

Byers, Minton and Associates

This Week at the Statehouse

August 25, 2017

Around the Square

Senate Overrides Six Budget Vetoes

The Senate on Tuesday met and voted to concur with six of the eleven House budget vetoes sent over in July. Among those six were Controlling Board items and vetoes relating to the Medicaid program. The Medicaid MCO tax item is still pending, however this issue and others could be taken up later this year. Both the House and the Senate will be able to review Governor John Kasich's 47 veto items and override them at any time before December 2018. The Senate cannot vote on any items that are not passed by the House. This multiple-budget item override marks the first time the legislature has done this since 1977.

Rep Conditt to Resign

Representative Margaret Conditt of the 52nd House District announced she will be resigning on September 8th in order to spend more time with her family. Rep Conditt has been a member of the House since 2011 and played a key role in sponsoring the ABLE Act, which created tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities. House Republicans expect to seat her replacement by September 13th.

Bills Introduced to Lift Restaurant Dog Ban

Senator Bill Coley on Monday introduced Senate Bill 182, which will allow restaurant owners to allow dogs on their patios as long as they maintain all safety and sanitary requirements. This legislation mirrors House Bill 263, which Rep Laura Lanese introduced in June. Both pieces of legislation come in response to the Columbus Department of Health ruling earlier this year that dogs were not allowed to lounge on restaurant patios.

Roegner Announces Senate Bid

Rep Kristina Roegner announced her candidacy for the 27th Senate District, which is currently being occupied by term-limited Senator Frank LaRose. In her announcement, the term-limited Representative commented her priorities are the same from what she's currently serving. She wishes to help the business climate through regulatory reform, and focus on education.

Political News and Notes

Ohio Mayors Seek Opioid Crisis Center

The Ohio Mayors Alliance is urging Governor Kasich to establish an emergency operations center to combat the opioid crisis and to appoint an opioid czar. The group wishes this emergency operations center to be established in a similar manner of a center that would manifest during a disease outbreak. The group additionally sent letters to Senate President Larry Obhof, House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, and Attorney General Mike DeWine.

We encourage you to follow BMA (@ByersMinton) on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for continued updates throughout the week.