

THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE

JUNE 5, 2020



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 34,639 confirmed cases
- 6,312 hospitalizations
- 2,117 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 1.91 million cases
- 110,000 fatalities

World:

- 6.42 million cases
- 383,000 fatalities

Monday:

Tuesday:

-House Session at 1:00 pm

Wednesday:

-House Session at 1:00 pm
-Senate Session at 1:30 pm

Thursday:

-House Session at 1:00 pm
-Weekly Unemployment Report

Friday:

Gov. DeWine Announces Additional Re-openings



This week, as part of the “Responsible RestartOhio” plan, Governor DeWine announced that several facilities will be able to open on Wednesday, June 10. All of the following will be permitted to reopen, with a number of protocols: aquariums, art galleries, country clubs, ice skating rinks, indoor family entertainment centers, indoor sports facilities, laser tag facilities, indoor movie theaters, museums, outdoor playgrounds, public recreation centers, roller skating rinks, social clubs, trampoline parks, and zoos. See further details [here](#).

Ohio Legislative Update

This week the Ohio House and Senate passed a number of crucial pieces of legislation. Notably, the Ohio Senate passed Senate Bill 308, which provides civil immunity to businesses throughout the COVID-19 crisis. The bill, which included an emergency measure, passed by a vote of 24 – 9. The House previously passed a civil immunity bill, House Bill 606. It has yet to be decided which piece of legislation will ultimately be the piece that both chambers pass and send to the Governor for consideration.

Additionally, this week the Ohio House passed Senate Bill 310, which distributes some of the federal coronavirus relief funding that was allocated in the CARES Act. The bill, which passed by a vote of 87 – 8 and includes an emergency clause, includes \$1.28 billion in capital reappropriations and local government funding. Prior to passing the legislation, the House loaded the measure with a number of provisions, many of which focused on local governments. Due to the number of amendments Speaker Householder has already stated that he expects the Senate will not concur, forcing the two chambers into conference committee to hammer out the details.

Unemployment Claims

Last week, 34,575 Ohioans filed initial unemployment claims, marking the fifth consecutive week that claims have decreased. Over the past eleven weeks, nearly 1.3 million Ohioans filed initial unemployment claims. Nationally, 1.9 million Americans filed initial unemployment claims in the last week, with 42.6 million Americans having filed for unemployment in the last 11 weeks.

Introduced Bills

HB 683 – School Scholarships: To establish scholarships for children of full-time United States military service members to attend chartered nonpublic schools and to make an appropriation.

HB 684 – Academic Content: To revise the law with regard to the state academic content standards and primary and secondary education assessments and teacher evaluations, to create the Legislative Office of Education Oversight, and to make other changes regarding the operation of primary and secondary schools.

HB 685 – Child Care: Regarding eligibility for publicly funded child care.

HB 686 – School Requirements: To waive state testing requirements for the 2020-2021 school year, to provide exemptions from state report cards and other provisions related to test results, and to declare an emergency.

HB 687 – Election Laws: To make changes to the Election Law.

HB 688 – License Plates: To create the "Fairfield Senior High School," "Ross High School," and "Hamilton High School" license plates.

HB 689 – Road Naming: To designate a portion of State Route 158 in Fairfield County as the "SGT Joseph P. Collette Memorial Highway."

HB 690 – Impact Statements: To require the Director of the Legislative Service Commission to prepare a human impact statement concerning a bill or resolution that proposes to amend criminal justice law.

HCR 31 – Racism: To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.

SB 319 – Education Laws: To make changes to education law for the 2020-2021 school year in response to implications of COVID-19, to require the Department of Education to make an additional payment in fiscal year 2020 or 2021 to certain school districts that experience a decrease in the taxable value of the district's utility tangible personal property, to permit furloughing of certain school employees through June 30, 2021, and to declare an emergency.

SCR 14 – Racism: To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.