

THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE APRIL 23, 2021



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 892,447 confirmed cases
- 55,446 hospitalizations
- 19,033 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 31.67 million cases
- 566,494 fatalities

World:

- 144.09 million cases
- 3.06 million fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

- Senate Financial Institutions and Technology (9:30 am)
- House Health (11 am)
- Senate Government Budget (4 pm)
- Senate Workforce and Higher Education (4 pm)

Wednesday:

- Senate Insurance (9 am)
- Senate Local Gov and Elections (9:30 am)
- Senate General Gov Budget (10 am)
- House Session (1 pm)
- Senate Session (1:30 pm)
- Senate Workforce and Higher Education (3 pm)

Thursday:

- Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (9 am)
- Senate Local Gov and Elections (9:30 am)

Friday:

Budget Update

The House omnibus amendment was accepted in House Finance Committee on Tuesday, and the two-year budget bill was reported by a 24-9 vote. The bill was approved during Wednesday's House session with a vote of 70-27, and totals \$74.7 billion across in biennium in General Revenue Fund appropriations, and \$162.8 billion in all funds appropriations. Provisions include an income tax cut, school funding plan, investments in job creation and workforce development, and \$200 million to support broadband expansion. The budget now heads to the Senate for further consideration and amendments.

Representative Stivers Steps Down

Representative Steve Stivers announced that he will be leaving Congress in mid-May to become president and CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Following his announcement, Senator Bob Peterson from Washington Court House and Representative Brian Stewart from Ashville had both announced their intentions to run for the 15th Congressional District seat. Governor Mike DeWine will set dates for a primary and general election to replace Rep. Stivers, but cannot announce that timeline until he has formally left office. One congressional election is set for this fall to replace US Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Marcia Fudge in the 11th Congressional District.

Governor Outlines Effort to Improve Police Accountability

During Wednesday's press conference, Governor Mike DeWine outlined a number of pending efforts to improve accountability and transparency with law enforcement in Ohio. Representative Phil Plummer will be offering a law enforcement reform bill that features the establishment of a peace officer oversight board, establish databases on the use of force and officer discipline, independent investigations of critical incidents, and seeks to create sustainable funding sources for continued education.

Bill Introductions

HB 260 - Utility Refunds (Lanese, L., Troy, D.): To require refunds to utility customers who have been improperly charged.

HB 261 - Lake Designation (Loychik, M.): To change the name of "Mosquito Lake State Park" to "Donald J. Trump State Park" and to make an appropriation.

HB 262 - Firearms (Miranda, J., Kelly, B.): To enact the Child Access Prevention Tax Credit Act to prohibit negligent storage of a firearm, to provide criminal penalties if a minor gains access to an improperly stored firearm, and to authorize an income tax credit for the purchase of firearms safety storage units.

HB 263 - Road Designation (Roemer, B.): To designate a portion of County Road 321 in Stark County as the "Sgt. Vernon R. Judd Memorial Highway."

HB 264 - Income Tax (Smith, M., Sobecki, L.): To modify the municipal income tax withholding rule for employees working at a temporary worksite.

HB 265 - Crisis Care Facilities (Manning, G., Patton, T.): Regards children's crisis care facilities and residential infant care centers.

HB 266 - Rape (Galonski, T., Miranda, J.): To eliminate the period of limitation for the criminal prosecution of a person for rape and for a civil action brought by a victim of conduct that would constitute rape, to extend the period of limitations for a civil action by a victim of childhood sexual abuse other than rape, and to eliminate the spousal exception for the offense of rape.

HB 267 - Public Health Orders (Jordan, K.): To limit the duration of public health orders and to allow the General Assembly to act via concurrent resolution in response to a public health emergency if the Governor or Department of Health does not.

HB 268 - Sales Tax (Jordan, K): To exempt from sales and use taxes the sale of investment metal bullion and coins.

HB 269 - Legislative Oversight (Galonski, T.): To repeal the changes made by S.B. 22 of the 134th General Assembly to the laws governing legislative oversight of certain orders and rules issued by the executive branch, including the establishment of the Ohio Health Oversight and Advisory Committee, and to declare an emergency.

HB 270 - Health Benefits (Manchester, S., Upchurch, T.): To regulate the practice of reducing benefits related to emergency services if a condition is determined, after the fact, to not be an emergency.

HB 271 - Natural Gas (Edwards, J.): To establish a natural gas infrastructure development program and fund to help meet Ohio's natural gas supply needs.

HR 47 - USPS (Miller, J., O'Brien, M.): To express support for the need for a replacement fleet of United States Postal Service vehicles that meets the climate goals of the United States, protects critical supply chains, and promotes a cleaner, more stable future for a burgeoning 21st century domestic vehicle industry.

HCR 16 - Board Members (West, T., Russo, A.): To encourage equitable and diverse gender representation on the boards and in senior management of Ohio companies and institutions.

SB 166 - Career-Technical Education (Reineke, B.): Regards to career-technical education and the compensation of joint vocational school districts located in community reinvestment areas.

SB 167 - Crisis Care Facilities (Dolan, M., Antonio, N.): Regards children's crisis care facilities and residential infant care centers.

SB 168 - Law Enforcement (Hoagland, F.): To establish the Ohio Mobile Training Team Program and to make an appropriation.