

**The ESC BRIDGE**

**Bridging Resources, Information, and Data from**

**Government and Education**

**For the Week of April 13, 2015**

**Federal, National and U.S. Department of Education**

[**Hillary Clinton and Education: What's Her Record? What Will She Campaign On?**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/04/education_and_hillary_clinton_.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2) **Education Week**

It's been pretty clear for quite a while now that former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was going to run for president. But what's less clear, even now that she's announced: Where would Clinton take the nation—and a divided Democratic Party—when it comes to testing, the Common Core State Standards, accountability, charter schools, and education funding? It's too early to say for sure. But Clinton's edu-record holds a lot of clues.

[**Senate Education Committee Unanimously Passes Bipartisan ESEA Rewrite**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2015/04/senate_education_committee_una.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2) **Education Week**

In a calculated and largely fireworks-free markup of a bipartisan Elementary and Secondary Education Act rewrite, members of the U.S. Senate education committee approved the measure 22-0 Thursday amid much back-slapping and promises to continue working across the aisle. "The vote today is about how we conducted this markup," said Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., the chairman and co-author of the bill, who worked closely in crafting the measure with Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., the ranking member. "I can tell Sen. Murray was a preschool teacher ... [because] she plays well with others."

**Ohio Legislation Update (recent bill action in red)**

**131st General Assembly**

***House***

[**HB1**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-1)WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAM (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Nathan Manning) To establish the Workforce Grant Program, to authorize an income tax credit equal to 25% of the student loan payments a grant recipient makes per year, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Re-Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB2**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-2)CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Kristina Roegner) With regard to sponsorship and management of community schools

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Finance-Education Subcommittee**

[**HB5**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-5)PUBLIC OFFICE-STATE AGENCY EFFICIENCY STUDIES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To allow the Auditor of State to conduct business case studies regarding the efficiency of local public offices and state agencies

**STATUS: House Local Government Committee – Reported out**

[**HB7**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-7)ASSESSMENT SCORE DETERMINATIONS (Rep. Jim Buchy) To prohibit individual student scores from certain elementary and secondary achievement assessments administered for the 2014-2015 school year from being used to determine promotion or retention or to grant course credit

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

[**HB12**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-12)TIF-INCENTIVE DISTRICTS (Rep. James Butler, Jr., Rep. Tony Burkley) To establish a procedure by which political subdivisions proposing a tax increment financing (TIF) incentive district are required to provide notice to the record owner of each parcel within the proposed incentive district before creating the district

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB15**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-15)STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To change the voting membership of the State Board of Education to consist of a member from each of several electoral districts with boundaries coinciding with the state's Congressional districts and a president to be appointed by the Governor if there is an even number of such electoral districts

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB20**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-20)CONCEALED CARRY-SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE (Rep. Anne Gonzales, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To expand and clarify the authority of a concealed handgun licensee to possess a handgun in a school safety zone

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House State Government Committee**

[**HB25**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-25)FOOD-DRINK SCHOOL SALES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules regarding the sale of beverages and food during the regular school day in connection with a school-sponsored fundraiser

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB27**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-27)FINANCIAL AID-FINISH FUND (Rep. Dan Ramos) To create the Finish Fund and the Finish Reserve Fund to provide grants to students who are nearing completion of their associate or bachelor's degrees and display financial need or hardship

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB28**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-28)SUICIDE PREVENTION-HIGHER EDUCATION (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to suicide prevention programs at state institutions of higher education

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**HB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-39)SCHOOL-CAMP INHALER PERMIT (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Anthony DeVitis) To permit schools and camps to procure and use a metered dose inhaler or dry powdered inhaler used to alleviate asthmatic symptoms in accordance with prescribed policies and to exempt them from licensing requirements related to the possession of these inhalers

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee**

[**HB42**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-42)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (Rep. Ron Gerberry, Rep. Jack Cera) To require that, for fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Local Government Fund must receive the same proportion of state tax revenue that the Fund received in fiscal year 2005

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB43**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-43)CLASSROOM FACILITIES-PROPERTY TAX ROLLBACKS (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To revise the law governing classroom facilities assistance programs and to restore the application of the 10% and 2.5% property tax rollbacks to school district tax levies approved on or after the effective date of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB44**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-44)LOTTERY PROFITS-SCHOOLS (Rep. Ron Gerberry) To require that a portion of lottery profits be distributed annually on a per pupil basis to public and chartered nonpublic schools

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB46**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-46)GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Jonathan Dever) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database

**STATUS: Passed by House, Vote 95-0**

[**HB52**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-52)WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW (Rep. Robert Hackett) To make changes to the Workers' Compensation Law, to make appropriations for the Bureau of Workers' Compensation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of the Bureau's programs

**STATUS: Passed House 96-0**

[**HB54**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-54)VOCATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS-OFFICE TERMS (Rep. Marlene Anielski) To revise the law regarding terms of office of members of certain joint vocational school district boards of education

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB55**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-55)THIRD-GRADE READING GUARANTEE (Rep. Robert Sprague) To specify deadlines for the administration of reading skills assessments for purposes of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB56**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-56)PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT-CRIMINAL RECORDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Stephen Slesnick) To limit the use of criminal records in the hiring and employment practices of public employers

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to House Commerce & Labor Committee**

[**HB64**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-64)OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs

**STATUS: House Finance Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

[**HB70**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-70)SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING (Rep. Denise Driehaus, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To authorize school districts and community schools to initiate a community learning center process to assist and guide school restructuring

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB74**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-74)PRIMARY-SECONDARY ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Brenner) With regard to the administration of state primary and secondary education assessments

**STATUS: House Education Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB81**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-81)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Rep. Steve Hambley) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and to require a political subdivision to prepay sixty-five per cent of the estimated cost of a special election

**STATUS: Referred to House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

[**HB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-85)CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION (Rep. Dan Ramos, Rep. Christina Hagan) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB89**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-89)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) Regarding the Medicaid School Program

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB92**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-92)SCHOOLS EMPLOYEES-SEXUAL CONDUCT (Rep. Christina Hagan) To prohibit an employee of a public or nonpublic school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with a minor at least four years younger than the employee who is enrolled in or attends that public or nonpublic school or who is enrolled in or attends that institution of higher education

**STATUS: House Judiciary Committee – Bill amended**

[**HB99**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-99)INCOME TAX-SCHOOL FUNDING (Rep. Mike Curtin) To require that an amount equal to state income tax collections, less amounts contributed to the Ohio political party fund via the income tax checkoff, be distributed for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education programs

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB113**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-113)CPR-GRADUATION REQUIREMENT (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Nathan Manning) To require instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator as a requirement for high school graduation

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB114**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-114)SCHOOL DOOR-BARRICADE (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Heather Bishoff) To require the Board of Building Standards to adopt rules for the use of a barricade device on a school door in an emergency situation and to prohibit the State Fire Code from prohibiting the use of the device in such a situation

**STATUS: Referred to House State Government Committee**

[**HB118**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-118) **TUITION FEES** (DeVitis, T., Patmon, B.) With respect to tuition overload fees at state institutions of higher education.

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB120**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-120) **HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS** (Schuring, K.) To create the Ohio Higher Education Innovation Grant Program and to make an appropriation.

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB130**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-130)PUBLIC RECORDS-DATA BOARD (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Mike Duffey) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House State Government Committee**

[**HB132**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-132)CONTRACEPTION COVERAGE-EDUCATION (Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan, Rep. Heather Bishoff) Regarding coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, the provision of certain hospital and pregnancy prevention services for victims of sexual assault, and comprehensive sexual health and sexually transmitted infection education in schools

**STATUS: Referred to House Health & Aging Committee**

[**HB133**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-133)NONPROFIT DEGREE-TAX CREDIT (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. Michael Ashford) To authorize an income tax credit for individuals that earn a nonprofit management degree or certain professional designations and to allow a sales tax exemption for out-of-state nonprofit corporations that relocate jobs to Ohio

**STATUS: Referred to House Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB136**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-136)STEM PROGRAM-LAKE COUNTY (Rep. Ron Young, Rep. John Rogers) To fund the Lake County Educational Service Center pilot project to support STEM initiatives for middle school students and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB137**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-137)ORGAN DONATION-HEALTH CURRICULUM (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Debbie Phillips) To require the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction on the positive effects of organ and tissue donation

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB138**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-138)STATE TESTING WAIVER (Rep. Paul Zeltwanger, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To revise the requirements regarding the administration of the state achievement assessments, to require the Department of Education to request a waiver from federal testing requirements, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB145**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-145)STEM PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (Rep. Robert McColley, Rep. Stephanie Howse) To establish the STEM Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program to provide high school students the opportunity to receive education in a targeted industry while simultaneously earning high school and college credit and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to House Finance Committee**

[**HB146**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-146)CURSIVE HANDWRITING (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB148**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-148)CLASSROOM FACILITIES ASSISTANCE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide classroom facilities assistance to a school district resulting from the consolidation of two or more school districts or from the voluntary transfer of the entire territory of a school district if specified conditions are satisfied

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB156**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-156)CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. John Patterson) To make changes to the law regarding governance, operation, and management of community schools, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB158**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-158)INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY TERM (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Stephanie Howse) To change the variations of the term "mentally retarded person" to "person with an intellectual disability”

**STATUS: Introduced**

***Senate***

[**SB3**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-3)HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOL DISTRICT EXEMPTION (Sen. Cliff Hite, Sen. Keith Faber) To exempt high-performing school districts from certain laws

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House Education Committee**

[**SB4**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-4)IN-STATE TUITION REDUCTION (Sen. Keith Faber) To require each state institution of higher education to develop a plan to reduce in-state student cost of attendance by five per cent for the 2016-2017 academic year

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB6**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-6)JOINT COMMITTEE ON OHIO COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY (Sen. Shannon Jones, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for college savings contributions to $10,000 annually for each beneficiary

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB12**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-12)INCOME TAX CREDIT-SCIENCE RELATED DEGREE (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To grant an income tax credit to individuals who earn degrees in science, technology, engineering, or math-based fields of study

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB19**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-19)OHIO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANT (Sen. Tom Sawyer) To make changes to the Ohio College Opportunity Grant, to limit state university over load fees, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB20**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-20)CHARTER SCHOOLS-RECORD KEEPING (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding audit and record-keeping requirements for community school sponsors and operators

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB22**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-22)LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND-ALLOCATION INCREASE (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the GRF each month

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB24**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-24)OHIO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANT QUALIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges’ career certification programs

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB34**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-34)SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY-DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR (Sen. Charleta Tavares) With respect to school district policies for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB39**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-39)PEDESTRIAN RIGHT OF WAY-SCHOOL ZONE (Sen. Bill Beagle) To increase the penalties for failing to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian who is crossing a roadway within a crosswalk when the crosswalk is located within a school zone

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Criminal Justice Committee**

[**SB43**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-43)COLUMBUS STATE LOGISTICS PROGRAM (Sen. Jim Hughes) To establish the Columbus State Logistics Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB59**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-59)COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-STATE APPROPRIATED FUNDS (Sen. Michael Skindell) With respect to the use of state-appropriated funds by operators of community schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB71**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-71)TRIO-PROGRAM APPROPRIATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To make an appropriation for the provision of state matching funds for federal TRIO programs at Ohio institutions of higher education for FY 2016 and FY 2017

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB73**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-73)MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB78**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-78)GED GRANT PROGRAM (Sen. Sandra Williams) To create the GED Grant Program for undergraduate students who have earned high school equivalence diplomas and are enrolled in two-year state institutions of higher education and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB82**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-82)GED-TEST COST (Sen. Sandra Williams) With regard to the administration and cost of the tests of general educational development required to earn a high school equivalence diploma

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB85**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-85)PROPERTY-TAX COMPLAINTS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**SB92**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-92)SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of school safety funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB93**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-93)BULLYING PREVENTION FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of bullying prevention and education funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB94**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-94)MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM (Sen. Kevin Bacon, Sen. Peggy Lehner) Regarding the Medicaid School Program

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Medicaid Committee**

[**SB101**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-101)CONTRACEPTION EDUCATION (Sen. Capri Cafaro) Regarding coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, the provision of certain hospital and pregnancy prevention services for victims of sexual assault, and comprehensive sexual health and sexually transmitted infection education in schools

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee**

[**SB121**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-121) **IMMUNIZATIONS** (Hite, C.) To require pupils to be immunized against meningococcal disease at an age recommended by the Department of Health.

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Health & Human Services Committee**

[**SB122**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-122) **HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION** (Gentile, L.) To extend eligibility for the homestead exemption to elderly or disabled homeowners who did not receive the exemption for 2013 and have $30,000 or more in Ohio adjusted gross income.

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB125**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-125) **SCHOOL BARRICADES** (LaRose, F., Hottinger, J.) To require the Board of Building Standards to adopt rules for the use of a barricade device on a school door in an emergency situation and to prohibit the State Fire Code from prohibiting the use of the device in such a situation.

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor Committee**

[**SB126**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-126) **OPEN ENROLLMENT** (Sawyer, T.) To terminate interdistrict open enrollment on that date with the possibility of renewal following the General Assembly's examination of the study's findings.

**STATUS : Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB136**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-136)SCHOOL SECLUSION ROOMS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB144**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-144)STEM PROGRAM-LAKE COUNTY (Sen. John Eklund) To fund the Lake County Educational Service Center pilot project to support STEM initiatives for middle school students and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB148**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-148)CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Tom Sawyer) To make changes to the law regarding governance, operation, and management of community schools, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

**Ohio Budget/Politics**

[**Cursive handwriting could be required in Ohio curriculum**](http://www.bizjournals.com/cincinnati/morning_call/2015/04/cursive-handwriting-could-be-required-in-ohio.html) **Cincinnati Business Courier**

Ohio elementary students could soon be required to learn to write in cursive, WCPO reports. State representatives Cheryl Grossman, R-Grove City, and Andy Brenner, R-Powell, submitted a bill including the requirement earlier this week.

[**Should kids know how to write in cursive? Some Ohio lawmakers think so**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/04/should_kids_know_how_to_write_in_cursive_some_ohio_lawmakers_think_so.html?utm_campaign=2015-04-13%20Stateline%20Daily.html&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[State Rep. Cheryl Grossman](http://www.ohiohouse.gov/cheryl-l-grossman) says too many kids don't even know how to read cursive handwriting, let alone write with it. She worries that too many don't know how to sign checks, sign paperwork for their drivers license or for other official documents. And since they are not often taught how to write in cursive, they can't read it - not even in major historical documents like the Declaration of Independence.

[**House GOP Strips Tax Increases, Adds Education Funding in Budget Substitute Bill**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=199437) **Hannah**

After weeks of studying the sweeping proposals from Gov. John Kasich in his executive budget for FY16-17, House Republicans unveiled their version Tuesday that largely strips out the proposed changes and increases on the sales, severance, tobacco and CAT taxes and dedicates more money to school districts so that fewer will lose funds in the next biennium. The House proposal will give a 6.3 percent across-the-board income tax cut beginning in Tax Year 2015 worth $1.2 billion over the biennium, which will lower the top tax rate to 4.997 percent. The substitute bill will also make the 75 percent small business tax deduction that was adopted by the 130th General Assembly permanent.

[**House Education Revises Testing Bill**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=199431) **Hannah**

The House Education Committee adopted more than a dozen changes to its testing overhaul in HB74 Tuesday, including a more focused prohibition on future dealings with the multi-state consortium behind Ohio's new assessments. Rep. Bill Hayes (R-Granville), chairman of the committee, said he'll "probably" call a vote on the bill next week. The committee accepted sponsoring Rep. Andrew Brenner's (R-Powell) omnibus amendment encompassing 16 changes while batting down a handful of further revisions from Reps. Debbie Phillips (D-Athens) and John Patterson (D-Jefferson). The omnibus revises the bill's previous bar on multi-state consortia's ability to bid on state assessment contracts to specifically bar those consortia that received funds from the Obama administration's federal stimulus package, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. Brenner confirmed for Phillips that the new language specifically targets the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), of which Ohio is a member, as well as a similar consortium, Smarter Balanced Assessments.

[**Ohio House guts Gov. John Kasich's tax plan, blocks cuts in state funding for schools**](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/04/ohio_house_guts_gov_john_kaschs_tax_plan_blocks_cuts_on_state_funding_for_schools.html#incart_2box_open_index.ssf) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

A new budget bill introduced Tuesday in the Ohio House of Representatives shrinks income tax cuts Gov. John Kasich recommended in his spending plan and strips out nearly all of the governor's proposals for raising new tax revenue. The budget also guarantees to school districts that they will not see any reduction the next two budget years in their state formula money, and pumps in additional funding to try to reduce losses from the phase-out of the state's personal property tax.

[**93 Ohio schools would lose money under GOP plan**](http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/story/news/state/2015/04/14/ohio-schools-lose-money-gop-plan/25802063/) **Mansfield News Journal**

Ninety-three Ohio school districts would see a drop in money they receive from the state under a plan unveiled Tuesday even though the proposal would restore much of the money Gov. John Kasich would have cut from affluent schools. Kasich had proposed focusing money from the state on districts most in need. That meant the state would send less money to districts whose homeowners have the financial ability to pay more for their schools through higher property taxes.

[**Ohio House GOP rewrites Kasich’s tax cuts, funding for schools**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/04/14/house-budget-school-funding.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

Fewer school districts would be hit with a state funding cut, the state auditor would be barred from public-records issues and Ohioans would get a 6.3 percent income-tax cut as part of the roughly 200 amendments House Republicans added to the two-year state budget. Gov. John Kasich’s school-funding plan took fire from some lawmakers and a number of school officials because a number of poorer, rural districts were scheduled to receive funding cuts despite an overall spending increase of $459 million over two years. More than half of districts would lose state money under Kasich’s plan, a number that is reduced to 93 under the House proposal, which adds $179 million more for schools.

[**Lehner Charter Bill Drops, Draws Backing of House Sponsor**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=199450) **Hannah**

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) unveiled her long-awaited charter school legislation Wednesday, which drew bipartisan support in both chambers and coaxed a sponsor of the House's just-passed charter bill to jump on board with a companion measure. Sen. Tom Sawyer (D-Akron), ranking Democrat on Chairwoman Lehner’s Senate Education Committee, is joint sponsor of SB148. The new bill replicates many elements of HB2 (Dovilla-Roegner) and the budget, HB64 (Smith), but adds substantial new provisions, including accounting proposals pushed by Auditor Dave Yost and a funding mechanism for co-location of charter schools in traditional district buildings. Both HB2 andSB148had first hearings Wednesday in the Senate Finance Education Subcommittee chaired by Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay).

[**Charter school operators and authorizers would face more scrutiny and pressure, under new bill from Ohio Senate**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/04/charter_school_operators_and_authorizers_would_face_more_scrutiny_and_pressure_under_new_bill_from_ohio_senate.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The for-profit companies that run many of Ohio's charter schools would face increased scrutiny under the latest charter school reform proposal from [State Sen. Peggy Lehner](http://www.ohiosenate.gov/lehner), as would the organizations that help create the schools and oversee them. Lehner and an advisory panel unveiled their proposed charter school bill this morning, making it the third major proposal this year to improve Ohio's charter school system that [regularly performs worse than traditional district schools statewide.](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/12/ohios_charter_school_performan.html)

[**Greater Cleveland school districts dominate list that would lose money under Ohio House proposal**](http://www.cleveland.com/datacentral/index.ssf/2015/04/greater_cleveland_school_distr.html#incart_2box_open_index.ssf) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

More than 30 Greater Cleveland school districts are among the 89 statewide that would receive less money from the state next year [under a proposal introduced this week](http://www.cleveland.com/open/index.ssf/2015/04/ohio_house_guts_gov_john_kaschs_tax_plan_blocks_cuts_on_state_funding_for_schools.html) by the Ohio House Republicans. Close to a third of the districts in Northeast Ohio would receive less money, in comparison to just over 11 percent of the districts in the rest of the state. Officials say the budget includes no cuts in base funding for each school district. However, some districts are in line for an overall loss in money from the state.

[**Ohio House plan to nix PARCC tests risks loss of $750 million in fed money**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/04/16/house-plan-risks-loss-of-750m.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

Risking the loss of three-quarters of a billion dollars in federal education funding, Republican leaders in the Ohio House have placed language in the two-year budget to ban the use of new student assessments and cut off the money to pay for them.

[**PARCC may dump its two-part Common Core tests and combine them into one shorter round**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/04/parcc_may_dump_its_two-part_co.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[PARCC](http://www.parcconline.org/) and test provider [Pearson](https://www.pearson.com/) are trying to trim the time of their [Common Core tests](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/04/take_a_sneak_peek_at_the_new_c.html) by combining the two waves of testing into one. PARCC officials told Ohio's [Senate Testing Advisory Committee on Testing](http://sact.ohiosenate.gov/) Wednesday night that they are working on a proposal to combine their "Performance Based Assessments," which are given earlier in the year, with their "End Of Year" exams given near the end of the school year.

[**Ohio Senate unveils charter school reforms, requires disclosure from private companies**](http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/ohio-senate-unveils-charter-school-reforms-requires-disclosure-from-private-companies-1.583638)  **Akron Beacon Journal**

The Ohio Senate now has a version of charter school reform in a bill that would require private management companies to disclose more openly how they spend tax funding while addressing low academic performance in online schools, “exorbitant” lease deals, poor attendance and other issues.

[**Tuition, OCOG, Faculty Collective Bargaining among Higher Ed Budget Testimony**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=199477) **Hannah**

A Miami University official appeared before the House Finance Committee Friday to urge the House to return to a percentage cap on tuition rather than a dollar cap as is proposed in the substitute bill adopted by the committee earlier in the week. David Creamer, who serves as the senior vice president for finance and business services at Miami, said the university is opposed to a $200 cap on tuition and asked for it to be returned to the 2 percent cap proposed by Gov. John Kasich. While outlining ways the university has strived to save money for students and the merits it has received for its quality of education, Creamer said the board of trustees has believed that tuition increases should not be more than the cost of inflation, “and we’ve built our current budget, and based our projections for future budgets, on that premise.”

**Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education**

[**State tests start again amid technology complaints**](http://www.mydaytondailynews.com/news/news/state-tests-start-again-amid-technology-complaints/nkrTF/) **Dayton Daily News**

After roughly a one-month break, many Ohio public school students jump back into state exams this week, and some school officials say the state’s online testing system needs to improve.

[**State School Board Approves Controversial Staffing Rule Changes**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=199430) **Hannah**

The State Board of Education voted 11-7 Monday to adopt an overhaul of Ohio's operating standards for schools, including a controversial replacement of the "five of eight" staffing rule. The current rule requires that, for every 1,000 students, districts employ five of the following eight positions: counselor, library media specialist, nurse, visiting teacher, social worker and elementary art, music, and physical education. The new version of the rule simply states that districts "shall employ educational service personnel to enhance the learning opportunities of all students," and elsewhere offers a broad definition of "educational service personnel" that includes but is not limited to most of the positions in the old rule.

[**More state aid needed to prevent cuts of school nurses, librarians and counselors, former state school board chair Debe Terhar says**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/04/more_state_aid_needed_to_prevent_cuts_of_school_nurses_librarians_and_counselors_former_state_school_board_chair_debe_terhar_says.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Former [state school board](http://education.ohio.gov/State-Board/State-Board-Members) chair Debe Terhar, a Republican and Tea Party activist, told the board today that better state funding of schools would prevent the furor over cuts of school nurses, librarians, counselors and arts teachers. Terhar, who stepped down as board chair in December, came back to the board this morning as it considers - for the final time - [eliminating the so-called "5 of 8" rule that sets minimum numbers of support staff that schools need to have.](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/04/future_of_school_nurses_librarians_counselors_and_arts_teachers_goes_before_the_state_school_board_again_on_monday.html)

[**State school board vote eliminates minimum number of school nurses, librarians, counselors, arts teachers**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/04/breaking_state_school_board_vote_eliminates_minimum_number_of_school_nurses_librarians_counselors_arts_teachers.html#incart_river) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The [state school board](http://education.ohio.gov/State-Board/State-Board-Members) voted Monday night to eliminate the so-called "5 of 8" rule that sets the minimum number of school nurses, librarians, counselors and arts teachers that school districts must have. It will now be up to each local school board how many of those positions they want to have at their schools - a change that supporters say will give districts the local control they need, and which critics say all but dooms these positions to be axed when budgets are tight.

[**Art, music education lose protections with rule change**](http://www.bucyrustelegraphforum.com/story/news/local/2015/04/13/art-music-education-lose-protections-rule-change/25737875/) **Telegraph-Forum**

Ohio school board officials formally killed Ohio's "five of eight rule" Monday, eliminating the need for school districts to hire art, music and physical education teachers in certain ratios. With an 11 to 7 vote, the Ohio State Board of Education removed a rule that required at least five teachers for every 1,000 students from one of the following eight areas: counselor, library media specialist, school nurse, visiting teacher, social worker, elementary art, elementary music and elementary physical education.

[**Ohio Prepares to Study Alternatives to State Tests**](http://education.ohio.gov/Media/Media-Releases/Ohio-Prepares-to-Study-Alternatives-to-State-Tests#.VSvZuvnF8TE) **Ohio Department of Education**

A group of 15 Ohio districts and schools have been selected to develop alternatives to Ohio’s state standardized tests. The Innovative Learning Pilot will allow the schools to develop alternative tests for students to match their specific educational programs. Results of the trial could help shape state testing policies that affect schools statewide. The Ohio Department of Education will seek a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education that would allow these schools to use locally selected or developed innovative assessments in place of state tests. Any alternative tests the schools administer would still have to meet state guidelines for rigor and other expectations. The earliest that department officials expect the schools to begin piloting the alternative tests would be the 2016-2017 school year.

[**Assessment Window Could Shrink, Testing Providers Tell Senate Committee**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=199457) **Hannah**

The multi-state consortium behind Ohio's new math and English tests could soon combine the current system of two testing windows into a single administration period, given outcry over the duration of the assessments. The Senate Advisory Committee on Testing heard that message Wednesday from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), which joined its testing vendor, Pearson, in presenting to the committee. American Institutes for Research, provider of Ohio's new science and social studies tests, also presented and said it, too, is ready to shrink the assessment window at state leaders' request. Ohio's tests are now administered in two sections separated by weeks: first a performance-based assessment, then an end-of-year portion.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**Report Summary: Breaking Down Barriers to Blended Learning**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/04/13/report-summary-breaking-down-barriers-to-blended.html?cmp=ENL-DD-NEWS1) **Education Week**

“Blended Learning: Breaking Down Barriers” examines some of the most intractable challenges schools face in trying to use technology to improve teaching and learning—and how K-12 systems are attempting to clear those hurdles. In simple terms, blended learning is a strategy to combine technology-based instruction with traditional, teacher-to-student lessons. And it exists everywhere in school districts these days.

**Early Learning**

[**Education Department Report Calls for Congressional Action on Preschool**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2015/04/us_department_of_education_report_calls_for_congressional_action_on_preschool.html) **Education Week**

Only 41 percent of the nation's 4.1 million 4-year-olds are enrolled in publicly funded preschool, according to a report released Tuesday by the U.S. Department of Education. To address this "unmet need," the report calls for Congress to include preschool and other early-learning programs in its looming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the primary federal law governing education in the U.S. The reauthorization "must reflect real equity of opportunity, starting with our youngest learners," the report states.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**College Attainment Progress Won't Meet 2025 Goal**](http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/data-mine/2015/04/09/lumina-college-attainment-progress-wont-meet-2025-goal) **Us News & World Report**

Despite several years of state and national efforts, the United States is producing nowhere near enough adults with a postsecondary education to meet its college attainment goal to meet workforce needs in the next 10 years, according to a new report from the Lumina Foundation. Although incremental progress has been made, if current trends continue, the U.S. will still fall short by 19.8 million college credentials in 2025. The percentage of American adults between the ages of 25 and 64 with at least an associate degree increased from 37.9 percent in 2008 to 40 percent in 2013 – the most recent data available – for a total of 2.8 million additional credentials.

[**The Many Meanings of Free**](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/04/08/free-community-college-has-different-meanings-different-places) **Inside Higher Ed**

When the Community College of Philadelphia announced it was launching a tuition-free program for incoming students, the emphasis was on low-income, Pell Grant-eligible families. When Harper College in suburban Chicago made its tuition-free announcement a week earlier, it didn't have an income limit but focused on academic requirements, community service and attendance. And unlike some programs that require participating students to be near the top of their classes, Harper's included many more conditions. Those programs also differed from others in requirements and funding that have emerged over the years or more recently as "free community college."

[**Why Colleges Should Care About the Common Core**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/04/15/why-colleges-should-care-about-the-common.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2) **Education Week**

Now that the Common Core State Standards in English/language arts and mathematics have been adopted in much of the country, states are busy with their implementation. We have no doubt that, over time, these new K-12 standards will produce larger numbers of college-ready (and career-ready) students—as promised. College-bound freshmen can expect to head off to their colleges of choice ready for the deeply engaging learning experiences that await them.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Beachwood schools to create new administrative position in restructuring**](http://www.cleveland.com/beachwood/index.ssf/2015/04/beachwood_schools_to_add_admin.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Berea school district alumni hall will induct eight grads, retirees**](http://www.cleveland.com/berea/index.ssf/2015/04/berea_district_alumni_hall_wil.html#incart_river)  **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Chagrin Falls schools consider $51 million plan to save Intermediate School**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-valley/index.ssf/2015/04/chagrin_falls_schools_consider.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Residents in Cleveland Heights, University Heights to vote on school tax increase May 5**](http://www.cleveland.com/cleveland-heights/index.ssf/2015/04/residents_in_cleveland_heights.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Cleveland Heights planning commission approves high school renovation: See the drawings**](http://www.cleveland.com/cleveland-heights/index.ssf/2015/04/plan_to_renovate_cleveland_hei.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**North Olmsted schools consider random drug testing for many high school students**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-olmsted/index.ssf/2015/04/north_olmsted_schools_consider.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Administrative positions appointed at April North Royalton Board of Education meeting: Community Voices**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-royalton/index.ssf/2015/04/administrative_positions_appoi.html) **North Royalton Schools**

[**Orange school board surveying residents on priorities**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-valley/index.ssf/2015/04/orange_school_board_asking_for.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Lake County***

[**Lake County students conclude program to determine $10,000 in United Way allocations**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20150412/lake-county-students-conclude-program-to-determine-10000-in-united-way-allocations) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Lorain City Schools superintendent search is on**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20150413/lorain-city-schools-superintendent-search-is-on) **The Morning Journal**

[**Union challenges Lorain Schools on class sizes, monitors**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20150415/union-challenges-lorain-schools-on-class-sizes-monitors) **Lorain Morning Journal**

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