

Byers, Minton and Associates

This Week at the Statehouse

January 12, 2018

Around the Square

Redistricting Plan Announced

Republicans on Wednesday presented an initial proposal for the congressional redistricting plan, drawing disapproval from both Democrats and coalition groups. Senator Matt Huffman, a member of the congressional redistricting workgroup, presented to the Senate and House government oversight committees that a joint resolution will likely need to clear the Senate by January 24th and the House February 7th to ensure enactment by the May 8th ballot. The four member working group has not officially introduced a plan as negotiations are still underway for a bipartisan effort.

Two Vacancies Filled

The House Republican screening panel has selected former Rep Jim Hoops and Riordan McClain to fill the vacancies left by Senator Rob McColley and former Rep Wes Goodman. Hoops, associate vice president for Strategic Initiatives at Northwest State Community College, had previously served in the House from 1999-2006 and will represent the 81st District. McClain, the son of former Rep Jeff McClain, will represent the 87th District. He is currently the director of Finance and Customer Service at Doc Investments LLC. Both are expected to be sworn in after the House's voting session on January 17th.

Political News and Notes

Statewide Race Update

Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Richard Cordray announced he and Betty Sutton will be running a joint campaign for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, respectively. This narrows the democratic field slightly, although it is expected former Congressman Dennis Kucinich will officially announce his candidacy for governor next week. Ohio Supreme Court Justice Bill O'Neill also announced a running mate this week in Chantelle E. Lewis, a principal in the Lorain City School District. Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley is expected to drop out of the race officially, with Connie Pillich and Senator Joe Schiavoni still vying for the Democratic nomination.

On the Republican side, Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor named Nathan Estruth, president and CEO of Hamilton-based materials company iMFLUX and former executive for Proctor & Gamble, as her running mate. U.S. Rep Jim Renacci announced he is officially withdrawing as a candidate for governor, and instead will be running for the U.S. Senate after a nudge from the White House. This follows State Treasurer Josh Mandel dropping out of the race, leaving businessman Mike Gibbons for the nomination. Author J.D. Vance is speculated to be considering a run, however nothing has been announced.

Governor John Kasich has also set the special election for U.S. Rep Pat Tiberi's seat for primary election on May 8th and the general election on August 7th.

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