

**THIS WEEK**  
AT THE  
**STATEHOUSE**  
AUGUST 19, 2022



**Ohio Fact of the Week**

**The Heart of It All**  
*About 50 percent of the U.S. population is located within 500 miles of Ohio's state capital of Columbus.*

**NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE**

No Session  
No Committees

**2022 Gubernatorial Race Heats Up**

The state's Democratic candidate for governor continued Wednesday to focus on her differences with Gov. Mike DeWine over gun and abortion regulations.

Former Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley in a speech at the City Club of Cleveland declared, "He's too weak to stand up to the extremists in his party."

Gov. DeWine has defended his record on both issues, saying it is a fundamental role of the government to protect life and ticking off a list of initiatives his administration has taken on to combat gun violence.

His campaign defended him again after Ms. Whaley's speech.

"When ambitious politicians, like the former mayor, have poor records to run on they often try to levy unfounded criticism at effective leaders, like Mike DeWine," campaign spokeswoman Tricia McLaughlin said in an email. "It would be more beneficial for Ohio voters if she would answer why she pushed tax hikes on Dayton's disabled and senior citizens; why violent crime spiked to record highs under her leadership; and why she backed a budget to cancel Dayton's police academy?"

**Huffman, Cupp Question Redistricting Deadline Ahead Of Potential Appeal**

Senate President Matt Huffman said Wednesday discussions on how to appeal a July ruling invalidating the state's congressional map to the U.S. Supreme Court are underway.

"I think we ought to appeal this," Sen. Huffman (R-Lima) said in an interview.

His remarks came the same day House Speaker Bob Cupp issued a memo arguing lawmakers have no responsibility to comply with a court order requiring new congressional districts be adopted Thursday.

"Out-of-state activists have peddled the myth that a deadline looms this week for the General Assembly to adopt a new map," Speaker Cupp (R-Lima) wrote to fellow Republicans. "It is false, has zero basis in fact, and either shows a lack of understanding of our legal system, or it is an attempt to intentionally sow confusion over the 2022 elections."

## **NEWLY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION**

(Road naming and license plate bills omitted from list)

### **HOUSE BILLS**

**SB 357 – Flag Restirctions** – To prohibit manufactured home park operators, condominium associations, neighborhood associations, and landlords from restricting the display of the thin blue line flag.

### **SENATE BILLS**

**SB 357 – Firearms**– To provide for issuance of safety protection orders; to address LEADS and NCIC inclusion of protection orders; to provide for seller's protection certificates under a new background check mechanism; to modify procedures and criminal offenses related to firearm transfers; to modify the laws regarding certain provisions related to mental health treatment; and to express the intent of the General Assembly to appropriate specified sums of federal funding under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to be used regarding a behavioral health workforce and crisis infrastructure expansion.