

THIS WEEK
AT THE
STATEHOUSE
OCTOBER 2, 2020



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 147,797 confirmed cases
- 15,688 hospitalizations
- 4,597 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 7.26 million cases
- 207,302 fatalities

World:

- 34.16 million cases
- 1.02 fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

**Currently, there are no legislative events scheduled for the week of October 5-9

Medicaid Releases Managed Care Contract Applications

At Tuesday's press conference, Governor DeWine announced that the Department of Medicaid will release an application for managed care contracts in Ohio, marking the most significant overhaul of the system in a decade with an emphasis on improving wellness outcomes, personalizing care, and allowing providers more time with patients. Additionally, the Ohio RISE proposal was announced, which will feature an additional application this fall focusing on children with complex behavioral needs.

Jobless Claims on the Rise

Initial applications for unemployment compensation rose again for the second week in a row, with Ohioans filing 17,944 jobless claims for the week ending September 26. The previous week, ending September 19, marked the first time since mid-August that the state had shown an increase in initial applications. Overall, continued jobless claims are down nearly 175,000 from the state's peak.

Controlling Board Approves Mental Health Funds

\$31 million in federal CARES Act funds were approved by the Controlling Board to be spent across the departments of Mental Health and Addiction services, Higher Education, and Education to address behavioral health issues driven by the pandemic. \$10 million is to go to OhioMHAS for community efforts, while the remaining funds are to target K-12 and higher education. ODE is set to receive \$6 million to support the capacity of five educational service centers to serve as resource hubs.

Introduced Bills

HB 766 – License Plate: To create "The Ohio Aerospace Institute" license plate.

HB 767 – School Absences: To specify that a child's absence due to a chronic medical condition that is acknowledged by the child's individualized education program or 504 plan is a medical excuse for purposes of absence intervention requirements.

HB 768 – Day Designation: To designate November 23rd as "Women and Girls in STEM Day."

HB 769 – Road Naming: To designate a portion of U.S. Route 50 in Hamilton County as the "Deputy Sheriff Emil Kleinwaechter Memorial Highway."

HB 770 – Essential Caregivers: To permit essential caregivers to enter long-term care facilities to provide care and support to a facility resident during the COVID-19 state of emergency, to establish criteria for those visits, and to declare an emergency.

HB 771 – Unemployment Overpayments: To prohibit the collection of certain unemployment benefit overpayments during the COVID-19 state of emergency and to declare an emergency.

HB 772 – Energy Laws: To make changes regarding electric utility service law, to repeal certain provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly, and to declare an emergency.

SB 371 – License Plate: To create the "Little Brown Jug" license plate.

SB 372 – Holocaust Commission: To create the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial and Education Commission and to make an appropriation.

SR 558 – Fist Bump: Encouraging Ohioans to replace the handshake with the fist bump.

SR 559 – Personal Hygiene: Recognizing the importance of good hygiene practices for reducing the spread of influenza.