

**THIS WEEK
AT THE
STATEHOUSE**
DECEMBER 18, 2020



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 542,686 confirmed cases
- 33,745 hospitalizations
- 7,241 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 16.76 million cases
- 306,427 fatalities

World:

- 73.28 million cases
- 1.65 million fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

- Senate Session (1:30 pm, if needed)

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Vaccinations Begin in Ohio

On Monday, Ohio received its first batches of vaccinations at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, where the first vaccines were administered to healthcare workers. On December 18th, Ohio was among the first in the nation to administer the vaccine to those living and working in nursing homes as part of an early scaling up of the federal program through the CDC. A vaccination portal dashboard was also unveiled, which can be found [here](#).

Funding Amendments Added to Capital Bill

A number of amendments were added to SB 310, the bond-backed facility spending measure, late Thursday. The \$2.1 billion capital bill adopted a number of changes, including (but not limited to) a Medicaid fund shift, local matches for additional federal money for county developmental disability services, appropriating funds for school funding studies, creation and expansions of a number of programs, and ensuring that the emergency clause applies to the entire report. Additional information on the fiscal notes of this bill can be found [here](#).

House Advances Elimination of 'Duty to Retreat' Language

Late Thursday evening, the House voted 52-30 to eliminate the duty to retreat language through a contested floor amendment that was added into SB 175, which later passed 52-31 after debate was closed. This bill now heads to the Senate, who must concur with changes before the bill is sent to the Governor. Governor DeWine has said that this bill should be accompanied by his STRONG Ohio gun proposal, details of which can be found [here](#).

ODP Chair Candidates Declared

Six individuals have officially declared their intentions to pursue the Chair position of the Ohio Democratic Party, following the ODP's Monday deadline. These individuals are: Antionette Wilson, Lou Gentile, Liz Walters, Vanessa Enoch, Will Klatt, and Gary Josephson.

Introduced Bills

HB 804 – Constitutional Rights (Grendell): To provide for a writ of mandamus or prohibition to enforce a person's constitutional right against a chief administrative officer or elected executive official whose duty is to uphold the Ohio and United States Constitutions.

HB 805 – Liquor Permits (Miller, Carruthers): To exempt specified liquor permit holders from the requirement to renew their permits in calendar year 2021 and to declare an emergency.