

THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE JUNE 4, 2021



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 923,497 confirmed cases
- 59,412 hospitalizations
- 19,912 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 33.13 million cases
- 592,776 fatalities

World:

- 171.71 million cases
- 3.69 million fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

- House Health (10 am)

Wednesday:

- House Financial Institutions (10 am)
- House Session (1 pm)
- Senate Session (1:30 pm)
- House Commerce and Labor (2 pm)

Thursday:

- House Families, Aging, and Human Services
- House Session (1 pm)
- Senate Session (1:30 pm)

Friday:

Budget Update

The Senate Finance Committee accepted a substitute version of the state's two year operating budget, HB 110, On Tuesday of this week, which now totals \$74.4 billion in General Revenue Fund appropriations and \$160.8 billion in all-funds over the biennium. The substitute bill increase the House's cut to personal income taxes from 2% to 5%, eliminated the House-added provision creating an income tax deduction for capital gains for certain Ohio-based venture capital investors, and updated the school funding proposal to reflect a base cost per pupil calculation that is consistent across the state. This change in education funding differs from the House's proposal, in which the base cost would vary district by district. The bill is expected to receive a floor vote next week, and will then go to conference committee to be finalized prior to the June 30 deadline.

Wind and Solar Siting Bill Sent to House

SB 52 passed out of the Senate with a 20-13 vote during Wednesday's session. The bill had picked up an amendment in Senate Energy and Public Utilities earlier in the day, which removed the rebuttable presumption provision and added a provision expanding the Ohio Power Siting Board with two ad hoc seats occupied by a county commissioner and township trustee from the area where the project footprint is occurring. The bill has been extensively revised in recent weeks as sponsors try to balance developers needing business certainty and fair treatment of renewables with citizens who desire a greater voice in the process.

Remote Worker Refund Language

Following HB 157 passing out of the House last week, which would allow an individual to seek a municipal income tax refund on 2021 taxes if they worked from home, Mayors voiced concerns over a budget amendment added to HB 110 that would also allow for municipal income tax refunds, but for 2020 taxes as well.

Bill Introductions

HB 332 - Law Enforcement (West, T., Denson, S.): To provide that qualified immunity does not apply in civil actions against peace officers employed by a political subdivision who, under color of law, subject any individual to a deprivation of rights and to provide for indemnification by the political subdivision of a peace officer against whom judgment is found.

HB 333 - School Counselors (Miranda, J., White, A.): To require the Department of Education to make recommendations for a job description for school counselors and to designate at least one staff member as a school counselor liaison.

SB 190 - Week Designation (Antonio, N.): To designate the week including March 22nd as Ohio Doula Week.

SB 191 - Week Designation (Antani, N.): To designate the last week of May as "Stroke Awareness Week."

SB 192 - Property Tax (Williams, S.): To reduce property taxes on owner-occupied homes to the extent the taxes increase by more than 10% per year.

SB 193 - Utilities (Williams, S.): To prohibit political subdivisions from placing a lien on property for unpaid water charges.

SB 194 - Date Designation (Schaffer, T.): To designate June 4 as "Katie Smith Day."

SB 195 - Vax-A-Million (Brenner, A.): To specify the information in the Vax-A-Million database is not public record and to declare an emergency.

SB 196 - Building Inspections (Roegner, K.): To make changes to the law relating to building inspections.

SB 197 - Month Designation (Maharath, T.): To designate the month of June as "Pride Month."