

THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE JULY 30, 2021



CURRENT COVID STATS

Ohio:

- 934,555 confirmed cases
- 61,377 hospitalizations
- 20,446 confirmed fatalities

United States:

- 34.25 million cases
- 607,684 fatalities

World:

- 192.29 million cases
- 4.14 million fatalities

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

K-12 COVID-19 Guidance Released

On Tuesday, the Ohio Department of Health formally recommended students and staff who have not yet received the COVID-19 vaccines wear masks indoors during the upcoming school year. In the document, which can be found [here](#), ODH also strongly encouraged staff and eligible students to receive the vaccine, and recommended additional measures to be taken to improve ventilation, maximize social distancing, and promote good hygiene. The guidance released did not include any state mandates for the coming year. Governor DeWine said in a press conference that his administration is not enacting a mask mandate for the upcoming school year; Dr. Vanderhoff said ODH's guidance would not prevent schools or districts from taking precautions such as universal masking, if deemed necessary.

Inter-University Council Unveils Anti-Hazing Principles

Following recently signed legislation (SB 126) to stiffen hazing penalties, the Inter-University Council representing the state's 14 public universities detailed their new approach to hazing at a press conference on Monday. The principles include debarring students convicted of criminal hazing from any attending any state university, working with students and staff to combat the activity and report, and creating new reporting outlets.

August 3rd Special Congressional Election

Next Tuesday, a Special Congressional Election will be held to fill vacancies in the 11th Congressional District, formerly held by now US Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Marcia Fudge, and in the 15th Congressional District, formerly held by Steve Stivers, now President and CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. The 11th district race features 13 candidates, most notably former state senator Nina Turner (who is backed by Sen. Bernie Sanders and U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio Cortez) and Cuyahoga County Council Member Shontel Brown (who is backed by former presidential candidate and ex-secretary of state Hillary Clinton and U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty). The 15th district race includes current state elected officials Senator Bob Peterson, Senator Stephanie Kunze, Representative Jeff LaRe, and Representative Allison Russo, as well as former President Trump-supported candidate Mike Carey. There are 11 total Republicans, and two Democrats in the race.

Bill Introductions

HB 380 - Elections (Sweeney, B.): Regards court settlements that conflict with the Revised Code and private entities' involvement in election-related activities.

HB 381 - Electric Utilities (Grendell, D.): To allow for certain structures on a retail electric customer's property to be charged the same as the primary residence.

SB 212 - Foreclosures (Hackett, B.): Relates to real property foreclosures.