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**Government and Education**

**For the Weeks of March 21 and March 28, 2016**

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

[**Hillary Clinton: Teachers Are Often 'Scapegoats' for Low-Performing Schools**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/03/hillary_clinton_teachers_are_o.html) **Education Week**

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said teachers are often scapegoated to explain low-student achievement when policymakers refuse to properly fund K-12 education—and she doesn't appear to see unions as the driving force behind keeping less-than-stellar teachers at low-performing schools.

[**Investing in Innovation: An Introduction to i3**](http://e-news.edweek.org/ct/83232676:TamHatCNW:m:1:219346798:5497A5EE661661A712F32899E83ADC74:r)  **Education Week**

The Investing in Innovation, or i3, program was created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, better known as the financial stimulus. The program was intended to help test-drive, investigate, and scale up promising ideas in school districts working with their nonprofit partners. To date, i3 has received more than $1.3 billion in federal funding for 157 projects. After the initial investment of nearly $650 million, the program has received smaller sums each year and dropped to about $120 million for fiscal 2016. Recipients ranged from well-known players, such as Teach For America and KIPP, to small school districts, such as Virginia's Albemarle County schools.

[**Better Uses for Federal Aid to Low-Income Students Studied in New Report**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/03/title_i_changes_to_help_low_income_students.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

When they passed the Every Student Succeeds Act last year, lawmakers granted districts more flexibility in how they use Title I funds, the federal formula grant program targeted at low-income students. Now a new report explores how states and the U.S. Department of Education can support new, local, and more-effective approaches to Title I spending.

[**Sanders Gets Educators' Attention Despite Few Specifics on K-12**](http://e-news.edweek.org/ct/83621082:7ZKUKxCN9:m:1:219346798:34FDBC800991C759015F5E4427E52C74:r) **Education Week**

As he continues his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders keeps hammering away at concerns that resonate with many educators, including higher-education access and income inequality. But with a few exceptions, pre-K-12 issues have been left out of Sanders' speeches at rallies, town halls, and other high-profile political events. And his record on school issues in his combined 25 years in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives also hasn't been a big part of his campaign.

[**Some Teachers Drawn to Bernie Sanders, Regardless of His Minimal K-12 Talk**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/03/teachers_for_sanders_presidential_election_2016.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

Like the other 2016 presidential candidates, U.S Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., hasn't spent a ton of time talking about public school policy. Compared to his higher education proposals, not to mention his focus on income inequality as a major ailment afflicting the nation, Sanders' K-12 talk in his quest for the Democratic nomination has been confined to quick mentions of things like charter schools earlier this month.

[**The Every Student Succeeds Act: An ESSA Overview**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/issues/every-student-succeeds-act/index.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news1) **Education Week**

The new Every Student Succeeds Act, signed into law Dec. 10, 2015, rolls back much of the federal government's big footprint in education policy, on everything from testing and teacher quality to low-performing schools. And it gives new leeway to states in calling the shots. That's a big change from the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), which ESSA replaced and updated. The Every Student Succeeds Act takes full effect in the 2017-18 school year. Below are key elements of the law.

[**Education Department to Release Some Draft ESSA Regulations Later This Week**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/2016/03/essa_regulations_release_ed_department.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=campaignk-12) **Education Week**

The U.S. Department of Education announced Thursday it will release draft regulations and other materials related to testing and federal school finance under the Every Student Succeeds Act by the end of this week, and that it will soon begin the regulatory process for the portions of the law dealing with accountability. The draft regulations will cover the topics subject to negotiated rulemaking: assessment and the requirement that federal Title I funds for low-income students must supplement and not supplant state and local funding

**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: Signed by Governor – Effective 2/1/16**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**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: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**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: Signed by Governor – Effective 2/1/16**

[**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) Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**HB50**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-50)FOSTER CARE-ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGE (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda, Rep. Cheryl Grossman) - To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one, to provide a ward's bill of rights, to require that a guardian receive the Ohio Guardianship Guide, and to make an appropriation

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

[**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: Signed by Governor – Effective 3/23/16**

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

[**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: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

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

[**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: House Judiciary Committee – Reported out**

[**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: House Health & Aging Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**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: House Education Committee – Reported out**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State & Local 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: Re-referred to House Finance 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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB153**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-153)PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY DATE (Rep. Mike Dovilla) - To change the date on which presidential primary elections are held

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective 9/10/15**

[**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: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**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: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee**

[**HB160**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-160)TEXTBOOKS-HIGHER EDUCATION (Rep. Anthony DeVitis) With regard to the selection, availability, and purchase of textbooks that are required for a course offered by any state institution of higher education

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB166**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-166)LOCAL TAX-FISCAL REVISIONS (Rep. Doug Green) To extend the deadline for filing an application for the homestead exemption or 2 1/2% property tax rollback to the end of the tax year, to require that auditors certify Local Government Fund allocations to subdivisions by regular or electronic, rather than certified mail, and to repeal laws requiring county auditors to issue permits for traveling shows, issue licenses for new merchandise public auctions, certify the annual state tax interest rate to local courts, and provide certain certifications related to the repealed personal property tax

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee**

[**HB174**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-174)GRADUATE DEGREE-ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) With regard to entrepreneurial skills education requirements for professional graduate degree programs at state institutions of higher education

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB181**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-181)ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION-AUTO UPDATE (Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically unless those persons decline to do so and to create an online voter registration system

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

[**HB183**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-183)STUDENT TRUSTEE-VOTING AUTHORITY (Rep. Niraj Antani, Rep. Michael Stinziano) To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions

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

[**HB192**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-192)SAFETY ENHANCEMENT STANDARDS (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Rick Perales) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB200**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-200)EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS (Rep. Christina Hagan) To permit epinephrine autoinjectors for which no prescriptions have been written to be stored and accessed for use in case of emergency

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

[**HB212**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-212)ACADEMIC STANDARDS-CURRICULA (Rep. Andrew Thompson) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations

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

[**HB221**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-221)TOBACCO USE-PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhl, Rep. Michael Ashford) To revise the law regarding tobacco and nicotine use in public schools and at public school-sponsored functions

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

[**HB223**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-223)YOUTH ATHLETICS-MINOR EMPLOYMENT (Rep. Michael Stinziano) To allow minors to be employed by a youth athletic program if certain conditions are satisfied

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

[**HB231**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-231)PROPERTY VALUATION COMPLAINTS (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Jeffrey McClain) To require counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school boards that file complaints against the valuation of property they do not own to pass a resolution approving the complaint and specifying the compensation paid to any person retained to represent the county, municipal corporation, township, or school board in the matter of the complaint

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB274**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-274) **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS** (Hagan, C.) To create a subprogram of the College Credit Plus Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs. Am. 3365.16

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB287**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-287)YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer jobs pledging initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth

**STATUS: Referred to House Economic & Workforce Development Committee**

[**HB299**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-299)CUSTODIAN-AUTISM SCHOLARSHIP (Rep. Louis Blessing III, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To permit the temporary, legal, or permanent custodian of a qualified child to apply for an Autism Scholarship

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

[**HB308**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-308)TEXTBOOKS-TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Michael Stinziano) To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students

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

[**HB311**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-311)PENSION-SALARY PERCENTAGE (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To base the percentage of an employee's salary that must be contributed to the State Teachers Retirement System to mitigate the effect of the employee's participation in an alternative retirement program on the average percentage used to amortize the Retirement System's unfunded actuarial accrued pension liabilities

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

[**HB323**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-323)SCHOOL DISTRICTS-LICENSE PLATES (Rep. Marlene Anielski, Rep. Bill Patmon) To provide for the issuance of public school district license plates and private school license plates

**STATUS: Referred to House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee**

[**HB340**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-340)LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION COUNCIL (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To extend the operation of the Local Government Innovation Council until December 31, 2019, and to declare an emergency

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

[**HB346**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-346)PER-PUPIL STATE FUNDING (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To require that each city, local, and exempted village school district receive a per-pupil amount of state funding that is at least as much as the statewide per pupil amount paid for chartered nonpublic schools in Auxiliary Services funds and for administrative cost reimbursement

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

[**HB350**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-350)AUTISM TREATMENT-COVERAGE (Rep. Cheryl Grossman, Rep. Louis Terhar) To mandate coverage of autism treatment

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

[**HB355**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-355)EMPLOYEE DEFINITION (Rep. Wes Retherford) To create a generally uniform definition of employee for specified labor laws and to prohibit employee misclassification under those laws

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

[**HB372**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-372)EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL (Rep. Debbie Phillips) To require city, exempted village, and local school districts to employ, for each 1,000 students, at least five full-time equivalent educational service personnel in specified areas

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB379**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-379)ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS (Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB382**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-382)OHIO PRINCIPALS MONTH (Rep. David Leland) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB383**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-383)INFORMED STUDENT DOCUMENT (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Robert McColley) To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB384**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-384)HIGHER EDUCATION AUDITS (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. Mike Duffey) To specify that state institutions of higher education may be subject to performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State

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

[**HB391**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-391)FINANCE LITERACY PROGRAM (Rep. Louis Terhar) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation

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

[**HB399**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-399)COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS-HOME INSTRUCTION (Rep. Kyle Koehler) To increase the earmarked funding for the College Credit Plus Program for home instructed students

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB410**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-410)TRUANCY (Rep. Jeff Rezabek, Rep. Bill Hayes) - With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance

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

[**HB420**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-420)OPT-OUTS-STATE ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Kristina Roegner) To prohibit the Department of Education from including students who "opt-out" of state assessments in calculations of certain grades in the state report card and to declare an emergency

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

[**HB425**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-425)RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION-STUDENTS (Rep. Bill Hayes) Regarding student religious expression

**STATUS: House Community & Family Advancement Committee – Reported out as amended**

[**HB426**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-426)CAREER COLLEGES-JOB PLACEMENT (Rep. Niraj Antani) To require the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools to report and post job placement information

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB438**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-438)WEEK DESIGNATION (Rep. John Patterson) To designate the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving Day as "Ohio Public Education Appreciation Week”

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB445**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-445)COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS-EXTRACURRICULARS (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Marlene Anielski) To make changes to the College Credit Plus program and to specify that students participating in the program shall not be denied the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities based solely upon participation in the CCP program

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB454**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-454)SALES TAX HOLIDAY-PERMANENT (Rep. John Patterson) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

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

[**HB455**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-455)BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone

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

[**HB458**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-458)FOSTER CARE-KINSHIP CAREGIVER (Rep. Janine Boyd, Rep. Jeffery Rezabek) - To provide foster care maintenance payments for children in the care of a kinship caregiver without requiring the caregiver to be certified to provide foster care and to require, rather than permit, the creation of the statewide program of kinship care navigators

**STATUS: Referred to House Community & Family Advancement Committee**

[**HB459**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-459)EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER-AUDIT (Rep. Kirk Schuring) - To authorize the Auditor of State to conduct a performance audit of an educational service center and to require a comprehensive performance audit of all educational service centers

**STATUS: Referred to House Education Committee**

[**HB474**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-474)HIGHER EDUCATION-COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (Rep. Tim Brown) With respect to the coordination and administration of higher education programs and the College Credit Plus program

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB481**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-481)STUDENT ENROLLMENT REPORTING (Rep. Andrew Thompson, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To revise the requirements regarding student enrollment reporting for public schools, mandatory student withdrawal policies, and scholarship program eligibility relative to students who choose not to take state assessments during the 2015-2016 school year and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB482**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-482)EXEMPT PROPERTY-VALUE CALCULATION (Rep. Jonathan Dever) To change the calculation of the exempt value of improved property subject to a community reinvestment area exemption, to clarify the calculation of the exempt value of property subject to a brownfield remediation exemption, and to authorize the filing of a complaint with the county auditor challenging the assessed value of fully or partially exempt property

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB483**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-483)DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES-MBR (Rep. Ron Amstutz) To modify programs administered by the Department of Developmental Disabilities and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB485**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-485)INCOME TAX DEDUCTION-TUITION (Rep. Dan Ramos) To reinstate the state income tax deduction for qualified higher education tuition and fee payments that expired December 31, 2005

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB487**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-487)STATE SEAL-BILITERACY (Rep. Sarah LaTourette, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To require the State Board of Education to establish the state Seal of Biliteracy to be attached or affixed to the high school transcripts of qualifying students

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB496**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-496)STUDENTS-UNIFORMED SERVICES (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Student to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB498**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-498)EXPULSION-THREAT OF VIOLENCE (Rep. Stephanie Kunze) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**HB501**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-HB-501)YOUTH STEM PROGRAM (Rep. Mike Dovilla, Rep. Marlene Anielski) To support the Youth STEM Commercialization and Entrepreneurship Program and to make an appropriation

**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: (Passed by Senate) Referred to House 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: Signed by Governor – Effective 10/14/15**

[**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: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**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: Referred to Senate Finance – Education Subcommittee**

[**SB158**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-158)AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB163**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-SB-163)COMMON CORE STANDARDS (Sen. Kris Jordan) With respect to the Common Core State Standards academic standards, powers of the State Board of Education, and the distribution of student information

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB168**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-168)STUDENT VIOLENT BEHAVIOR INFORMATION (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student’s violent behavior that resulted in discipline was directed

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

[**SB173**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-173)SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Sen. Kris Jordan) To eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

[**SB217**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-217)LOCAL OFFICIAL-CONTINUING EDUCATION EXEMPTION (Sen. John Eklund) To permit exemptions for local officials from continuing education requirements of the office for an illness or disability or for out-of-state military service

**STATUS: Introduced; Referred to Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee**

[**SB220**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-220)OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEE-ROTH FEATURES (Sen. Jay Hottinger) To authorize the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board and local governments to establish designated Roth account features and other tax-deferred or non-tax deferred features permitted for government deferred compensation plans

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB230**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-230)ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB234**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-234)STUDENT ENROLLMENT-CHILDREN SERVICES (Sen. Capri Cafaro) To require specified public and nonpublic school officials to search the Uniform Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB235**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-235)INCREASED VALUE-PROPERTY TAX (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. William Coley) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until construction of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property commences

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

[**SB238**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-238)MONTH NAME DESIGNATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month”

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB240**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-240)FEDERAL FOSTER CARE (Sen. John Eklund) To extend the age for which a person is eligible for federal foster care and adoption assistance payments under Title IV-E to age twenty-one; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB241**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-241)EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS-EMPLOYMENT (Sen. Frank LaRose) With regard to the employment of specified education professionals by city, exempted village, and local school districts

**STATUS: Introduced**

[**SB246**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-246)CAUV COMPUTATION-CAPITALIZATION RATE (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup

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

[**SB247**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-247)SCHOOL DISTRICT-SUMMER MEALS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow alternative summer meal sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

[**SB250**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-250)CHARTER SCHOOLS-STATE MONEY (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To prohibit community schools from using state moneys to pay for advertising, recruiting, or promotional materials

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Education Committee**

[**SB264**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-264)SALES TAX HOLIDAY-PERMANENT (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of back-to-school clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

**STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out; Passed by Senate, Vote 31-1**

[**SB274**](https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA131-SB-274)SMARTOHIO FINANCIAL LITERACY PILOT PROGRAM (Sen. Bill Seitz) To require the Chancellor of Higher Education to create the SmartOhio Financial Literacy Pilot Program at the University of Cincinnati to operate for the 2016-2017 school year and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Referred to Senate Finance Committee**

**Ohio Budget and Politics**

[**Hughes Bill Aims to Help Schools Address Threats**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202605) **Hannah**

Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) Monday introduced SB297 which he said is aimed at "better equipping Ohio school officials with additional resources to address the increasing number of safety threats." “These threats disrupt all school activities and place families and communities on edge whenever incidents occur,” said Hughes in a statement. “Keeping our school districts and students safe should be a priority for us all.” He said if the bill is enacted, it would allow school officials to expel students for up to 60 days for threatening to kill or cause any physical harm. School officials would be permitted to require that the student undergo an evaluation to determine whether they pose a threat to themselves, their classmates or school employees.

[**Schiavoni Bill Targets E-School Attendance**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202634) **Hannah**

Senate Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) introduced legislation this week to require more detailed attendance reporting by online charter schools, prompted by reports of an e-school that couldn't provide documentation for hundreds of thousands of dollars of student funding.

[**Capital Budget Could Expand School Construction Financing Methods**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202685) **Hannah**

Local districts should be able to use new financing mechanisms for their share of Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) projects so long as adequate protections are maintained, the commission recommended Tuesday. Budget Director Tim Keen, chairman of the commission, said the administration will seek to grant districts this new authority in the upcoming capital budget.

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

[**ODE Says 94 Percent Pass Reading Guarantee Threshold**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202643) **Hannah**

Slightly fewer third graders cleared a slightly higher bar for advancing to fourth grade in 2014-2015 under the state's reading guarantee law, the second year in which the guarantee's retention mandate was in place. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) said Thursday that 94.1 percent of Ohio third graders met or exceeded the necessary score -- 394 on the Ohio Achievement Assessment or the relevant score on an alternative assessment -- for promotion to fourth grade.

[**No one has applied yet to become Ohio schools chief**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/03/27/no-one-has-applied-yet-to-become-ohio-schools-chief.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

For the fifth time in less than eight years, the State Board of Education is searching for a new superintendent. The application deadline is April 8, and board President Tom Gunlock says he hopes to have a schools chief named by June.

[**State seeking input on math, English education standards**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Education/2016/03/28/State-seeking-input-on-math-English-education-standards.html)  **Toledo Blade**

The Ohio Department of Education seeks input from parents, teachers, and others as it begins to refine and adjust learning standards. The math and English standards were adopted in 2010 as part of the state’s move to the Common Core, a controversial set of educational benchmarks used in most states. The effort marks the first time Ohio has done a revision of this type since the standards were put in place, and the education department describes it as an opportunity to build on and improve existing standards, but not completely rewrite them.

[**State Releases Report Cards for Dropout Recovery Schools**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202686) **Hannah**

Report cards for the schools do not follow the traditional A-F grading scale but instead rate schools as "meets standards," "does not meet standards" or "exceeds standards." Standards measured on the report card included graduation rates with four to eight years of entering ninth grade; percentage of students passing five graduation tests by 12th grade or age 22; schools' ability to narrow achievement gaps in student subgroups; and average annual gains by students in reading and math. The report card also lists, but does not rate, post-secondary outcomes for schools' students.

[**Ohio retains 7,000 third-graders for poor reading**](http://www.newarkadvocate.com/story/news/local/granville/2016/03/30/ohio-retains-third-graders-poor-reading/82373244/) **Newark Advocate**

While the vast majority of students were promoted, nearly 7,000 Ohio third-graders had to be retained last school year for an inability to read near grade level. Statewide, 94.1 percent of all third-graders scored high enough on a state reading test to be promoted to fourth grade. This is down from 95.8 percent in the 2013-14 school year and results in nearly 7,000 third-graders having to be retained by state law.

[**Drop in education majors sends Ohio schools scrambling for teachers**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2016/03/31/ohio-colleges-attracting-fewer-education-majors-who-avoid-teaching-specialties-needed-most.html)  **Columbus Dispatch**

The number of newly awarded bachelor’s degrees in education has dropped by more than one-fourth in Ohio since the 2003-04 school year, challenging the state’s reputation as a fount of new teachers. Given the historical surplus, that might be OK, except that the prospective new teachers aren’t seeking degrees in the specialties in which they’re needed most. That leaves school districts scrambling for teachers each year, especially in middle and high school math and science, plus foreign languages, physical education and other areas.

**Early Learning**

[**How can I get help with my preschool bills? Cleveland Connects: The First 2000 Days**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2016/03/how_can_i_get_help_with_my_pre.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

If you want help paying your child care and preschool bills, figuring out where to turn can be overwhelming. So many agencies are involved that it's hard to know what's available or who to ask. "It is confusing," said Katie Kelly, who heads [PRE4CLE](http://pre4cle.org/), Cleveland's [preschool expansion efforts](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2014/03/cleveland_to_more_than_double.html). "It's confusing for people that do this all the time."

[**Preschools costing as much as college can be unaffordable without help: Cleveland Connects: The First 2000 Days**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2016/03/preschools_costing_as_much_as_college_can_be_unaffordable_without_help_cleveland_connects_the_first_2000_days.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

Preschool's not cheap. Just paying for basic child care takes a big bite out of the family pocketbook. And it costs even more if you want a real educational experience for your child, not just babysitting. In many cases, it costs as much as college.

[**Looking for a quality preschool? What you need to know: Cleveland Connects: The First 2,000 Days**](http://www.cleveland.com/healthfit/index.ssf/2016/03/looking_for_a_quality_preschoo.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

What constitutes a high-quality preschool? How do high-quality schools teach? How can you distinguish between high-quality and low-quality schools? Today, cleveland.com answers those questions and more in the latest installment of *Cleveland Connects: The First 2,000 Days,* a series exploring the importance of investing in the first five years of a child's life.

[**Why does preschool cost so much? Cleveland Connects: The First 2000 Days**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2016/03/why_does_preschool_cost_so_much_cleveland_connects_the_first_2000_days.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

The numbers are eye-popping. Expressed in weekly costs, child care and preschool bills of $150 a month and more don't look so bad. But for a whole month? For a year? $10,000 annual costs for preschool are common in Cuyahoga County and are often as much as a family's housing costs or college tuition.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

[**New Common Core tests arrive for Ohio students**](http://www.newarkadvocate.com/story/news/state/2016/04/01/new-common-core-tests-arrive-ohio-students/82437184/) **Newark Advocate**

For the third time in three years, Ohio students will face a different standardized test. Starting Monday, Ohio schools can begin administering the newest version of those exams. Education leaders believe the tests will avoid much of the controversy that doomed last year's exams created by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**More Payment Plan Enrollments, Fewer Delinquencies Seen in Federal Student Aid Program**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202635) **Hannah**

More people are enrolled in income-based repayment plans for student loans, while fewer became delinquent or sought delays because of economic hardship, according to the latest federal aid report from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE.) As of December, about 4.6 million federal Direct Loan borrowers had signed up for income-based payment options, a 48 percent boost from the previous December. The 370,000 Direct Loan borrowers deferring payment because of economic hardship as of December represents a 31.5 percent decrease in deferments, according to the report.

[**The 50 college degrees that give you the most 'bang for your buck'**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2016/03/the_50_degrees_that_give_you_t.html#incart_river_index) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

What are today's most employable college degrees? Technology and business majors continue to dominate, but employers also need psychologists, mathematicians and science teachers, according to [OnlineDegrees.com,](http://www.onlinedegrees.com/) which ranked 1,248 majors using data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Health careers remain strong, as do jobs related to computers.

[**State, Higher Ed, Insurance Industry Celebrate Public-Private Partnership**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=202683) **Hannah**

Representatives of the state, institutions of higher education and the insurance industry said Tuesday that efforts are paying off on a public-private partnership to increase the insurance workforce which could need more than 26,000 new workers by 2020. Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor and Chancellor John Carey joined the representatives at an event at Columbus State. Taylor said it is one of many events they have been holding around the state. She said she first met with representatives of the insurance industry along with Gov. John Kasich after they took office in 2011. Along with requests to make regulatory reform, the representatives also wanted updated education and curriculum to prepare the insurance workforce of the future.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**School district to cut more than 50 positions**](http://www.newsnet5.com/news/local-news/oh-cuyahoga/school-district-to-cut-over-50-positions) **Wews**

[**Mayfield Schools assistant superintendent accepts new position**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20160324/mayfield-schools-assistant-superintendent-accepts-new-position) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Roxbury Elementary nets National Blue Ribbon School nomination, a seventh for Solon district**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-falls/index.ssf/2016/03/roxbury_elementary_nets_nation.html#incart_river_index)  **Cleveland.Com**

***Lake County***

[**Wickliffe plans State of the City/State of the Schools meeting**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20160331/wickliffe-plans-state-of-the-citystate-of-the-schools-meeting) **Willoughby News-Herald**

[**Willoughby-Eastlake Schools presented with Award of Excellence**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20160403/willoughby-eastlake-schools-presented-with-award-of-excellence) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Lorain Schools hires Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Schools treasurer**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20160322/lorain-schools-hires-sheffield-sheffield-lake-schools-treasurer) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Lorain County educators fear if accountability for gifted standards drops, so will programs**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20160321/lorain-county-educators-fear-if-accountability-for-gifted-standards-drops-so-will-programs) **Lorain Morning Journal**

[**Avon athletic director named Athletic Director of the Year in Lorain County**](http://www.morningjournal.com/sports/20160324/avon-athletic-director-named-athletic-director-of-the-year-in-lorain-county) **Lorain Morning Journal**

***Summit County***

[**Revere athletic officials’ swift action may have spared track athlete’s life**](http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/revere-athletic-officials-swift-action-may-have-spared-track-athlete-s-life-1.670661)  **Akron Beacon Journal**

[**Green schools upgrades produce large energy savings**](http://www.ohio.com/news/local/green-schools-upgrades-produce-large-energy-savings-1.671013) **Akron Beacon Journal**

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