

**THIS WEEK
AT THE
STATEHOUSE**
JUNE 24, 2022



This Week in Ohio History

On June 20, 1901 Charlotte Maxeke became the first native African to Graduate from and US college. Maxeke graduated from Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio.

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

No Session
No Committees

Historic Tax Credits Said To Spur \$564 Million In Investments

Nearly \$40 million in tax credits have been awarded to rehabilitate 38 historic buildings across the state.

The Department of Development on Wednesday announced the issuance of the Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credits for rehabilitation projects in 19 communities across 16 counties.

Many of the projects involve vacant buildings generating little economic activity that are eyed for upgrades by private developers. Once rehabilitated, they will drive further investment and interest in adjacent property, Gov. Mike DeWine said in a statement.

Development Director Lydia Mihalik said once restored the sites "are often crown jewels for communities. We are proud to be part of the transformation and preservation of these unique spaces that will remain in our communities for years to come."

Key Bail Decision Likely To Be At Forefront Of High Court Races

A decision issued in January by the Ohio Supreme Court is expected to loom large in the three races that will determine the partisan control of the state's highest court.

Justice Pat DeWine, a Republican seeking to fend off a challenge from First District Court of Appeals Judge Marilyn Zayas, acknowledged Tuesday that the court's ruling in which it narrowly upheld a decision reducing bail for a man accused of murder from \$1.5 million to \$500,000 will be an issue in the campaign.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's going to be an issue we talk about," Justice DeWine said, adding the decision represents "a pretty vivid indication of the difference between us and where we stand on the rule of law."

Governor Backs State Review Of AEP Outages

Gov. Mike DeWine has thrown his support behind an expected review of recent forced power outages in AEP Ohio's service territory.

The governor issued a statement Tuesday welcoming assurances from Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Track Chair Jenifer French that the agency would examine the recent events.

At its peak, the outages impacted 250,000 AEP customers as the utility sought to reduce load to accommodate a days-long heat wave that set in shortly after a storm damaged more than 350 poles and 2,100 spans of wire.

NEWLY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION

(Road naming and license plate bills omitted from list)

HOUSE BILLS

HB 701 – Infanat Formula– to allow a refundable income tax credit for the purchase of infant or toddler formula.

SENATE BILLS

SB 351 – Gun Control– to enact the Defend Our Children Act to require a firearm transfer to be made through a dealer, through a law enforcement agency, or pursuant to a specified exception, to require a background check when a firearm is transferred, to raise the minimum age to purchase a firearm to age 21, to increase the penalty for improperly furnishing firearms to an underage person, to establish a process for extreme risk protection orders, to prohibit negligent storage of a firearm, to authorize an income tax credit for the purchase of firearms safety storage units, and to make an appropriation.