

**THIS WEEK  
AT THE  
STATEHOUSE**  
JULY 17, 2020



**CURRENT COVID STATS**

Ohio:

- 66,540 confirmed cases
- 9,324 hospitalizations
- 2,849 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 3.53 million cases
- 138,000 fatalities

World:

- 13.6 million cases
- 585,000 fatalities

**NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

Monday:

Tuesday: -Senate Session at 1:30 PM  
-Governor DeWine press conference at 2:00 PM

Wednesday:

Thursday:  
-Governor DeWine Press Conference at 2:00 PM  
-Weekly Unemployment Report

Friday:

**Gov. DeWine Urges Voluntary Mask Wearing**

This week as COVID-19 rates rose both nationally and within Ohio, Governor DeWine delivered a special evening address to the state on Wednesday night. In his speech, he underlined the seriousness of the growing rates of coronavirus in Ohio



and pleaded with Ohioans to voluntarily wear masks to protect themselves, to protect fellow Ohioans, and to ensure that businesses can remain open and that children can return to school in the fall. Currently, in Ohio 1,027 COVID patients are hospitalized, 316 are in intensive care, and 146 are on a ventilator. The governor specifically emphasized that if more Ohioans do not begin to wear face coverings and take as many preventative measures as possible, we are on a trajectory to seeing as many cases as Florida and Texas, which have seen up to 15,000 new cases in a single day in recent weeks. Additionally, their intensive care units are quickly hitting capacity. Ohio has seen upwards of 1,500 new cases per day in recent data, which is where Florida and Texas were just weeks ago. He further emphasized that while testing has gone up 87 percent, positive COVID cases have gone up by 200 percent. Note that no further mandates have been issued at this time.

**Unemployment Claims**

Last week, 35,422 Ohioans filed initial unemployment claims, marking a slight increase in claims to the week prior which saw 33,483 initial claims. Over the past seventeen weeks, more than \$5.2 billion in unemployment claims have been distributed to more than 747,000 claimants. Data just released today shows that in June the state's unemployment rate fell by three percent | June with 208,000 jobs gained in the state. That puts Ohio's jobless rate at 10.9 percent for June this year compared to 4.1 percent in June 2019. Nationally, the U.S. Department of Labor reported that 1.3

million initial claims were filed last week, which is roughly even with the week prior. The national unemployment rate for June was 11.1 percent, which represents a decreased jobless rate compared to May, which saw a jobless rate of 13.3 percent.

## **Introduced Bills**

**HB 724 – Day Designation:** To designate February 26th as "Dr. Amy Acton Day."

**HB 725 – Media Tax Credit:** To authorize a refundable income tax credit for investing in a sound recording production company

**HB 726 – Athletic Activities:** To establish requirements for organizing youth athletic activities during outbreaks of contagious disease or illness and to declare an emergency.

**HB 727 – CMH Expansion:** To expand eligibility for the Program for Medically Handicapped Children to individuals up to age 26.

**HB 728 – Road Naming:** To designate a portion of State Route 184 in Lucas County as the "Officer Anthony Dia Memorial Highway."

**HB 729 – Pride Month:** To designate the month of June as "Pride Month."

**SB 337 – Police Investigation:** To establish the duties and authority of the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute cases relating to the death of a person caused by a peace officer.

**SB 338 – Police Profiling:** To prohibit police officers from engaging in biased policing and other status-based profiling, and to require the attorney general's office to establish rules regarding such police practices.

**SB 339 – Road Naming:** To designate a portion of State Route 184 in Lucas County as the "Officer Anthony Dia Memorial Highway."