

# THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE NOVEMBER 20, 2020



## CURRENT COVID STATS

### Ohio:

- 318, 151 confirmed cases
- 23, 958 hospitalizations
- 5, 578 confirmed fatalities

### United States:

- 11.65 million cases
- 251, 715 fatalities

### World:

- 56.62 million cases
- 1.36 million fatalities

## NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

## PUCO Chair Submits Resignation

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Chair Sam Randazzo submitted his letter of resignation to Governor Mike DeWine. Mr. Randazzo's resignation follows reports of FBI agents searching his home and seizing materials as a part of an investigation related to House Bill 6.

## 21-Day Statewide Curfew Takes Effect

On Thursday of this week, the state health order of a mandatory 10 pm to 5 am curfew took effect, lasting for 21 days. The Department of Health also issued an order regarding mass gatherings, that can be found [here](#). At this time, the Department of Health has opted to not shut down bars, restaurants, and fitness centers, and reports that the new Retail Compliance Unit has observed over 90% compliance to mask mandates in the past week.

## EdChoice Expansion Bill Heads to Governor

The House adopted the conference committee report on SB 89 by a close vote of 59-31 on Thursday, which lawmakers say is an example of months of collaborative work. The language in the bill reduced the EdChoice list from an original 1,200 school buildings to 469, and will head to the Governor's desks for signature soon.

## House GOP Leadership Team Announced

Following an informal vote on Wednesday, the House Republicans have announced the Speaker Bob Cupp will be retained, and have approved his leadership team. The following appointments will become final after a formal vote during opening day of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly: Rep.

Tim Ginter (R-Salem) as speaker pro tempore, Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) retaining his post as majority floor leader, Rep. Rick Carfagna (R-Genoa Twp.) as assistant majority floor leader, Rep. Don Jones (R-Freeport) as majority whip, and Rep. Cindy Abrams (R-Harrison) as assistant majority whip.

## Health Order Oversight Bill Sent to Governor

SB 311, which restricts emergency orders by the Department of Health, passed both the House and Senate this week. It is now sent to Governor DeWine, who said he will veto the bill if it reaches his desk.

## **Introduced Bills**

**HB 788- Stroke Protocols (Greenspan, D.):** Regarding emergency medical services and stroke patient protocols.

**HB 789 - Remote Meetings (Miller, J.):** To extend the temporary authority for public bodies to meet via electronic technology and to declare an emergency.

**HB 790 - VD Instruction (Hood, R.):** To enforce school district compliance with venereal disease instruction requirements.

**HB 791 - Public Meetings (Cutrona, A., Ginter, T.):** To extend the authorization for members of a public body to hold and attend meetings or hearings via electronic technology, during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D on March 9, 2020, until the declared emergency is terminated, and to declare an emergency.

**HB 792 - Long-Term Care Residents (Clites, R., Fraizer, M.):** Regarding the transfer and discharge of persons residing in long-term care facilities.

**SB 383 - Firearm Laws (Johnson, T.):** To enact the Ohio Duty to Retreat Act providing an expansion of the locations at which a person has no duty to retreat before using force under both civil and criminal law.

**SB 384 - PTSD Coverage (Hackett, B.):** Concerning compensation, medical benefits, and disability retirement for peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder arising from employment without an accompanying physical injury.

**SB 385 - Arts Grants (Yuko, K., Rulli, M.):** To authorize grants for operators of performing arts venues, producers of performing arts, and promoters of performing artists, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

**SB 386 - State Cookie (Thomas, C.):** To designate the sugar cookie as the official cookie of Ohio