

THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE AUGUST 7, 2020



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 93,402 confirmed cases
- 11,447 hospitalizations
- 3,381 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 4.96 million cases
- 162,000 fatalities

World:

- 19 million cases
- 712,000 fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

-Governor DeWine Press Conference

Wednesday:

Thursday:

-Governor DeWine Press Conference
-Weekly Unemployment Report

Friday:

Legislative Priorities

As the new administration of Speaker Cupp begins to take shape, the House, as well as the Senate, has outlined a few legislative priorities for the remainder of the General Assembly. In the past few weeks, the House has introduced two separate bills to repeal House Bill 6. The Senate has also released a bipartisan repeal proposal in response to the scandal surrounding the original energy bill. In addition, both chambers have introduced campaign finance reform measures. The DeWine administration continues to prioritize immunity for businesses and schools throughout the pandemic at the state and federal level. On the anniversary of the Dayton tragedy this week, the Governor also called on the legislature to act on his proposal to curb gun violence.

School Reopening Preparation

This Tuesday, Governor DeWine provided additional guidance for schools as they prepare to reopen for the fall. Original recommendations made by the administration stated that children in grades 3 – 12 should wear face masks when attending school. However, the Governor announced that facial coverings will now be mandatory for all K-12 students to reduce the spread of the disease. There are several exceptions to this rule, including children with severe autism, developmental delays, and facial deformities that could hinder breathing. The Lt. Governor also announced the administration is working with the Ohio High School Athletics Association to finalize plans for return to play.



Householder Arraignment

Rep. Householder was scheduled to appear in federal district court this Thursday for arraignment but was granted a motion to delay the hearing as he seeks new legal counsel. Four of the co-defendants also involved in the scandal were arraigned as scheduled this week, each entering pleas of “not guilty”. Householder was granted two weeks to find representation before appearing in court.

Introduced Bills

HB 742: Day Designation - To designate February 21 as "John Lewis Voter Registration Day" and to require the boards of elections to promote that day to encourage voter registration.

HB 743: Month Designation - To designate the month of August as "Black Philanthropy Month."

HB 744: Rental Assistance - To enact the Eviction Crisis Response Act to create the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

HB 745: Liquor Permits - To extend the renewal time period for A-1-A and class D liquor permits.

HB 746: Energy Repeal - To repeal the changes made by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to the laws governing electric service, renewable energy, and energy efficiency and the changes made to other related laws.

SB 348: Health Orders - To prohibit local boards of health from using certain threatening words in notifications to the public, to allow local boards of health to reject Department of Health orders during an emergency, to allow health care professionals who serve on a board of health to receive continuing education credit, and to change the makeup of local boards of health.

SB 349: Campaign Finance - To modify the campaign finance law, to name this act the Ohio Anti-Corruption Act, and to amend the versions of sections 3517.10, 3517.105, and 3517.106 of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect January 1, 2021, to continue the provisions of this act on and after that effective date.

SCR 17: Campaign Finance - To urge Congress to pass legislation requiring corporations and labor organizations that make political expenditures to disclose the identities of their donors.

SB 350: School Transportation - To prohibit school districts from providing vouchers for public transportation to students enrolled in grades kindergarten through eight for the 2020-2021 school year.