

# THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE APRIL 16, 2021



## CURRENT COVID STATS

### Ohio:

- 863,980 confirmed cases
- 53,169 hospitalizations
- 18,611 confirmed fatalities

### United States:

- 30.28 million cases
- 549,098 fatalities

### World:

- 128.54 million cases
- 2.81 million fatalities

## NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

### Monday:

### Tuesday:

- House Ag and Conservation (9 am)
- Senate Primary and Secondary Education (9 am)
- House Health (11 am)
- House Civil Justice (3 pm)
- House Primary and Secondary Education (4 pm)

### Wednesday:

- Senate General Government Budget (10 am)
- House Session (1 pm)
- Senate Session (1:30 pm)
- Senate Workforce and Higher Education (3 pm)
- Senate Primary and Secondary Education (4 pm)

### Thursday:

- House Behavioral Health and Recovery Supports (10 am)
- House Session (1 pm)
- Senate Primary and Secondary Education (1 pm)

### Friday:

## Budget Update

On Tuesday morning, the House's substitute version of HB 110, the FY 2022-2023 budget was unveiled and accepted in committee, with a number of changes to the original introduced version. Changes include cutting the personal income tax, changes to school funding, and a number of allocations for COVID-19 relief. The House version totals \$74.67 billion in spending in the biennium from the General Revenue Fund, and totals \$162.57 billion across all funds. This represents an increase of \$706.6 million from Governor Mike DeWine's proposed budget. The budget has received 11 hearings in the House Finance committee, and began the process of informal hearing in the Senate Finance committee this week. The bill will also receive informal hearing in Senate Primary and Secondary Education committee next week. Transcripts of testimony given in the House Finance committee can be found [here](#). Transcripts of testimony from Senate Finance committee can be found [here](#).

## Johnson & Johnson Vaccination Pause

Due to concerns over rare blood-clotting from the Johnson & Johnson vaccination, Ohio has followed recommendations from the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for a pause in using the vaccine. The state continues to encourage Ohioans to get vaccinated using the Pfizer and Moderna brands. CDC and FDA officials said that the pause will likely be brief, and will allow experts to review the situation fully.

## Pandemic Relief Bills

On Thursday, the House advanced more than \$2 billion in aid to help schools, businesses, and renters in Ohio. The first measure, HB 167, provides \$465 million to DSA to assist with rental and utility expenses. HB 168 provides funds to local fairs, veterans homes and child care centers, entertainment venues and more. HB 169 provides \$125 million in assistance for bars, restaurants, and lodging businesses. HB 170 includes \$857 million for schools.

## **Bill Introductions**

SB 154 - School Zones (Maharath, T.): To establish signage requirements for indicating school zones for speed limit purposes, and to make an appropriation.

SB 155 - Seclusion Prohibition (Maharath, T.): To prohibit the use of seclusion in public schools.

SB 156 - Knife Regulation (Roegner, K.): Regards the regulation of knives.

SB 157 - Abortion (Johnson, T., Huffman, S.): To require reports to be made after a child is born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion and to establish certain civil or criminal penalties for failing to preserve the health or life of such a child.

SB 158 - Eviction Cases (Craig, H., Kunze, S.): To expungement of eviction case court files.

SB 159 - Property Tax Relief (Craig, H.): To reduce property taxes on qualifying owner-occupied homes to the extent that property taxes increase by more than 5% from the previous year and to name this act the Property Tax Relief and Local Government Support Act.

SB 160 - Veteran Benefits (O'Brien, S.)

To require certain entities to inform veterans about available health care benefits and to name this act the Veteran Information Act.

SB 161 - Surgical Smoke (Brenner, A.): Regards surgical smoke.

SB 162 - Ohio Turnpike (Reineke, B.): To expand the authority of the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission regarding evasion of tolls on the Ohio turnpike and disclosure of personal information

SB 163 - Highway Designation (Romanchuk, M.): To designate a portion of State Route 13 in Richland County as the "PFC Steven D. Smith Memorial Highway."

SB 164 - Animal Cruelty (Hottinger, J., Yuko, K.): To revise the law and penalties associated with companion animal cruelty and to prohibit the destruction of a domestic animal by the use of a gas chamber.

SB 165 - Academic Distress Commissions (Manning, N.): To modify the operation of academic distress commissions in certain school districts and to declare an emergency.

HB 249 - Income Tax Credit (Powell, J., McClain, R.): To authorize a nonrefundable income tax credit for contributions to certain charitable organizations.

HB 250 - Highway Designation (Bird, A.): To designate a portion of State Route 32 in Clermont County as the "Deputy Bill Brewer Memorial Highway."

HB 251 - Indoor Mold (Miller, J., Russo, A.): To require the Director of Health to establish an indoor mold program.

HB 252 - Audiology/Speech Compact (White, A., Plummer, P.): To enter into the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact.

HB 253 - COVID-19 Vaccinations (Cutrona, A.): Regards proof of COVID-19 vaccinations.

HB 254 - Domestic Violence (Boggs, K., Abrams, C.): To provide for the establishment of domestic violence fatality review boards and to amend the versions of sections 121.22 and 4731.22 of the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect on October 9, 2021, to continue the changes to those sections on and after that date.

HB 255 - Public Notices (Lipps, S.): To permit the second publication of a county delinquent property tax list to be made online instead of in a newspaper.

HB 256 - Rental Agreements (Sobecki, L., Lepore-Hagan, M.): To allow a tenant to terminate a rental agreement if the tenant is a victim of a specified crime and to authorize an income tax credit for landlords who rented to such tenants.

HB 257 - Protection Orders (Russo, A., Smith, K.): To enact the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act to allow family members, household members, and law enforcement officers to obtain a court order that temporarily restricts a person's access to firearms if that person poses a danger to themselves or others.

HCR 9 - Township Support (Swearingen, D., Hall, T.): To urge the United States Department of the Treasury to provide fiscal recovery funds to townships under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2.

HCR 10 - Right To Organize (Kelly, B., Sobecki, L.): To urge the Congress of the United States to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021.

HCR 11 - Hall Of Fame (Galonski, T., Sykes, E.): To urge the National Inventors Hall of Fame to induct Dr. Patricia Era Bath.

HCR 12 - Peruvian Bonds (Kelly, B.): To urge the United States Secretary of State and United States Secretary of the Treasury to take action regarding unpaid Peruvian agrarian reform bonds.

HCR 13 - Daylight Savings (Koehler, K., Creech, R.): To urge Congress to enact The Sunshine Protection Act of 2021, which would make daylight saving time the permanent standard time.

HCR 14 - Childhood Trauma (Brinkman, T., Denson, S.): Urging the Governor to declare a State of Emergency on Childhood Trauma in Ohio.

HCR 15 - Week Designation (Brent, J., Howse, S.): Designating the week of April 11 - April 17, 2021, as "Black Maternal Health Week" in Ohio.

HB 258 - Bridge Designation (Fowler Arthur, S.): To designate a bridge over Conneaut Creek in Ashtabula County as the "Sgt. Thomas Walker Memorial Bridge."

HB 259 - Firearm Regulations (Robinson, P., Miller, A.): To enact the Protect Law Enforcement Act to require a firearm transfer to be made through a dealer, through a law enforcement agency, or pursuant to a specified exception, and to require a background check when a firearm is transferred.