



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Monthly Legislative Update

August 2022



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

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What's Happening

Ohio General Assembly Primary Sets Stage for November

In a rare second primary election, 7.9 percent of Ohio registered voters turned out to participate on Tuesday, August 2, to nominate candidates from both major political parties to appear on the November ballot's Ohio General Assembly contests. These primary contests were delayed from the original May 3rd election date due to a series of lawsuits that led to the Ohio Supreme Court invalidating various versions of Ohio House and Ohio Senate maps that had been drawn by the Ohio Redistricting Commission.

Some highlights from Tuesday's contest include:

- » Rep. Bride Rose Sweeney (D-Cleveland) garnered 56.2 percent of the vote to defeat Rep. Monique Smith (D-Fairview Park) in the General Assembly's only head-to-head incumbent matchup for the newly drawn 16th House District Democratic primary. The two were drawn together in redistricting. Sweeney will face Republican Michael Lamb in November.
- » Rep. Mark Fraizer (R-Newark) was one of two incumbent members to be defeated by a challenger, losing a rematch from two years ago to Thaddeus Claggett, a civil engineer and construction contractor who collected 58 percent of the vote in the Republican primary for the 68th House District. Claggett will be unopposed in the General Election.
- » In the other incumbent defeat, recently appointed Rep. Shawn Stevens (R-Sunbury) lost to Beth Lear, the vice president of government affairs for Associated Builders and Contractors of Ohio, in the Republican primary for the 61st House District. Lear, who had sought the appointment to the House seat that had been vacated by former Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Westerville), garnered over 58 percent of the vote and will face Democrat Louise Valentine in November.
- » The closest contest of the day was the Democratic Primary for the 3rd House District in Franklin County for an open seat. In a five-way contest attorney Ismail Mohamed held a 37 vote lead over Kelly Harrop, a former aide to Rep. Kristen Boggs (D-Columbus). The winner of this contest will face Republican Josiah Lanning in the General Election.

What's Happening?

CHIPS Act Clears Congress With Bipartisan Support

The United States Chips and Science Act (or Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors for America Act), better known as the "CHIPS Act" was passed by the U.S. House on July 28th, a day after the U.S. Senate's vote. President Biden plans to sign it into law on August 9.

Both U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Rob Portman (R-OH) voted for the bill, which passed 64-33 in the U.S. Senate. Twelve members of Ohio's U.S. House delegation supported the CHIPS Act and four voted against it, as it cleared the chamber 243-187.

Voting in favor of the CHIPS Act were Representatives Troy Balderson (R-Worthington), Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus), Shontel Brown (D-Warrensville Hts.), Mike Carey (R-Hilliard), Steve Chabot (R-Cincinnati), Bob Gibbs (R-Ashland), Anthony Gonzalez (R-Canton), Bill Johnson (R-Marietta), Dave Joyce (R-Twinsburg), Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo), Tim Ryan (D-Youngstown) and Mike Turner (R-Dayton).

U.S. Reps. Warren Davidson (R-Troy), Jim Jordan (R-Lima), Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) and Brad Wenstrup (R-Cincinnati) voted against it. The vote comes recently after Intel announced its delay of the ceremonial groundbreaking for its \$20 billion semiconductor manufacturing facility in Licking County, citing concerns about the then stalled federal legislation. The legislation provides \$52 billion in federal investment for semiconductors such as the Intel factory proposed for Licking County.

U.S. Senate Passes Inflation Reduction Act

On Aug. 7th, the U.S. Senate passed a \$430 billion Inflation Reduction Act, a bill intended to fight climate change, lower drug prices and raise corporate taxes. The vote took place following a 27-hour weekend session of debate and efforts by Republicans to prevent passage. The Senate passed the reconciliation bill 50-50 without a Republican vote and with Vice President Kamala Harris voting to break the tie.

Now the bill heads to the U.S. House of Representatives where a vote on the measure will likely occur this Friday.

The package includes \$369 billion in renewable sources of energy to reduce carbon emissions by 40 percent by 2030. In addition to climate change, the legislation also cuts drug prices for Medicare recipients and extends expanded health insurance subsidies under the Affordable Care Act. Finally, the bill includes tax provisions that Moody's Analytics says will raise \$313 billion in additional taxes over ten years by imposing a 15% minimum tax on corporate profits for businesses that earn at least \$1 billion a year.

The deadline to use reconciliation to pass this legislation is September 30th, the end of the federal fiscal year.

Rickenbacker Receives Senate Earmark

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee has added an \$8 million earmark to relocate the firing range at Rickenbacker Air Force Base. The earmark, requested by Senator Sherrod Brown, is a priority of the Columbus Region Coalition and the Central Ohio Defense Group.

The project will result in better trained Ohio National Guard men and women, in addition to opening up acres of land for development. The earmark, now part of the Military Construction/Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill, must receive approval through both chambers as Congress takes action on the full appropriations bill.

What's Happening?

PUCO Chair Encourages Energy Efficiency Initiatives

At the July 27th meeting of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO), Chair Jenifer French stated prior to adjournment that she and her fellow commissioners encourages jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional interested parties to work collaboratively and cooperatively to propose energy efficiency initiatives. Parties interested in pursuing these energy efficiency initiatives are also encouraged to incorporate these into either comprehensive or standalone proceedings before the Commission for its consideration.

Chair French made these remarks after giving praise to the PUCO Energy Efficiency Workshops she and her fellow commissioners attended that she found to be educational and informative for commissioners, staff, stakeholders, and the public at large.

“The varying positions of the participants on how to efficiently and cost-effectively introduce energy efficiency initiatives was evident in the testimony and comments submitted to the PUCO,” French said. “The information shared at the Energy Efficiency Workshops will serve as a basis of understanding of this critical issue.”

Top News

FY22-23 Budget

Tax collections generated nearly \$180 million more than expected in June, bringing Ohio's revenue surplus to more than \$2.7 billion at the close of FY22 on June 30, according to data from the Office of Budget and Management (OBM). The state collected \$28.1 billion in taxes through the fiscal year, compared to expectations of \$25.4 billion, a difference of nearly 11 percent. Personal income tax collections made up the bulk of that overage, bringing in \$1.85 billion or 20.8 percent more than expected. June's collections themselves were \$50.1 million or 5.1 percent ahead of estimates.

Economic Development/Urban Revitalization

The DeWine administration announced grant funds totaling almost \$42.2 million as part of the first phase of the Ohio Building Demolition and Site Revitalization Program. Communities will be able to use the money to “turn blighted properties into new opportunities that attract investment, business and jobs.” Funds will go to 87 counties up to their \$500,000 set-aside under this round, and seventy-two counties requested the full amount. Remaining funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to counties that applied for funding in excess of \$500,000. The total program funding is approximately \$150 million, and is part of the Ohio BUILDS effort along with the Brownfield Remediation Program.

The third application round of the Brownfield Remediation Program opened, and more than \$30 million is available according to the Ohio Department of Development (DOD). The round will remain open until Friday, Sept. 30 or when funds are depleted. The program focuses on industrial, commercial and institutional brownfield sites that are abandoned, idled or underutilized because of the known or potential release of hazardous substances or petroleum.

Ohio fell to 15th in a recent CNBC ranking of “Top States for Business in 2022,” after being ranked 10th in 2021 and 2019. During the Ohio Chamber of Commerce's workforce summit President Steve Stivers said the Ohio Chamber is “focusing on what policy changes it would take to move us to number one [in the CNBC rankings] and then starting to enact those.”

Top News

Energy/Utilities

Reps. Latyna Humphrey (D-Columbus) and Dontavius Jarrells (D-Columbus) joined American Electric Power (AEP) CEO Marc Reitter to announce another half million dollars in company funding to expand the \$1 million previously announced for four Columbus-area nonprofits in response to food losses during June power outages.

The Ohio Power Siting Board's (OPBS) massive rule overhaul marks a proliferation of solar power plants in numerous counties and seeks to increase energy developers' accountability to both the public and the state for all generation technologies. They include wind and gas-fired plants and are reinforced by expanded rules governing major transmission corridors and natural gas pipelines. Siting board disclosures to the governor's Common Sense Initiative (CSI) say the 218-page rule package likely will increase costs and reduce profits for energy developers and operators regulated by the state. The Ohio Democratic Party (ODP) moved to block any effort by the DeWine administration to destroy documents regarding House Bill 6 (133rd General Assembly). The motion for a preliminary injunction against document shredding or deletion follows ODP's January records request and May lawsuit complaining of extensive redactions from Gov. Mike DeWine's personal calendar provided to Democrats.

Parties before the Ohio Supreme Court debated whether the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) has authority to order the collection of a flat \$20 million from all electric ratepayers for the annual solar subsidy of 133-HB6 (Callender-Wilkin) and 134-HB128 (Hoops-Stein) or must first calculate solar credits eligible generators have actually earned. The Ohio Manufacturers' Association (OMA) and PUCO also differed over the meaning of billed "customers" – whether they constitute single entities with more than one location or individual accounts for which an entity may pay multiple charges. The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) says the state's four 133-HB6-related investigations into FirstEnergy provide the perfect opportunity for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to apply the same judicial conduct standards to commissioners and administrative law judges that attorneys must follow who appear before PUCO. OCC is requesting commission adoption of the Ohio Supreme Court Code of Judicial Conduct in the single "review" and three ongoing audits of FirstEnergy's political and charitable spending, corporate separation, distribution modernization rider (DMR) and delivery capital recovery rider (DCRR), respectively. Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition (NOAC) has joined the OCC in the first two cases.

American Electric Power (AEP) Ohio said that a series of internal emails between the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) and AEP's regulatory director 24 hours before the June outages were "fairly common" in the face of severe weather and did not signify a lack of readiness on the utility's part. The company also responded to PJM Interconnection's comments to the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) Governing Board about hypothetical AEP non-compliance and related fines, saying the utility is committed to a full accounting of conditions leading up to and during the Central Ohio outages from June 14 to 16.

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) both expanded and potentially narrowed the class of customers eligible for the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) program. Commissioners approved rule changes raising the PIPP threshold from 150 percent to 175 percent of the federal poverty level. Simultaneously, they rejected American Electric Power (AEP) of Ohio's appeal to suspend work on converting five massive apartment buildings to sub-metered accounts lacking state protections for regulated utility customers, including PIPP. The order denying AEP's appeal provokes the larger question of sub-metering companies or utility resellers in multi-family complexes. Residents of these facilities — often lower-income — do not enjoy regulatory safeguards including commission-approved rates, competitive choice, disconnection protocols, and PIPP, among others. Over a year and a half ago, the Ohio Supreme Court struck down PUCO's previous four-prong test for public utilities exempting sub-meterers and remanded the Capital area appeal of Cynthia Wingo to the commission for a new standard. PUCO has yet to do so.

Top News

Environment

Ohio EPA issued an isolated wetlands permit for a project to construct semiconductor manufacturing facilities — Intel — in Licking County. Discharges from the activity will affect approximately 10 acres of isolated wetlands. MJB Holdings, LLC will offset these impacts with more than 20 acres of wetland mitigation.

A coalition including the Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) says local governments around the state will be forced to spend billions of dollars by 2050 on weather-related impacts to roads, drinking water and other public services under one of four climate-change models developed by the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The projected dollar cost cited by the new report, "The Bill is Coming Due: Calculating the Financial Cost of Climate Change to Ohio's Local Governments," ranges anywhere from \$1.8 billion to \$5.9 billion.

General Assembly/Statehouse

The Controlling Board approved an additional \$100 million in spending for rental and utility assistance from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The request was an emergency add-on by the Ohio Department of Development (DOD). According to the Department, the funds are the second round of emergency rental assistance dollars from APRA; \$196 million is available to the state through the second round of funding, with Ohio set to receive around \$496 million through 2025. The funds will be used by eligible households for regulated gas and electric utility payments and for community action agencies to use for rental assistance.

Judicial

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Ohio is joined by Black Lives Matter (BLM) Cleveland and eight other organizations in calling for a major shift in the felony sentencing database being developed by the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission (OCSC), which Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor chairs. The coalition, which also includes Common Cause Ohio, Ensuring Parole for Incarcerated Citizens (EPIC), Freedom BLOC (Black Led Organizing Collective), Heartbeat Movement, Ohio Fair Courts Alliance, Ohio Families United for Political Action & Change (OFUPAC), Policy Matters Ohio, and River Valley Organizing, has issued a six-page letter and attachments to OCSC Executive Director Sara Andrews.

Lieutenant Governor

The Ohio's Broadband and Cable Association presented Lt. Gov. Jon Husted its inaugural Champion of Broadband Award, which was established to recognize those who are leading advocates of broadband connectivity. The association noted Husted's role in broadband efforts through his leadership of InnovateOhio and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, as well as the DeWine administration's creation of BroadbandOhio to oversee the \$270 million expansion grant program and development of a workforce strategy for expansion.

Natural Resources

Gov. Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Director Mary Mertz announced plans for more than two dozen new H2Ohio wetland projects to improve water quality across the state. The 25 new wetland projects will soon launch in 22 counties and will be funded through ODNR's \$25 million H2Ohio allocation in the current state operating budget. Wetlands help improve water quality by trapping, filtering, and removing excess pollutants and nutrients, like phosphorus, from the water before the materials flow into waterways and where it can contribute to harmful algal blooms. To date, ODNR has completed or restored 23 wetlands in the state, and the 25 new wetlands bring the total number of projects underway or complete to 113.

Top News

Nonprofit Organizations

The Ohio State Bar Foundation (OSBF) has awarded \$91,042 in grants to two Ohio nonprofit organizations through its Racial Justice Initiative.

The Mental Health & Addiction Advocacy Coalition will receive \$41,400 to research and identify areas of racial and ethnic inequity in Ohio's community behavioral health system. The project will collect and analyze available data and make recommendations to improve data collection and eliminate the disparities, inequities and negative effects that result in poor outcomes for minority populations. The report will suggest strategies to improve data collection to help eliminate disparities, examine possible solutions and make practical and actionable recommendations. Partnering organizations include Central State University, Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence and Ohio University. The project will serve all counties statewide.

Public Safety

Ohio personnel once again joined law enforcement officers from five other Great Lakes states for this year's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Region 5 high-visibility Speed Awareness Day. Officers from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin were to combine increased, zero-tolerance enforcement with effective communication to motorists on the importance of obeying speed limits. The DeWine administration says high-visibility enforcement (HVE) is a "proven countermeasure for reinforcing driver compliance with posted speed limits."

Gov. Mike DeWine and the Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO) released a new educational video for use by parents, teachers, and driver education instructors to help them explain the dangers of distracted driving to teens. The light-hearted video targets youthful drivers and features a pair of young hosts answering the distracted driving questions that instructors get the most.

Technology/Aerospace

The U.S. House passed the legislative package including the CHIPS Act a day after the U.S. Senate's vote and President Joe Biden's statement urging its passage. U.S. Sens. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Rob Portman (R-OH) both voted for the bill, which passed 64-33 in the Senate. The U.S. House voted 243-187-1, with support from Ohio's delegation divided up 12-4. U.S. Reps. Troy Balderson (R-Worthington), Joyce Beatty (D-Columbus), Shontel Brown (D-Warrensville Hts.), Mike Carey (R-Hilliard), Steve Chabot (R-Cincinnati), Bob Gibbs (R-Ashland), Anthony Gonzalez (R-Canton), Bill Johnson (R-Marietta), Dave Joyce (R-Twinsburg), Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo), Tim Ryan (D-Youngstown) and Mike Turner (R-Dayton) all voted for the bill. U.S. Reps. Warren Davidson (R-Troy), Jim Jordan (R-Lima), Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) and Brad Wenstrup (R-Cincinnati) voted no.

Telecommunications/Broadband

The DeWine administration recently announced four teams representing 11 counties would serve as the first cohort in a planning and capacity-building program to help leverage "historic" funding for broadband infrastructure as part of a "community-driven" broadband expansion. Participants in the BroadbandOhio Community Accelerator Cohort include individual teams from Defiance, Shelby and Tuscarawas counties and Adams, Brown, Fayette, Highland, Lawrence, Pike, Scioto and Vinton counties as members of the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC). The program is a collaborative effort between BroadbandOhio, Heartland Forward, the Benton Institute and Ohio State University's (OSU) Office of Extension. Heartland Forward initiated and funded it.

Top News

Transportation/Infrastructure

Gov. Mike DeWine announced that several state and local agencies are joining forces on a pilot program to make transit in Coshocton, Guernsey, Muskingum and Tuscarawas counties easier to navigate and more efficient. The new program, Mobility Ohio, will be a one-stop hub that will rely on agency coordination and next-generation software tools to allow people to conveniently schedule trips by phone or online. The \$2.8 million grant to create and fund Mobility Ohio is part of the Federal Transit Administration's Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Program. For decades, state agencies across the U.S. have acted independently to develop their own programs and policies to provide transportation to eligible customers.

DriveOhio is seeking written and in-person comments on its newly released draft deployment plan for building out Ohio's portion of the electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure authorized under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program enacted as part of the BIL will establish a nationwide network of EV chargers that support access and reliability for all users. Specifically, the BIL provides \$7.5 billion for that EV charging infrastructure that will encompass a nationwide network of 500,000 EV chargers by 2030.

The Ohio Department of Transportation announced it is now taking applications for the Municipal Bridge Program, which provides federal funds to municipal corporations, metro parks and regional transit authorities (RTA) for roadway bridge replacement, bridge rehabilitation or bridge demolition projects. In April, Gov. Mike DeWine announced a \$47.5 million increase in Ohio's yearly funding allocation for local bridge projects for the next five years, bringing Ohio's annual investment in county and municipal bridges to \$112.5 million per year. The additional money comes from the federal bipartisan infrastructure law. ODOT said completed online applications are due by Friday, Aug. 15, and selected projects will be announced in November.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) joined Federal Transit Administrator Nuria Fernandez for an event in Columbus with the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) to promote funding from the bipartisan infrastructure law. COTA is planning on using funds to build new bus lines, reduce travel times and create new jobs. COTA President and CEO Joanna Pinkerton also spoke of using federal funds to buy electric buses later this year as the agency seeks to become diesel-free by 2025 and carbon free by 2040. Fernandez said COTA's plans to transition its fleet to zero emissions is what public transportation needs. She called public transportation "the greatest equalizer" and a catalyst for more development.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) announced a new litter control program that brings in the business community to help in the effort. Over the past few weeks, the first signage related to the Sponsor-A-Highway program has been installed along highways in the northeast Ohio area. The statewide program allows businesses and groups to fund litter removal services along one mile, one-direction segments of state highways. In exchange for their sponsorship, the name of the business or group is displayed on a sign within their sponsored segment, ODOT said. The program complements ODOT's existing Adopt-A-Highway program, where volunteer groups adopt a two-mile segment of two-lane highway.

Workers' Compensation

Intel is hiring experienced professionals for management and engineering positions at its New Albany factory, mostly in terms of facilities and site services. Some positions involve temporarily relocating to Arizona or another site for training assignments lasting from six months to one year. Management roles include site operations and commissioning, as well as project manager roles. There are also openings for chemical, mechanical, electrical and manufacturing network engineers. The full list, which is subject to change, is available at <https://tinyurl.com/mr2zb8px>.

Legislative Updates

Goal 1: Promote regionalism at the local, state, and federal levels of government fostering economic growth, prosperity, efficient use of resources, and a high quality of life for Central Ohio residents.

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

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

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

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

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

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

HB275 EXPAND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION JOINT PURCHASING AUTHORITY (LAMPTON B) To expand political subdivision joint purchasing authority to expressly include purchases for construction services.
Current Status: 5/12/2021 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-275>

HB290 EXPRESS INTENT FOR SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA (MCCLAIN R, JOHN M) To express the intent of the General Assembly to establish a school funding formula that allows families to choose the option for all computed funding amounts associated with students' education to follow them to the public and nonpublic schools they attend.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - House Finance, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-290>

Legislative Updates

- HB357** INDEX HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AMOUNTS (STEPHENS J, LARE J) To index the homestead exemption amounts to inflation.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-357>
- HB364** WATERWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION (PATTON T) To make changes to the application process for the waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Public Utilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-364>
- HB377** CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY (HALL T, SWEARINGEN D) To amend Section 220.11 of H.B. 168 of the 134th General Assembly to make an appropriation related to coronavirus local fiscal recovery.
Current Status: 6/28/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 6/28/22
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-377>
- HB386** REQUIRE FIRE, POLICE CHIEF RESIDE IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (INGRAM C, HICKS-HUDSON P) To allow a municipal corporation to require its fire chief or chief of police to reside within the municipal corporation during the chief's first five years.
Current Status: 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-386>
- HB397** AGRICULTURAL LEASES, PUBLIC WORKS (STEWART B, KICK D) To revise the law regarding agricultural leases and soil and water conservation districts; to modify the laws governing the Ohio Public Works Commission, district public works integrating committees, and natural resources assistance councils; to convey state-owned land in Fairfield County to the board of commissioners of Fairfield County; to create the Investing in Ohio Fund; to revise the law governing the issuance of unit operation orders under the Oil and Gas Law; to make changes to the law regarding battery-charged fences; and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 4/21/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-397>
- HB422** BILLING - MUNICIPAL SERVICES (FRAIZER M, WEST T) To limit the amount municipal corporations can recover from property owners of non-owner-occupied properties for unpaid municipal utility and other service rates and charges and to create an appeals process for improper billing of municipal services.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Local Government and Elections
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-422>
- HB430** PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (CROSS J) Relating to property development and protecting underground utility facilities during construction and to designate April as "Ohio Work Zone Safety Awareness Month."
Current Status: 6/24/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; Eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-430>
- HB463** ELIMINATE HEALTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCILS (STEPHENS J) To eliminate district advisory councils for general health districts, and transfer their duties and responsibilities to boards of county commissioners.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - House State and Local Government, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-463>

Legislative Updates

- HB519** MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX FILINGS (ROEMER B, LANESE L) To modify the law regarding extensions for filing municipal income tax returns and to limit penalties for late filings.
Current Status: 4/6/2022 - Referred to Committee Senate Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-519>
- HB546** INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (GRENDALL D) To allow local governments to establish investment funds and use interest earnings to reduce taxes and special assessments on senior citizen homesteads.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-546>
- HB560** TAX CREDIT FOR AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING (HOOPS J, PAVLIGA G) To authorize a nonrefundable tax credit for the construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing.
Current Status: 5/26/2022 - House Families, Aging and Human Services, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-560>
- HB563** LIMIT LOCAL REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROPERTY (FOWLER S, FERGUSON R) To limit local regulation of short-term rental property.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - REPORTED OUT, House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-563>
- HB566** VACANT PROPERTY OWNERS - CONTACT INFO (BLACKSHEAR W, WHITE A) To require owners of vacant property to file contact information with the county auditor.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-566>
- HB581** COUNTY CREDIT CHARGES (MILLER J, HOLMES A) To allow county credit card charges for temporary and necessary assistance care provided by a county veterans service office.
Current Status: 5/25/2022 - REPORTED OUT, House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-581>
- HB646** PACE LOANS (CUTRONA A, ROEMER B) Regarding residential property assessed clean energy (PACE) loans.
Current Status: 5/31/2022 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-646>
- HB658** PUBLIC RECORDS VIOLATIONS (INGRAM C) To require the award of attorney's fees to an aggrieved person if a court of appeals determines in an appeal by a public office from a Court of Claims order that the public office denied the person access to public records in violation of the Public Records Law.
Current Status: 5/17/2022 - Referred to Committee House Civil Justice
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-658>
- HB677** TAX TRANSPARENCY ACT (YOUNG T) To require local governments to provide certain information to residents regarding proposed property and income tax levies and to name this act the Tax Transparency Act.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-677>

Legislative Updates

- HB688** COVID LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY (LIPPS S) Regarding coronavirus local fiscal recovery and prescription digital therapeutics, and to make appropriations.
Current Status: 5/31/2022 - Referred to Committee House Health
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-688>
- HB698** EMINENT DOMAIN (KICK D, CREECH R) To amend the law regarding eminent domain.
Current Status: 6/7/2022 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-698>
- HJR4** CA: LOCAL ELECTIONS (EDWARDS J, SEITZ B) Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit local governments from allowing persons who lack the qualifications of an elector to vote in local elections.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - ADOPTED BY SENATE; Vote 32-0
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HJR-4>
- SB15** FISCAL OFFICERS-LIABILITY (WILSON S) To change the circumstances in which certain fiscal officers may be held liable for a loss of public funds.
Current Status: 6/14/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-15>
- SB20** COUNTY UTILITY SUPPLY CONTRACTS (HACKETT R) To exempt county utility supply contracts entered into under a joint purchasing program from the 10-year maximum period for such contracts and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-20>
- SB24** FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS (GAVARONE T, PETERSON B) To enact the First-time Home Buyer Savings Act, authorizing income tax deductions for contributions to and earnings on savings accounts designated for the purchase of a home.
Current Status: 10/19/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-24>
- SB45** TAX INDUCEMENTS CERTAIN BUSINESSES (PETERSON B, KUNZE S) To enhance state and local tax inducements for businesses making substantial fixed asset and employment investments and their suppliers.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-45>
- SB172** TAX CREDIT-NONRESIDENT TAXPAYERS (SCHAFFER T) To require municipal corporations with more than \$100 million in annual income tax collections to provide a tax credit to nonresident taxpayers.
Current Status: 5/4/2021 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-172>
- SB193** UNPAID WATER CHARGES (WILLIAMS S) To prohibit political subdivisions from placing a lien on property for unpaid water charges.
Current Status: 5/17/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-193>

Legislative Updates

- SB349** LAND BANKS-PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX (SCHURING K) To allow local governments to levy a real property transfer tax for the benefit of a land bank.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-349>
- SB354** FORECLOSURE SALES, STUDY COMMITTEE (BLESSING L) Regarding who is eligible to bid in a foreclosure sale and to create the Ohio Housing Study Committee.
Current Status: 7/14/2022 - Introduced
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-354>
- SJR6** CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE-ELECTOR REQUIREMENTS (BLESSING III L) Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit local governments from allowing persons who lack the qualifications of an elector to vote in local elections.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - Senate Local Government and Elections, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SJR-6>

Legislative Updates

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

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

Legislative Updates

- HB361** UNLAWFUL BLOCKS OF RAILROAD CROSSING (HALL T, MIRANDA J) To establish new requirements and increased penalties that apply to a railroad company that unlawfully blocks a railroad crossing.
Current Status: 10/26/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-361>
- HB465** ODOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS-SCHOOLS (SHEEHY M, BIRD A) To establish requirements regarding Department of Transportation projects, specifically as they relate to schools and school zones.
Current Status: 3/22/2022 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-465>
- HB524** NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED BY STATE AGENCIES (HALL T) To modify the law governing notifications issued by state agencies.
Current Status: 5/19/2022 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Government Oversight, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-524>
- HB531** COUNTY PROSECUTOR LEGAL SERVICES (GHANBARI H) To allow a county prosecutor to provide legal services to a metropolitan planning organization, regional transportation planning organization, or regional council of governments.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - Senate Local Government and Elections, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-531>
- HB547** TRAFFIC PHOTO-MONITORING DEVICES (PATTON T) To prohibit a municipal corporation or township that does not operate either a fire department or an emergency medical services organization from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-547>
- HB548** TRAFFIC MONITORING DEVICES - POPULATION REQUIREMENTS (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority with a population of 200 or fewer from utilizing traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-548>
- HB549** TRAFFIC TICKET REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority, in any year, from issuing a total number of traffic tickets based on the use of traffic law photo-monitoring devices that exceeds two times the population of the local authority.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-549>
- HB550** TRAFFIC TICKET REQUIREMENTS - ANNUAL REVENUE (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority from deriving more than 30 per cent of the total annual revenue of the local authority from the issuance of tickets for traffic law violations based on evidence recorded by traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-550>
- HB551** TRAFFIC TICKET REVENUE - LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENSES (PATTON T) To require 80 per cent of all revenue from a traffic camera ticket be used for law enforcement expenses.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-551>

Legislative Updates

- HB552** PROHIBIT TRAFFIC CAMERAS NEAR INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS (PATTON T) To prohibit placement of a traffic camera within one-half mile of an interstate highway entrance.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-552>
- HB553** TRAFFIC CAMERA REQUIREMENTS (PATTON T) To prohibit a local authority, located in a county with a population of one million or more, from using traffic cameras to enforce traffic violations on interstate highways.
Current Status: 2/15/2022 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-553>
- HB626** MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES (PATTON T) To modify the penalties for the offense of “failure to comply with an order or signal of a police officer” involving the offender’s operation of a motor vehicle and expressly provide that a motor vehicle used in the offense is subject to possible seizure and forfeiture.
Current Status: 6/2/2022 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-626>
- SB23** ILLEGALLY PASSING SCHOOL BUS (GAVARONE T) To impose a civil penalty when a driver who illegally passes a school bus cannot be identified, to designate the month of August as “School Bus Safety Awareness Month,” and to designate this act as the School Bus Safety Act.
Current Status: 12/7/2021 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, Senate Veterans and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-23>
- SB32** ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION (RULLI M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-32>
- SB277** FUEL TAXES-TEMPORARY REDUCTION (HUFFMAN S) To temporarily reduce motor fuel excise tax rates and suspend collection of the additional motor vehicle registration taxes on electric and hybrid vehicles, both for five years, and to amend the version of section 4503.10 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on October 1, 2022, to continue the changes to that section on and after that date.
Current Status: 2/16/2022 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-277>
- SB279** STATE AGENCY NOTIFICATIONS (WILSON S) To modify the law governing notifications issued by state agencies.
Current Status: 6/1/2022 - Senate Government Oversight and Reform, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-279>
- SB307** ELECTRIC VEHICLE INCENTIVES, UTILITIES (RULLI M) To authorize incentives for the manufacture and usage of electric vehicles, to permit electric distribution utilities to create, and recover costs of, transportation electrification programs, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 5/17/2022 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-307>

Legislative Updates

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

- HB10** REPEAL HB6 - REVISE ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE LAW (LELAND D) To repeal Section 5 of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to make changes regarding electric utility service law, to allow the implementation of energy waste reduction programs, and to repeal certain provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-10>
- HB18** REPEAL HB6 (LANESE L) Repeal HB 6 of the 133rd GA
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-18>
- HB57** REPEAL HB6 ENERGY LAWS (SKINDELL M, O'BRIEN M) To repeal the changes made by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to the laws governing electric service, renewable energy, and energy efficiency and the changes made to other related laws.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-57>
- HB175** DEREGULATE CERTAIN EPHEMERAL WATER FEATURES (HILLYER B) To deregulate certain ephemeral water features under various water pollution control laws.
Current Status: 4/21/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-175>
- HB192** PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM STOPPING CERTAIN ENERGY GENERATION (CUTRONA A) To prohibit counties, townships, and municipal corporations from prohibiting energy generation from fossil fuels and gas pipelines.
Current Status: 5/6/2021 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-192>
- HB245** EXPAND ELIGIBILITY - COUNTY SEWER DISCOUNTED RATES (INGRAM C) To expand eligibility for county sewer discounted rates or charges.
Current Status: 4/14/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-245>
- HB381** ELECTRIC CHARGES - OTHER STRUCTURES (GRENDLELL D) To allow for certain structures on a retail electric customer's property to be charged the same as the primary residence.
Current Status: 11/10/2021 - House Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-381>
- HB389** REGARDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY (LELAND D, SEITZ B) To permit electric distribution utilities to establish energy efficiency and peak demand reduction portfolios.
Current Status: 11/17/2021 - REPORTED OUT AS AMENDED, House Public Utilities, (Fifth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-389>

Legislative Updates

- HB429** CLEAN ENERGY JOBS (WEINSTEIN C) To establish programs and state policies regarding clean energy jobs and energy justice, to create the Governor’s Office of Energy Justice, to make changes to the environmental, electric utility, and other public utility laws, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 5/10/2022 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-429>
- HB464** ELIMINATE WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (WIGGAM S) To eliminate public water system asset management program requirements and to require the Director of Environmental Protection to rescind rules governing that program.
Current Status: 3/8/2022 - House Agriculture and Conservation, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-464>
- SB19** REGARDING PROPERTY TAXATION (SCHAFFER T) To modify the law regarding property taxation and sales and use tax.
Current Status: 2/7/2022 - House Appoints Managers; D. Merrin, R. Stoltzfus & L. Sobecki Named as House Conferees
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-19>
- SB29** ELIMINATE AUTO ENROLLMENT-UTILITY AGGREGATION (HOAGLAND F) To eliminate automatic enrollment in governmental electric and natural gas aggregation programs.
Current Status: 2/23/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-29>
- SB44** REVISE HB6 FROM 133RD G.A. (RULLI M, CIRINO J) To repeal the nuclear resource credit payment provisions, and amend, and rename as solar resource, the renewable resource credit payment provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.
Current Status: 3/9/2021 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-44>
- SB89** RENEWABLE ENERGY (DOLAN M) To extend the renewable portfolio standard, increase solar energy benchmarks, and extend the property tax exemption for qualified energy projects that use renewable energy resources.
Current Status: 9/21/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-89>
- SB96** PREVENT UTILITY DISRUPTION-COVID (WILLIAMS S) To prevent the disruption of utility service during the state of emergency declared regarding COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.
Current Status: 3/31/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-96>
- SB117** REPEAL LEGACY GENERATION PROVISIONS-HB6 (ROMANCHUK M, CRAIG H) To repeal the legacy generation resource provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly and provide customers refunds.
Current Status: 6/15/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-117>
- SB127** PREVENT LOCALITIES-LIMIT USE OF NATURAL GAS (LANG G, RULLI M) To prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas.
Current Status: 5/12/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-127>

Legislative Updates

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

- HB278** REVISE MARCS LAWS (HILLYER B) To make changes to laws governing the multi-agency radio communications system (MARCS).
Current Status: 5/4/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-278>
- HB432** DATA BREACHES (CROSSMAN J, SOBECKI L) Regarding data breaches on state agency computer systems.
Current Status: 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Technology and Innovation
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-432>
- HB445** 9-1-1 SERVICES, TRAINING (CARFAGNA R, SMITH K) To make changes to the law governing 9-1-1 service and to repeal program requirements for emergency-service-telecommunicator training.
Current Status: 5/24/2022 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Fourth Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-445>
- SB8** BROADBAND-ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EASEMENTS (MCCOLLEY R) Regarding broadband expansion, including access to electric cooperative easements and facilities, and to make an appropriation.
Current Status: 2/17/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-8>

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

- HB341** CREATE BUREAU OF HATE CRIMES (MILLER A, WEINSTEIN C) To create the Bureau of Hate Crimes in the Office of the Attorney General and to authorize the Attorney General to prosecute a hate crime.
Current Status: 6/10/2021 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-341>
- HCR6** DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (HOWSE S, CRAWLEY E) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.
Current Status: 6/23/2021 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HCR-6>
- SB48** CULTURAL COMPETENCY-HEALTH CARE (MAHARATH T, ANTONIO N) To require certain health care professionals to complete instruction in cultural competency.
Current Status: 6/16/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-48>
- SB105** MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (SYKES V, SCHURING K) To require political subdivisions to recognize state certifications of minority business enterprises.
Current Status: 3/2/2022 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR; eff. 90 days
State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-105>

Legislative Updates

SB125 BIRTH EQUITY (KUNZE S, MAHARATH T) To enact the Save Our Mothers Act regarding birth equity, peripartum racial and ethnic disparities, and implicit bias in the health care system and to designate May as “Maternal Mortality Awareness Month.”

Current Status: 11/17/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-125>

SCR4 DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (CRAIG H, WILLIAMS S) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.

Current Status: 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-4>

SCR5 DENOUNCE RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION-COVID-19 (MAHARATH T, THOMAS C) To denounce all forms of stigmatization, racism, and discrimination occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current Status: 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health

State Bill Page: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-5>

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