

**The ESC BRIDGE**

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**Government and Education**

**For the Week of June 15, 2015**

**Featured News**

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

[**Head Start Proposes Changes Designed to Reduce Bureaucratic Burden**](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/early_years/2015/06/head_start_proposes_rules_change_designed_to_reduce_bureaucratic_burden.html?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzRss&utm_campaign=earlyyears) **Education Week**

Head Start, the 50-year-old program that serves about a million children and pregnant women from low-income families, released a proposal Tuesday that the agency said would raise education standards, build teacher skills, and pare down the current 1,400 regulatory standards by getting rid of "unnecessary and duplicative rules."

**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: (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: (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) 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: 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: Passed Senate 23-10; Conferees: Oelslager, Coley & Skindell; House Refuses to Concur with Senate 0-81; Conferees: R. Smith, Schuring & Driehaus**

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

[**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 – Reported out as 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: House State Government Committee – Reported out**

[**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: House State Government Committee – Bill amended**

[**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**

[**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: Referred to House Health & Aging 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: Referred to House Education 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: Referred to House Health & Aging 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**

***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: (Passed by Senate) House Health & Aging Committee – Reported out**

[**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: Introduced; Referred to Senate 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**

**Ohio Budget/Politics**

[**Ohio Senate expected to back away from budget proposal**](http://www.toledoblade.com/Politics/2015/06/15/Ohio-Senate-expected-to-back-away-from-budget-proposal.html) **Toledo Blade**

Faced with an outcry from every region of the state, the Ohio Senate is expected to back away from a budget proposal to freeze a popular historic preservation tax credit. A number of senators went into caucus meetings recently armed with complaints from businesses back home that had banked on millions from the credit to fund projects, some of them already under way, “We are going to study the issue,” said Senate Republican spokesman John Fortney. “We’re going to take it out of the budget and put in a study committee to look at converting it over into a grant program.”

[**Senate Finance Accepts Omnibus, Looks to Additional Changes on Wednesday**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200039) **Hannah**

In one of the shortest meetings of late -- but not shortest amendment -- the Senate Finance Committee Tuesday accepted the 803-page omnibus amendment to the proposed FY16-17 budget bill, HB64, and then adjourned. Committee Chair Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-Canton) said the intent is to provide members the overnight to review the changes; additional member amendments will be heard Wednesday beginning at 10 a.m.

[**House, Senate at odds over standardized testing for students**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/06/16/house-senate-at-odds-over-standardized-testing-for-students.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

The legislative debate about over-testing in Ohio schools remains unresolved, setting up a showdown between the House and the Senate as haggling over the two-year state budget heads toward a June 30 deadline. The future of PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) tests took another turn on Tuesday when majority Republicans in the Senate released their latest changes to a two-year spending plan.

[**Senators, School Groups Disagree over Effects of House, Senate Funding Formulas**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200057) **Hannah**

Sens. Chris Widener (R-Springfield) and Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) issued a news release late Wednesday, saying that in a Tuesday meeting they told lobbyists for local school groups "they’ve lost touch with reality." “We’re using the current law formula as a basis for funding kids, not theories,” said Widener in the release. The two went on to chastise the lobbyists for what they called "misrepresentation of the Senate school funding proposal." "What do school districts and taxpayers want? They want real dollars from the state, not theoretical double speak,” Hite said in the prepared statement.

[**Budget Bill Moves on to Conference Committee after Senate Approves Its Version**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200071) **Hannah**

With a mostly party-line vote and a seven-hour debate that included references to the Rolling Stones, Monty Python’s “The Life of Brian” and “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off,” the Senate moved its version of HB64 (R. Smith) out of the chamber and on to conference committee. Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) said he expects to work out a deal with the House by July 1 despite each chamber's passing different packages.

[**House Rejects Senate Changes, Prepares for Conference**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200070) **Hannah**

The House response to Thursday’s all-day budget deliberation in the Senate was predictably swift: an 81-0 vote for non-concurrence. Republicans and Democrats had somewhat different reasons for the vote. The sponsor of HB64, House Finance Committee Chairman Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell), said numerous changes by the Senate majority had forced a conference committee. His ranking minority member, Rep. Denise Driehaus (D-Cincinnati), agreed but drew boos from the Republican caucus when she complained of the bill’s treatment of children and other groups.

[**$71B Ohio budget clears Senate, heads to compromise talks**](http://www.cantonrep.com/article/20150618/NEWS/150619281/10971/NEWS) **Canton Repository**

The $71.3 billion spending blueprint for the next two years cleared the Republican-dominated state Senate on a 23-10 vote after a last-minute decision to remove an abortion clinic restriction to win Democratic support. One Democrat voted with the GOP majority, and one Republican voted against the bill.

[**Revenue Estimates Grow as Budget Moves to Conference Committee**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200073) **Hannah**

Office of Budget and Management (OBM) Director Tim Keen said Friday he expects an ending FY15 General Revenue Fund (GRF) balance of $1.15 billion, which is $340 million higher than the agency's estimate when the FY16-17 budget was introduced. He told the HB64 (R. Smith) Conference Committee that the Kasich administration suggests using the balance to support the 6.3 percent personal income tax cut contained in both the House and Senate versions of the budget, putting the remainder in the Budget Stabilization Fund.

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

[**State lacks info on 1,700 Ohio charter-school students**](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/06/15/state-lacks-info-on-1700-students.html) **Columbus Dispatch**

As the Ohio Department of Education attempts to close the financial books on last school year, one thing is certain: Making sure charter schools get the right amount of money is no easy task. The state is continuing to withhold or reduce payments to schools that educate about 1,700 charter-school students because they have been “flagged.” That means the state got conflicting claims about where the students lived or what schools they attended.

[**Yost Investigation Finds Dayton Charter Inflated Attendance, Owes $1.1 Million**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200019) **Hannah**

A now-shuttered Dayton charter school had no record for about half its reported student population and owes the state more than $1 million, Auditor Dave Yost said Monday. Yost's office launched a special audit of General Chappie James Leadership Academy last year after getting a tip alleging illegal attendance inflation and executed a search warrant with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. The audit reviewed records from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014, and investigators found no documentation for 220 of 459 students who were reported as attending over the three year-period. The school closed in September.

[**Charter school billed state $1.2 million for no-show students, some in prison or out of state**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/06/charter_school_billed_state_12_million_for_no-show_students_some_in_prison_or_out_of_state.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[State Auditor Dave Yost](https://ohioauditor.gov/) today accused a recently-closed Dayton charter school of defrauding taxpayers of almost $1.2 million by billing the state for students who were not attending school. Among them were a student that was not in school because he was in jail and another who had moved to Georgia.

[**Districts Concerned about School Bus Driver Shortage in Ohio**](http://stateimpact.npr.org/ohio/2015/06/15/districts-concerned-about-school-bus-driver-shortage-in-ohio/) **State Impact Ohio**

As the school year winds down, districts in Ohio will be watching to see what the new biennial state budget has in store. But another issue they have to plan for is the transportation routes and schedules for next year.  A growing problem for them has been simply finding enough school bus drivers. It’s been a problem for most of the country.

[**Poorly performing charter schools sue Ohio for trying to shut them down**](http://www.ohio.com/news/break-news/poorly-performing-charter-schools-sue-ohio-for-trying-to-shut-them-down-1.600849) **Akron Beacon Journal**

Two Northeast Ohio charter schools run by an out-of-state, for-profit company are suing the state for trying to shut them down, arguing that there are other charter schools performing worse. The non-elected school boards overseeing Imagine Cleveland Academy and Imagine on Superior, a Canton elementary school enrolling about 140 children, have filed a civil suit in Franklin County against the Ohio Department of Education and its Office of School Sponsorship.

[**Hagan Resigns School Board Seat**](http://www.hannah.com/DesktopDefaultPublic.aspx?type=hns&id=200060) **Hannah**

Bob Hagan said Thursday he'll resign his State Board of Education seat July 1. The Youngstown Democrat just took office in January after running for the seat last year when term limits forced him from the House. Hagan sent a letter to the Ohio Department of Education and the Board of Elections in Stark County, the most populous county in his Eastern Ohio district. It simply states his intent to resign July 1, with no explanation.

**Special Education**

[**Discipline Practices Erect Detours for Special-Needs Students**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/06/04/discipline-practices-erect-detours-for-special-needs-students.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS1) **Education Week**

One of the biggest hurdles many students with disabilities must clear on their path to a high school diploma isn't academic, advocates say. A growing body of data show that school discipline practices disproportionately target students with disabilities—often causing them to miss out on needed instruction. Special education students frequently become disengaged in class after repeated suspensions. And that can lead them to drop out before finishing high school.

[**Hurdles in Pairing General, Special Education Teachers**](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/06/10/hurdles-in-pairing-general-special-education-teachers.html?cmp=ENL-CM-NEWS1) **Education Week**

In 2003, about half of school-age students with disabilities spent most of their school day in classrooms with their typically developing peers. By 2013, that number had risen to 61 percent. At least part of that change can be tied to wider use of co-teaching, an instructional method that pairs a general and a special education teacher in the same classroom. Co-teaching is meant to provide specialized services to students with disabilities in regular classrooms, while ensuring they also get access to the same academic material as their peers.

**College and Career Readiness**

[**Exclusive: Universities to form network targeting 2,500 jobs, $300M in research**](http://www.bizjournals.com/dayton/news/2015/06/16/exclusive-universities-to-form-network-targeting-2.html) **Dayton Business Journal**

A measure proposed in the Ohio state budget would earmark millions in funding to help Ohio's colleges win hundreds of millions in federal research and create thousands of new jobs.

**Northeast Ohio Schools**

***Cuyahoga County***

[**Chagrin Falls school plan, tax increase request on hold while Intermediate School plans submitted to architecture board**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-falls/index.ssf/2015/06/potential_tax_issue_is_stalled.html) **Chagrin Falls Schools**

[**The best and worst public schools in Cleveland: New ratings**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/06/the_best_and_worst_public_schools_in_cleveland_new_ratings.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Plans for the Whitney Young and Elliot schools shuffled again by Cleveland school district**](http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2015/06/plans_for_the_whitney_young_and_elliot_schools_shuffled_again_by_cleveland_school_district.html) **The Cleveland Plain Dealer**

[**Fairview Park schools hire associate principal**](http://www.cleveland.com/lakewood/index.ssf/2015/06/fairview_park_schools_hire_ass.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Lander Elementary, Mayfield Middle hire assistant principals**](http://www.cleveland.com/hillcrest/index.ssf/2015/06/lander_elementary_mayfield_mid.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**North Olmsted schools extend Superintendent Michael Zalar's contract, offering more pay, benefits**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-olmsted/index.ssf/2015/06/north_olmsted_schools_extend_s.html#incart_river) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**North Royalton School initiative focuses on anti-bullying, tech improvements**](http://www.cleveland.com/north-royalton/index.ssf/2015/06/north_royalton_school_initiati.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Orange schools hires new treasurer**](http://www.cleveland.com/chagrin-valley/index.ssf/2015/06/orange_school_district_hires_n.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

[**Parma Schools superintendent is Lorain Schools’ top choice**](http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2015/06/17/parma-schools-superintendent-lorain-schools-top-choice/) **Chronicle-Telegram**

[**Richmond Heights schools to pay for up to $1.25 million in upgrades by leasing buildings to bank**](http://www.cleveland.com/hillcrest/index.ssf/2015/06/richmond_heights_schools_want_1.html) **Northeast Ohio Media Group**

***Geauga County***

[**Ledgemont, Berkshire merger to change income tax rate for Ledgemont residents**](http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20150615/ledgemont-berkshire-merger-to-change-income-tax-rate-for-ledgemont-residents) **Willoughby News-Herald**

***Lorain County***

[**Lorain Schools negotiates with Parma's leader for superintendent post**](http://www.morningjournal.com/general-news/20150616/lorain-schools-negotiates-with-parmas-leader-for-superintendent-post) **Lorain Morning Journal**

***Portage County***

[**James A. Garfield Schools Year In Review**](http://weeklyvillager.com/james-a-garfield-schools-year-in-review/) **The Weekly VIllager**

***Summit County***

[**City/school partnership is putting Cuyahoga Falls events, sports, local music on the air**](http://www.ohio.com/news/local/city-school-partnership-is-putting-cuyahoga-falls-events-sports-local-music-on-the-air-1.600257) **Akron Beacon Journal**

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