

**THIS WEEK  
AT THE  
STATEHOUSE**  
OCTOBER 30, 2020



**CURRENT COVID STATS**

Ohio:

- 200,609 confirmed cases
- 18,969 hospitalizations
- 4,979 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 8.92 million cases
- 228,100 fatalities

World:

- 44.89 million cases
- 1.18 million fatalities

**NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

**Controlling Board Approves More than \$500M in Aid**

On Monday, members of the Controlling Board approved \$429.5 million in state CARES Act dollars, as well as nearly \$100 million more to go toward COVID-19 testing and other pandemic response related agency requests. For the full breakdown of funding breakdown, you can visit review the [Governor's press release](#). For applications for miscellaneous grants, visit <https://businesshelp.ohio.gov>.

**Two Plead Guilty to HB 6 Racketeering Charge**

On Thursday, US District Court Judge Black accepted guilty pleas from Juan Cespedes and Jeffrey Longstreth on one count each of racketeer influence and corrupt organization conspiracy. For both cases, the judge has held off on beginning the sentencing process, citing a desire to wait until the case was closer to resolution.

**JMOC Fills Director Position**

On Tuesday, the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee officially hired a new executive director after two years without. Jada Brady will be stepping into the position after serving as the former director of the Ohio Liquor Control Commission. In addition to filling this role, Optumas was appointed as the actuary to present a report on the per-member, per-month growth rate.

**Additional Details Released Regarding State Vaccine Plan**

After submitting the state's Vaccine Plan to the CDC last week, more details have been released regarding how Ohio will handle coronavirus vaccines once they become available. You can view the draft plan [here](#). Interim Health Director Lance Himes has stated that it is a living document that will be updated as new information becomes available. Participation in the COVID-19 vaccination program is optional, for Ohioans and medical practices alike.

## **Introduced Bills**

**HB 777 – Alcohol Sales (Lang, G., Perales, R.)** - To reinstate the authorized hours of operation for liquor permit premises that existed prior to the state of emergency declared in response to COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.

**HB 778 - Electronic Monitoring (Rogers, J., Patterson, J.)** - To allow a court to order electronic monitoring of a person who violates a protection order.

**HB 779 - Pharmacy Benefits (Clites, R., Miranda, J.)** - Regarding pharmacy benefit managers.

**HB 780 - Bridge Naming (Romanchuk, M., Jones, D.)** - To designate a bridge along State Route 7 in Marietta as the "Andy Thompson Memorial Bridge."

**HB 781 - Truck Equipment (Patton, T.)** - To require certain trucks to be equipped with an audible alarm that sounds upon raising the truck bed, and to name the act the "Daniel Ripepi Act."

**HB 782 - Campaign Tax Credit (Brinkman, T.)** - To authorize an income tax credit for a taxpayer's campaign contributions to candidates running for statewide office, the State Board of Education, or the Ohio General Assembly.

**HB 783 - Election Intimidation (Miller, A.)** - To prohibit any person from intimidating, threatening, or coercing a person for the purpose of interfering with that person's right to vote in an election.