOVERNMENT RESPONSES** (MANCHESTER S, SWEENEY B) To continue essential operations of state and local government in response to the declared pandemic and global health emergency related to COVID-19 and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/23/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. Immediately |
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| **HB427** | **SAFE DRINKING WATER LAW - CONTAMINANTS** (WIGGAM S) To alter the requirements governing secondary contaminants under the Safe Drinking Water Law. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/29/2020 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB468** | **HANDHELD ELECTRONIC DEVICE WHILE DRIVING** (LIGHTBODY M) To alter the law governing the use of a handheld electronic wireless communications device while driving. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/19/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB476** | **EMINENT DOMAIN** (MANNING D, HAMBLEY S) To amend the law regarding eminent domain and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/9/2020 - House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB481** | **CONVEYANCE - STATE-OWNED PROPERTY** (FRAIZER M) To authorize the conveyance of state-owned real property. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/19/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Emergency: effective 6/19/20 |
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| **HB497** | **SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT** (LIGHTBODY M, RUSSO A) To require the Director of Environmental Protection to adopt rules establishing maximum allowable contaminant levels in drinking water and water quality standards for certain contaminants. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/11/2020 - Referred to Committee House Health |
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| **HB507** | **DELINQUENT TAX LIEN PAYMENTS** (MANNING D) To prohibit enforcement of delinquent property tax liens against owner-occupied homesteads and to require that any delinquent tax be paid before the title to a homestead may be transferred. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/19/2020 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means |
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| **HB557** | **EMERGENCY TELECONFERENCE - PUBLIC BODIES** (SOBECKI L) To authorize public bodies to meet via teleconference and video conference during a public health state of emergency as declared by the Governor, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB564** | **PREVENT UTILITY DISRUPTION DURING COVID-19** (LELAND D) To prevent the disruption of utility service during the state of emergency declared regarding COVID-19 and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities |
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| **HB572** | **STATE OFFICES - FEE, PENALTY WAIVERS** (SOBECKI L) To allow the Ohio Public Works Commission, the Ohio Water Development Authority, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, county auditors, and county recorders, during the state of emergency due to COVID-19, to waive certain penalties and late fees, suspend certain reporting requirements, and waive electronic recording fees, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB573** | **COVID-19 - OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE** (SOBECKI L, BOGGS K) To make COVID-19 an occupational disease under the Workers' Compensation Law under certain circumstances and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/12/2020 - House Insurance, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB574** | **TRANSFER FUNDS - UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND** (MILLER J) To transfer moneys to the Unemployment Compensation Special Administration Fund, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/19/2020 - House Insurance, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB575** | **COUNTY DROP BOX PAYMENTS** (MILLER J) To permit counties to receive payments by a drop box instead of in-person for the duration of the Governor's COVID-19 emergency declaration and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **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 |
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| **HB596** | **DEBT COLLECTION POSTPONEMENT** (WEST T) To halt the collection of debts and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/3/2020 - House Civil Justice, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB606** | **CIVIL IMMUNITY - COVID-19 TRANSMISSION** (GRENDELL 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. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/14/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR** |
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| **HB614** | **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION, COVID RELIEF** (FRAIZER M, RICHARDSON T) To create the Unemployment Compensation Modernization and Improvement Council, to revise the claims process and duties related to that process, to require the Auditor of State to examine and make recommendations on the efficiency of the process, to require the Director of Job and Family Services to create a strategic staffing plan for employees who handle inquiries and claims for unemployment benefits, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create a template for workforce-education partnership programs, to provide for the distribution of some federal coronavirus relief funding to local subdivisions, to extend the renewal deadline for concealed handgun licenses for ninety days or until June 30, 2021, whichever is later, to allow licensees to apply for or renew licenses with any county sheriff until that date, to authorize the conveyance of certain state-owned land, to provide funding for community projects, to make approprations, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/1/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 10/1/20. |
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| **HB617** | **LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL PROCEDURES - SHUTDOWN ORDERS** (JORDAN K) To establish certain time frames and legislative approval procedures as conditions governing the authority of the Department of Health to issue statewide shelter-in-place or stay-at-home orders for preventing the spread of contagious or infectious diseases, to invalidate existing statewide shelter-in-place or stay-at-home orders issued by the Department, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/12/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB618** | **NOW ACT** (BECKER J) To limit the authority of the Governor and the Department of Health to issue orders regarding contagious or infectious diseases, to prohibit any order from affecting the conduct of an election, to designate its provisions as the "Need Ohio Working (NOW) Act," and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/17/2020 - House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB624** | **COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION RELEASE** (GRENDELL D) To require the reporting and release of certain COVID-19 testing and related information and to declare an emergency | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/18/2020 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing) |
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| **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) |
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| **HB639** | **REGULATE WATER UTILITY PROVIDERS** (CRAWLEY E) To regulate water utility providers' ability to curtail, disrupt, or disconnect water service to customers. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities |
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| **HB649** | **ODH - TESTING** (STOLTZFUS R, HOOD R) Regarding the authority of the Department of Health and local boards of health to make certain orders and regarding the testing of individuals for certain communicable diseases. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/9/2020 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB663** | **REPEAL PREVAILING WAGE LAW** (HOOD R, DEAN B) To repeal the Prevailing Wage Law. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor |
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| **HB665** | **AGRICULTURAL ISSUES** (JONES D) To modify the laws governing agricultural societies, to recodify the law governing amusement ride safety, to address funding and other issues related to county and independent agricultural societies and the Ohio Expositions Commission, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/2/2020 - Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB670** | **REAPPROPRIATE CAPITAL FUNDS** (MERRIN D) To make capital reappropriations for certain agencies for the biennium ending June 30, 2022, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/3/2020 - House Finance, (Third Hearing) |
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| **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) |
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| **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 |
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| **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:*** | 12/1/2020 - Senate General Government and Agency Review , (Second Hearing) |
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| **HB675** | **REGARDING CLEAN OHIO PROGRAM** (HILLYER B, SWEARINGEN D) Relating to the Clean Ohio Program and to make an appropriation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB676** | **GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY APPEAL BOARDS** (JORDAN K) To create twelve regional State and Local Government Accountability Appeal Boards and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/3/2020 - House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing) |
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| **HB704** | **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREAS LAWS** (CROSS J, FRAIZER M) To modify the law governing Community Redevelopment Areas and the terms under which property may be exempted in such areas. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/18/2020 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (First Hearing) |
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| **HB730** | **LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM** (RUSSO A, GREENSPAN D) To establish the Lead Service Line Replacement Program. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/31/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB737** | **MODIFY CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW** (MANNING G, MIRANDA J) To modify the Campaign Finance Law regarding independent expenditures and political action committees. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/31/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
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| **HB739** | **ANTI-CORRUPTION ACT** (SWEENEY B, RUSSO A) To modify the campaign finance law, to name this act the Ohio Anti-Corruption Act, and to amend the versions of sections of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect January 1, 2021, to continue the provisions of this act on and after that effective date. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/31/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **HB741** | **ADD OFFENSES-PUBLIC RETIREMENT BENEFITS** (MANNING G, GREENSPAN D) To add extortion and perjury and certain federal offenses to the offenses that may result in forfeiture or termination of public retirement system benefits. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 8/31/2020 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice |
|  | | |
| **HB762** | **MODIFY CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS** (GRENDELL D, FRAIZER M) To modify the campaign finance law and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/17/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **HB763** | **TERMINATE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY** (GRENDELL D, STOLTZFUS R) To terminate the COVID-19 state of emergency in Ohio and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/17/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **HB774** | **AMEND EMINENT DOMAIN LAW** (MILLER A) To amend the law regarding eminent domain and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/17/2020 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice |
|  | | |
| **HB789** | **EXTENSION - VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR PUBLIC BODIES** (MILLER J) To extend the temporary authority for public bodies to meet via electronic technology and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/1/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **HB791** | **AUTHORIZE PUBLIC BODIES TO MEET ELECTRONICALLY** (CUTRONA A, GINTER T) To extend the authorization for members of a public body to hold and attend meetings or hearings via electronic technology, during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D on March 9, 2020, until the declared emergency is terminated, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/1/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **HJR2** | **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION AMENDMENT** (MANNING D, CALLENDER J) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide Ohio critical infrastructure protection. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/30/2019 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **HR348** | **NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.** (SKINDELL M) To urge the United States Congress to pass House Resolution 6422 to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/27/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **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:*** | 12/2/2020 - , (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB2** | **STATEWIDE WATERSHED PLANNING** (PETERSON B, DOLAN M) To create a statewide watershed planning structure for watershed programs to be implemented by local soil and water conservation districts. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/19/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, House Energy and Natural Resources, (Fifth Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB4** | **SCHOOL FACILITIES ASSISTANCE** (RULLI M, KUNZE S) To make a capital appropriation for school facilities assistance. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 7/14/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; eff. 10/13/2020 |
|  | | |
| **SB8** | **TAX CREDITS-OHIO OPPORTUNITY ZONE** (SCHURING K) To authorize tax credits for investments in an Ohio Opportunity Zone. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/8/2019 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB10** | **THEFT IN OFFICE PENALTIES** (WILSON S) To expand the penalties for theft in office based on the amount stolen and to include as restitution audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/21/2020 - House Appoints Managers; G. Lang, B. Seitz & D. Leland Named as House Conferees |
|  | | |
| **SB33** | **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES OFFENSES** (HOAGLAND F) To modify certain criminal offenses with respect to critical infrastructure facilities and to impose fines and civil liability for damage to a critical infrastructure facility. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 1/29/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Public Utilities, (Seventh Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB38** | **WATER AND SEWER FUNDS-MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS** (SCHURING K) To revise the law governing municipal corporation use of water and sewer funds. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/17/2019 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB50** | **INCREASE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FEE** (EKLUND J) To increase state solid waste disposal fee that is deposited into the Soil and Water Conservation District Assistance Fund, and to make an appropriation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 4/2/2019 - Senate Finance, (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB86** | **UTILITY SERVICE RESELLERS** (MAHARATH T) To regulate certain resellers of utility service. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/10/2019 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Third Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB135** | **DEFERRED COMPENSATION-AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT** (HOTTINGER J) To authorize automatic enrollment of new employees in the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/15/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate General Government and Agency Review |
|  | | |
| **SB171** | **17-DAY INTERIM BUDGET** (DOLAN M, O'BRIEN S) To enact a 17-day interim budget. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/30/2019 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Effective Immediately |
|  | | |
| **SB172** | **30 DAY BWC BUDGET** (DOLAN M, O'BRIEN S) To make operating appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the period beginning July 1, 2019, and ending July 31, 2019. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/30/2019 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**; Effective Immediately |
|  | | |
| **SB219** | **APPRENTICE PROGRAM** (WILLIAMS S) To establish a career pathways apprentice program. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/11/2020 - Senate Education, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB244** | **CERTIFICATES OF TRANSITION** (RULLI M) To require fiscal officers of certain political subdivisions to provide certificates of transition to their successors when leaving office. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/10/2019 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB246** | **OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING** (ROEGNER K, MCCOLLEY R) To require an occupational licensing authority to issue a license or government certification to an applicant who holds a license, government certification, or private certification or has satisfactory work experience in another state under certain circumstances. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/1/2020 - **BILL AMENDED**, Senate General Government and Agency Review , (Eighth Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB249** | **REQUIRE RESTROOM WITH ADULT CHANGING STATION** (LEHNER P) To enact Matthew's Law, requiring public buildings to have at least one rest room facility with an adult changing station and authorizing an income tax credit for installation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 2/12/2020 - Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB273** | **REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES** (WILLIAMS S) To reduce property taxes on owner-occupied homes to the extent the taxes increase by more than 10% per year and to prohibit political subdivisions from placing a lien on property for unpaid water charges. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/3/2020 - Senate Ways and Means, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB279** | **PROHIBIT PHONES WHILE DRIVING** (MAHARATH T) To generally prohibit the use of electronic wireless devices while driving. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 3/4/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs |
|  | | |
| **SB285** | **DISTRACTED DRIVING** (O'BRIEN S, KUNZE S) To revise the laws relative to distracted driving and the use of an electronic wireless communications device while driving. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/22/2020 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (Third Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **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:*** | 11/10/2020 - House Civil Justice, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB294** | **ABSENTEE VOTING** (HUFFMAN M) To extend absent voting by mail for the March 17, 2020, primary election to April 28, 2020, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/6/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Government Oversight and Reform |
|  | | |
| **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 |
|  | | |
| **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:*** | 11/12/2020 - Senate Appoints Managers; M. Dolan, D. Burke & V. Sykes Named as Senate Conferees |
|  | | |
| **SB311** | **LIMIT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH ORDER-ISSUING AUTHORITY** (MCCOLLEY R, ROEGNER K) To modify the law governing public health orders, quarantine, and isolation. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/19/2020 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 58-32 |
|  | | |
| **SB316** | **CAPITAL REAPPROPRIATIONS** (DOLAN M) To make capital reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2022, and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/3/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Finance, (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB331** | **SUNSET REVIEW** (ROEGNER K) To implement the recommendations of the Sunset Review Committee by terminating or renewing various agencies, and to require a Sunset Review Committee to be convened during each General Assembly. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/1/2020 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, Senate General Government and Agency Review , (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB347** | **CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW** (MANNING N) To modify the Campaign Finance Law regarding independent expenditures and political action committees. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/16/2020 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Second Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB348** | **LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH** (SCHAFFER T, ROEGNER K) To prohibit local boards of health from using certain threatening words in notifications to the public, to allow local boards of health to reject Department of Health orders during an emergency, to allow health care professionals who serve on a board of health to receive continuing education credit, and to change the makeup of local boards of health. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/1/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid |
|  | | |
| **SB349** | **CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW** (FEDOR T) To modify the campaign finance law, to name this act the Ohio Anti-Corruption Act. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/18/2020 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB355** | **CLEAN OHIO REVITALIZATION GRANTS** (WILLIAMS S) To make an appropriation to the Development Services Agency to award Clean Ohio Revitalization Grants. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/1/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance |
|  | | |
| **SB357** | **COVID RELIEF FUNDS-LOCALITIES** (DOLAN M) To provide for the distribution of some federal coronavirus relief funding to local subdivisions and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 11/17/2020 - Referred to Committee House Finance |
|  | | |
| **SB358** | **EDUCATION LAW-COVID RESPONSE** (FEDOR T, MANNING N) To make changes to education law for the 2020-2021 school year in response to implications from COVID-19 and to declare an emergency. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 12/1/2020 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, Senate Education, (Fifth Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SB365** | **REMOTE MEETINGS** (FEDOR T) To extend the authorization for members of a public body to hold and attend meetings or hearings via electronic technology, during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D on March 9, 2020, until the declared emergency is terminated. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/22/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate General Government and Agency Review |
|  | | |
| **SCR13** | **PROHIBIT GOVERNMENT-EXCEED AUTHORITY** (JOHNSON T) To resolve that no branch of government, be it executive, legislative, or judicial, nor any subordinate department, agency, or entity thereof, may take or otherwise promulgate actions that exceed its authority to do so as expressly granted under the Ohio Constitution or United States Constitution. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government |
|  | | |
| **SCR17** | **URGE CONGRESS-DISCLOSE POLITICAL DONORS** (FEDOR T) To urge Congress to pass legislation requiring corporations and labor organizations that make political expenditures to disclose the identities of their donors. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 9/22/2020 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SJR1** | **CLEAN WATER IMPROVEMENTS** (GAVARONE T, O'BRIEN S) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund clean water improvements. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 10/1/2019 - Senate Finance, (First Hearing) |
|  | | |
| **SR488** | **SUPPORT CENSUS** (SYKES V) To recognize the importance of the 2020 decennial census and to support all efforts by state and local governments to ensure a complete and accurate count of all Ohioans. | |
|  | ***Current Status:*** | 5/6/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate General Government and Agency Review |