



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

July 15, 2020

The business of the legislature has been interrupted by both the novel corona virus and the civic unrest of last few weeks. The normal schedule of consideration of bills has been interrupted by special legislation proposed to meet the various crises that face us.

The House is working from home (see below). The Senate is finishing up work prior to the summer recess.

1. Education Institutions Among Recipients Of Next Round Of Aid Dollars: The DeWine Administration is looking to allocate a few hundred million more dollars in federal aid to schools and state agencies as they continue to respond to the novel coronavirus pandemic. The agenda for next week's Controlling Board includes money for K-12 schools and institutions of higher education, principally coming from the federal CARES Act. Gov. Mike DeWine on Thursday said he is asking the board to authorize \$300 million in federal funding for educational institutions to adopt COVID-19 best practices.
2. Higher Education Guidance:
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Higher-Education.pdf>
3. K-12 Guidance: <http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Reset-Restart-Guide.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>
4. House Returns To Work-From-Home Mode After Staffer Tests Positive: Speaker Larry Householder has instructed all House members and staff to resume working from home after a Republican staffer tested positive for the novel coronavirus.
5. Referred to Education in Senate: HB 436 DYSLEXIA (Baldrige, B.) With regard to screening and intervention for children with dyslexia.
6. INTRODUCED in HOUSE: HB 708 EMERGENCY PLANS (MILLER, A.) To revise the law regarding emergency management plans and school safety drills and to declare an emergency.
7. Teacher Unions Oppose School Reopening Measure. Legislation that would give local officials the final say on when and how to reopen school buildings emerged from a committee hearing without any solid champions Wednesday. The Ohio Education Association and Ohio Federation of Teachers opposed the measure (SB 320) outright in testimony before the Senate Education Committee,



while groups representing school boards and superintendents detailed concerns with the bill in interested party testimony.

8. Senate Committee Hearings - Education
 - a. HB 123 SCHOOL SECURITY (Holmes, G., Manning, G.) With regard to school security and youth suicide awareness education and training. CONTINUED-AMENDED (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)
 - b. The committee accepted an amendment Chair Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) id would permit districts and schools to establish student-led violence-prevention clubs rather than require them to do so.
 - c. The panel also began discussing an amendment put forward by Sen. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) that would establish a new, temporary funding formula for students in grades 8-12 in online charter schools in which a majority of students were enrolled in dropout prevention and recovery programs. He said the change was needed to drive additional funding to such schools to prevent permanent closures in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.
 - d. Sen. Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) said he would like to see a change to the language so the formula only applies to online charter schools sponsored by traditional districts or educational service centers.
 - e. While she initially announced plans for committee members to caucus on Sen. Brenner's proposal Wednesday evening, Sen. Lehner ultimately asked legislators to send their concerns on the amendment to her ahead of next week's meeting.
 - f. SB 320 EDUCATION LAWS (Huffman, M.) To require public and private schools to decide whether to be open for instruction in the 2020-2021 school year, to permit parents providing home instruction to determine whether a building in which they provide instruction has adequate safety measures to address COVID-19, to prohibit other public officials from closing schools in that school year, and to declare an emergency. CONTINUED (See separate story) (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
9. PASSED in SENATE: SB 288. RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION (GAVARONE, T.) Regarding student religious expression in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities (31-0)
10. SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS: SB 4 (Enacted) CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS (RULLI, M., KUNZE, S.) To apply the Prevailing Wage Law to transportation improvement district projects under certain circumstances, to temporarily expand the use of certain tax increment financing payments, to exempt personal protective equipment from certain political subdivision competitive bidding law during the period of the emergency declared by



Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, and to make capital appropriations to the Facilities Construction Commission and the Public Works Commission for the biennium ending June 30, 2022. 21-10

11. Referred to Education: SB 330 SCHOOL FUNDING (BRENNER, A.) To establish a new method of school financing for internet- and computer-based community schools in which a majority of the students are enrolled in a dropout prevention and recovery program.
12. House Consideration:
 - a. House Bill 684 (Hood, Brinkman) - Academic Content - to revise the law with regard to the state academic content standards and primary and secondary education assessments and teacher evaluations, to create the Legislative Office of Education Oversight, and to make other changes regarding the operation of primary and secondary schools.
 - b. House Bill 693 (Swearingen, Manning) - School Openings - to prohibit, for the 2020-2021 school year only, public and chartered nonpublic schools from opening for instruction prior to the Wednesday after Labor Day and to declare an emergency.
 - c. House Concurrent Resolution 31 (Howse, Crawley) - Racism - to declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.
13. **HB 164 (Enacted) EDUCATION LAWS** (GINTER, T.) Regarding student religious expression, regarding retention under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee for the 2020-2021 school year, to make changes to education law for the 2020-2021 school year in response to implications of COVID-19, to require the Department of Education to make an additional payment in fiscal year 2020 or 2021 to certain city, local, exempted village, and joint vocational school districts that experience a decrease in the taxable value of the district's utility tangible personal property and have at least one power plant in their territories, to permit a person to serve on more than five community school governing authorities under certain conditions, to extend until November 30, 2022, the moratorium on the building code requirement for storm shelters for school construction projects, to make changes regarding the Quality Community School Support Program, to provide an additional payment for fiscal year 2020 to school districts that experience a specified reduction in funding, to entitle the act the "Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019," to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency. Signed by the Governor (6/19/2020; Signed: June 19, 2020)
14. Current "backlog" of legislation:



Ohio Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

Bill	Status	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
HB123	Engross	Regards school security and youth suicide awareness/training	<u>2020-07-07</u> Reported - Substitute: Education
HB436	Engross	Regards screening and intervention for children with dyslexia	<u>2020-06-30</u> To Senate Education Committee
SB330	Intro	Establish new funding method-internet schools-dropout programs	<u>2020-06-24</u> To Senate Education Committee
HB164	Enroll	Regards student religious expression	<u>2020-06-11</u> Concurred in Senate amendments
HB684	Intro	Improve operation of primary and secondary schools	<u>2020-06-03</u> To House Primary and Secondary Education Committee
HB239	Engross	Reduce end-of-course assessments; require testing work groups	<u>2020-06-02</u> Introduced
HB371	Intro	Grant in-state tuition if receive high school equivalence in Ohio	<u>2020-05-13</u> Reported - Amended: Higher Education
SB40	Engross	Enact the Forming Open and Robust University Minds Act	<u>2020-05-12</u> To House Higher Education Committee



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Bill	Status	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
HB16	Enroll	Grant state college residency status to military and dependents	<u>2020-05-06</u> Recede from amendments
SB181	Engross	Create template for workforce-education partnership programs	<u>2020-05-05</u> To House Higher Education Committee
SB120	Pass	Conduct performance audits of state higher ed institutions	<u>2020-05-01</u> Effective 5/1/20 - Appropriations effective 01/31/20
SB7	Pass	Regards temporary occupational licensing for military	<u>2020-04-28</u> Effective 4/28/20
HB2	Pass	Create TechCred and Microcredential Assistance Programs	<u>2020-04-14</u> Effective 4/14/20 - Reappropriation authority effective January 13, 2020
HB4	Pass	Develop industry-recognized credential and certificate programs	<u>2020-04-14</u> Effective 4/14/20
SB89	Enroll	Regards career-technical ed and JVSD in enterprise zones	<u>2020-02-12</u> Insist on amendments; asks for committee of conference
SB26	Pass	Permit income tax deduction for certain teacher expenses	<u>2020-02-05</u> Effective 2/5/20



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Bill	Status	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
SB262	Intro	Pay school funding/state scholarships directly	<u>2020-02-05</u> To Senate Finance - Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee
SB34	Intro	Regards school employment, educator licensure, and conduct	<u>2020-02-04</u> Reported - Substitute: Education
HB9	Enroll	Regards student degree completion and general ed requirements	<u>2020-01-28</u> Insist on amendments; asks for committee of conference
HB410	Intro	Exempt post-secondary student textbooks from sales tax	<u>2019-11-18</u> To House Ways and Means Committee
HB321	Intro	Regards age-appropriate child sex abuse instruction	<u>2019-11-12</u> Re-referred: Primary and Secondary Education
HR266	Intro	Urge instituting mandatory four-year life skills program	<u>2019-11-12</u> Introduced and Referred to Committee: Primary and Secondary Education
SB200	Intro	Regards professional development for screening for dyslexia	<u>2019-10-09</u> To Senate Education Committee
HB322	Intro	Revise Ohio Teacher Residency Program	<u>2019-09-24</u> To House Primary and



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Bill	Status	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
			Secondary Education Committee
HB336	Intro	Reinstates the Joint Education Oversight Committee	2019-09-24 To House Primary and Secondary Education Committee
HB305	Intro	Create new school financing system	2019-06-30 To House Finance Committee
SB157	Intro	Regards notification of student absences	2019-06-19 To Senate Education Committee
HB281	Intro	Require designating high school valedictorians and salutatorians	2019-06-18 To House Primary and Secondary Education Committee
HB154	Engross	Dissolve and replace academic distress commissions	2019-05-15 To Senate Education Committee
SB121	Intro	Adopt health education standards/GA need only approve VD ed	2019-05-01 To Senate Education Committee
SB128	Intro	Change Educational Choice and Cleveland scholarship programs	2019-05-01 To Senate Finance Committee
HB165	Intro	Regards adoption of health education standards	2019-04-02 To House Primary and



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Bill	Status	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
			Secondary Education Committee
SB102	Intro	Establish Dyslexia Screen Program for schools	<u>2019-03-21</u> To Senate Education Committee
SB110	Intro	Modify operation of school academic distress commissions	<u>2019-03-21</u> To Senate Education Committee
HB132	Intro	Regards school immunization requirements/exemptions	<u>2019-03-19</u> To House Primary and Secondary Education Committee
HB121	Intro	Allow tax credit for teacher purchase of instructional materials	<u>2019-03-12</u> To House Primary and Secondary Education Committee
SB81	Intro	Prohibit use of seclusion in public schools	<u>2019-03-12</u> To Senate Education Committee
HB122	Intro	Create Opportunity Scholarship Program; eliminate pilot programs	<u>2019-03-12</u> To House Primary and Secondary Education Committee
SB69	Intro	Regards community college career programs-grants/credit	<u>2019-03-06</u> To Senate Higher Education Committee



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Bill	Status	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
HB90	Intro	Spread information to protect humanity of unborn child	<u>2019-03-05</u> To House Health Committee
HB88	Intro	Enact Forming Open and Robust University Minds Act	<u>2019-03-05</u> To House Civil Justice Committee