

THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE DECEMBER 4, 2020



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 422,848 confirmed cases
- 28,281 hospitalizations
- 6,304 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 13.82 million cases
- 272,525 fatalities

World:

- 64.35 million cases
- 1.49 million fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

- House Session (1:00 pm)

Wednesday:

- House Session (1:00 pm)
- Senate Session (1:30 pm)

Thursday:

- Senate Session (11:00 am)
- House Aging and Long-Term
Care Committee (11:00 am)
- House Session (1:00 pm)

Friday:

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman Steps Down

On Monday, Chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party David Pepper announced that he will step down from the role he has occupied since January of 2015 at the end of the year. The ODP's executive committee is set to meet December 15th to allow declared candidates to address the party, and a final meeting will be held late to vote on the new chair.

Governor Vetoes Bill Limiting Health Order Authority

Governor Mike DeWine vetoed [SB 311](#) on Thursday, a bill that was intended to limit the state's quarantine authority. The bill passed both chambers with margins that could allow for a three-fifths supermajority for an override. At this time, Senate President Obhof said he is not certain if the override will be pursued.

HB 6 Provision Delay Bill Hearing

In the ongoing efforts to address HB 6 nuclear subsidies, Rep. James Hoops sponsored HB 798, a bill that plans to delay subsidies by a year. The bill was heard in the House Select Committee on Energy Policy and Oversight, where Rep. Hoops characterized the bill as a stopgap measure to give policymakers more time and information to analyze the necessity of the subsidies after the first audit report and recommendations are received. The full text of the bill can be found [here](#).

AG Dave Yost Calls for CARES Funding Extension

A coalition of 43 Attorney Generals, led by Ohio AG Dave Yost and Iowa AG Tom Miller, wrote to Congress to request that the use of CARES Act Funding be authorized until the end of 2021, extending the current Dec. 30 deadline by a substantial margin.

School Funding Overhaul Passes House

HB 305 passed the house on Thursday 84-8. The proposal redesigns how primary and secondary education is funded, using a mix of property and income wealth to determine the capacity of communities to fund local education. The bill now heads to the Senate.

Introduced Bills

HB 789 – Nuclear Subsidies (Hoops): To delay for one year the charges and payments for nuclear resource and renewable energy credits, and revise certain other laws, enacted by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly, to amend Power Siting Board law and other electric utility law, to prohibit certain restrictions on solar energy systems, and to declare an emergency.

HB 799 – Face Masks (Reineke, Lang): To terminate certain provisions of the "Director's Order for Retail and Business Compliance for Facial Coverings throughout the State of Ohio," issued on November 13, 2020, and to declare an emergency.

SB 387 – Face Masks (Burke): To terminate certain provisions of the "Director's Order for Retail and Business Compliance for Facial Coverings throughout the State of Ohio," issued on November 13, 2020, and to declare an emergency.

SB 388 – Substitute Teachers (Huffman): To provide for discretion to school districts regarding educational requirements of substitute teachers for the 2020-2021 school year and to declare an emergency.