

# THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE MARCH 12, 2021



## CURRENT COVID STATS

### Ohio:

- 840,382 confirmed cases
- 51,323 hospitalizations
- 17,825 confirmed fatalities

### United States:

- 29.05 million cases
- 527,726 fatalities

### World:

- 118.06 million cases
- 2.62 million fatalities

## Health Order Oversight Bill Passes

Legislators in both chambers passed the expanded version of SB 22, which would allow lawmakers to rescind any order or rule issued in response to a state emergency by concurrent resolution on the day the emergency is declared. The bill also now applies to orders issued by statewide elected officers, administrative departments, and state agencies. Governor Mike DeWine plans to veto the measure. At this time, House Speaker Bob Cupp and Senate President Matt Huffman have expressed that they feel confident they have the votes to support a veto override.

## NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

### Monday:

### Tuesday:

- Senate Local Gov and Elections (10:30 am)
- House Health (11:00 am)
- House Transportation and Public Safety (11:00 am)
- Senate Primary and Secondary Education (3:00 pm)
- House Primary and Secondary Education (3:45 pm)

### Wednesday:

- Senate Transportation (9:00 am)
- Senate Health (9:30 am)
- Senate Small Business and Economic Opportunity (10:00 am)
- Senate Government Oversight and Reform (10:45 am)
- House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs (11:00 am)
- House Session (1:00 pm)
- Senate Session (1:30 pm)
- Senate Select Committee on Gaming (4:00 pm)

### Thursday:

- Senate Transportation (10:00 am)
- House Families, Aging, and Human Services (11:00 am)

### Friday:

## Ohio School Report Card Overhaul

During a press conference held on Wednesday, Representative Don Jones (R – Freeport) and Representative Phillip Robinson (D – Solon) announced the introduction of legislation to end the current use of letter grades to evaluate districts in the annual Ohio School Report Cards. In the place of letter grades, the measure would establish six labels: significantly exceeds expectations, exceeds expectations, meets expectations, significantly approaching expectations, moderately approaching expectations, and in need of support. The measure, HB 200, would require the State Board of Education to establish criteria for the labels, and would eliminate overall grades for schools and districts. This proposal is supported by the Ohio School Boards Association, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. It will receive its first hearing in House Primary and Secondary Education on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

## AG Yost Suit Alleges Medicaid Plan, PBM Overcharged

Attorney General Dave Yost filed a lawsuit against one of Ohio's five Medicaid managed care plans, claiming that Centene and its subsidiary, Buckeye Health Plan, used subcontractors for the provision of pharmacy benefits to misrepresent pharmacy costs, resulting in millions of dollars in overpayments by the Department of Medicaid. The company denied all claims.

## **Bill Introductions**

HB 184 - OPF Disability (Carfagna, R.): To revise Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund disability determination procedures.

HB 185 - Month Designation (Sweeney, B.): To designate March as "Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month."

HB 186 - Home Purchases (Swearingen, D., Wilkin, S.): To enact the First-time Home Buyer Savings Act, authorizing income tax deductions for contributions to and earnings on savings accounts designated for the purchase of a home.

HB 187 - Earning Statements (Kelly, B., Lipps, S.): To require an employer to provide earnings and deductions statements to each of the employer's employees.

HB 188 - Organ Donation (Lampton, B., Cross, J.): To prohibit insurers from discriminating against living organ donors.

HB 189 - Insurance Coverage (Young, B.): To require health plan issuers and the Medicaid program to cover treatments and services related to Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome

HB 190 - War Relics (Ginter, T., Miller, A.): To prohibit a war relic located on public property or cemetery association property from being sold, disturbed, or otherwise disposed of, except under certain circumstances, and to designate this act as the "Ohio Veterans' Heritage Protection Act."

HB 191 - Bridge Naming (Cutrona, A.): To designate a bridge along State Route 164 in Mahoning County as the "Don Manning Memorial Bridge."

HB 192 - Energy Generation (Cutrona, A.): To prohibit counties, townships, and municipal corporations from prohibiting energy generation from fossil fuels and gas pipelines.

HB 193 - Electronic Prescriptions (Cutrona, A., Pavliga, G.): Regarding electronic prescriptions and schedule II controlled substances.

HB 194 - Freight Crews (Sheehy, M., Lepore-Hagan, M.): Regarding two-person freight train crews.

HB 195 - Rail Yards (Sheehy, M., Lepore-Hagan, M.): Regards rail yard walkway safety and illumination and public roadway obstruction that delays emergency vehicles.

HB 196 - Surgical Assistants (Kelly, B., Carruthers, S.): Regulate the practice of surgical assistants.

HB 197 - Income Tax (Stoltzfus, R., Creech, R.): To authorize an income tax credit for an employer's expenses to train a commercial vehicle operator.

HB 198 - Surgical Assistants (Kelly, B., Carruthers, S.): To regulate the practice of surgical assistants.

HB 199 - Sexual Assault (Boggs, K., Russo, A.): To remove the cap on damages for noneconomic loss when a victim of rape or assault brings a tort action.

HB 200 - Education System (Jones, D., Robinson, P.): To revise the state report card and school accountability systems.

HB 201 - Natural Gas (Stephens, J.): To prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas.

HB 202 - Facial Coverings (Powell, J.): To void the order of the Interim Director of Health requiring the use of facial coverings throughout the state and prohibit the Governor or other administrative department heads from requiring the use of facial coverings without approval by the General Assembly.

HB 203 - Occupational Licenses (Powell, J.): To require an occupational licensing authority to issue a license or government certification to an applicant who holds a license, government certification, or private certification or has satisfactory work experience in another state under certain circumstances and to amend the version of section 3319.22 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on April 12, 2023, to continue the changes on and after that date.

HB 204 - Road Designation (Click, G.): To designate a portion of U.S. Route 20, in Sandusky County, as "Charles Woodson Way."

HB 205 - Hazing Policy (Ghanbari, H., Sheehy, M.): To enact Collin's Law: The "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at schools and colleges.

HB 206 - Traffic Offenses (Ghanbari, H., O'Brien, M.): To permit a township police officer who serves a population between 5,000 and 50,000 to enforce specified traffic offenses on interstate highways within the township if authorized by that township's board of trustees.

SB 117 - Energy Law (Romanchuk, M., Craig, H.): To repeal the legacy generation resource provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly and provide customers refunds.

SB 118 - Utilities Credit (Romanchuk, M.): To repeal the renewable resource credit payment provisions enacted under H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.

SB 119 - Discrimination (Antonio, N., Rulli, M.): To enact the Ohio Fairness Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, to add mediation as an informal method that the Ohio Civil Rights Commission may use, and to uphold existing religious exemptions under Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

SB 120 - Income Tax (Fedor, T., Manning, N.): To increase the personal income tax deduction for qualified educator expenses.

SB 121 - Month Designation (Maharath, T.): To designate the last week of September as "Diaper Need Awareness Week."

SB 122 - Campaign Funds (Maharath, T.): To allow a candidate to use campaign funds to pay certain child care costs.

SB 123 - Abortion (Roegner, K., O'Brien, S.): To enact the Human Life Protection Act to prohibit abortions based upon a condition precedent.

SB 124 - Income Tax (Hoagland, F.): To authorize a refundable income tax credit for donations of cash, property, or services to townships.

SB 125 - Month Designation (Kunze, S., Maharath, T.): To enact the Save Our Mothers Act regarding birth equity, peripartum racial and ethnic disparities, and implicit bias in the health care system and to designate May as "Maternal Mortality Awareness Month."

SB 126 - Hazing (Kunze, S., Gavarone, T.): To enact Collin's Law: The Ohio Anti-Hazing Act with regard to hazing policies at colleges and criminal prohibitions against hazing.

SB 127 - Natural Gas (Lang, G., Rulli, M.): To prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas.

SB 128 - Farm Management (Peterson, B.): With regard to the Ohio State University's Farm Financial Management Institute and to make an appropriation.

SR 21 - Unemployment Assistance (Reineke, B., Hackett, B.): Regarding Pandemic Unemployment Assistance claims.