

# THIS WEEK AT THE STATEHOUSE DECEMBER 9, 2022



## Ohio Fact of the Week

The name “Ohio” originated from the Iroquois word ‘ohi-yo’ meaning “great river.”  
Ohio includes over 40,000 miles of waterways.

## NEXT WEEK’S SCHEDULE

### Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

- House Committee

### Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

- House & Senate Committees
- House & Senate Session

### Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

- House & Senate Committees
- House & Senate Session

### Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

- Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee
- Ohio Retirement Study Council

## More DeWine Administration Cabinet Changes Announced

Governor Mike DeWine announced that he will nominate Andy Wilson as Ohio’s next Public Safety Director. Wilson previously served as the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney before his position as Senior Advisor to the Governor on Criminal Justice policy issues.

Further, Laurie Stevenson is departing as director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Stevenson is the latest member of DeWine’s cabinet to leave ahead of the governor’s second term in office.

## Governor DeWine Outlines Administration’s Lame Duck Priorities

This week, Governor DeWine highlighted several proposals he views as important for the Legislature to finalize before the end of the year. The proposals include:

- **Districted Driving (HB 283)**
  - HB 283 addresses distracted driving offenses via prohibitions on using electronic wireless communication devices under most circumstances.
- **Mental Health (SB 357)**
  - SB 357 includes a provision appropriating \$85 million for mental health supports, including workforce development.
- **Education Department Redesign (SB 178)**
  - SB 178 creates the Department of Education and Workforce in addition to revising the State Board of Education’s authority.

## Senate Approves Education Department Overhaul

The Ohio Senate approved SB 178, which would create a cabinet-level agency known as the Department of Education and Workforce while limiting the powers of the State Board of Education. The legislation now heads to the Ohio House for consideration before the end of the year.

## **NEWLY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION**

(Road naming and license plate bills omitted from list)

### **HOUSE BILLS**

**\*No new introductions**

### **SENATE BILLS**

**SR 460 – Children** – To urge the U.S. Congress and the U.S. President to support the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2022.