
MISCELLANEOUS

JobsOhio contract extension

- Allows the state, upon agreement with JobsOhio, to extend the original transfer agreement regarding spirituous liquor distribution in Ohio for an additional 15 years from the end of the original term by entering into a new agreement.
- Requires the General Assembly to approve any transfer agreement extension by concurrent resolution.

Abolish Ohio Housing Finance Agency

- Abolishes the Ohio Housing Finance Agency on January 1, 2024.
- Transfers authority, duties, assets, and liabilities of the agency related to financing obligations to the Treasurer of State.
- Transfers all other authority, duties, assets, and liabilities of the agency and all agency employees to the new Governor's Office of Housing Transformation in the Department of Development.

OneOhio Recovery Foundation

- Defines "OneOhio Recovery Foundation" to mean a nonprofit corporation receiving payments under the settlement agreement in *State of Ohio v. McKesson Corp.*, Case No. CVH20180055 (C.P. Madison Co., settlement agreement of October 7, 2021) and its constituent regional boards.
- Specifies that OneOhio Recovery Foundation is not a state agency, executive agency, public office, state entity, public employer, or a department, office, or institution and exempts it from the requirements of other state agencies, executive agencies, public offices, state entities, public employers, or departments, offices, or institutions.
- Exempts OneOhio Recovery Foundation from Ohio's Open Meetings Law but requires that a meeting of the full board of OneOhio Recovery Foundation be open to the public unless its directors vote to hold an executive session by a majority of the quorum of the board.

Work location for certain state employees

- Prohibits full-time state employees, other than judicial branch employees and full-time DEW employees, from working from their place of residence for more than eight hours per 40 hour workweek from October 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.
- Prohibits full-time DEW employees from working from their place of residence for more than eight hours per week from August 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.
- Permits a state employer to allow a state employee who is not a DEW employee to work from the employee's place of residence for any hours worked over 40 hours in a workweek.

- Specifies the bill does not prevent a state employee who is not a DEW employee from being permitted to work from the employee's place of residence for more than eight hours per 40 hour workweek as a reasonable accommodation under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act or Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

Data verification codes – children receiving services from publicly funded programs

- Authorizes specified state agency directors – on behalf of programs that are publicly funded – to request and receive data verification codes for children who are younger than compulsory school age and are receiving services from the publicly funded programs.

Month of the Military Child

- Designates April as the Month of the Military Child.

JobsOhio contract extension

(R.C. 4313.02)

The bill allows the state, upon agreement with JobsOhio, to extend the original transfer agreement regarding spirituous liquor distribution in Ohio for an additional 15 years from the end of the original term by entering into a new agreement. It also requires the General Assembly to approve any transfer agreement extension by concurrent resolution.

In 2013, the state entered into a 25-year agreement with JobsOhio granting JobsOhio exclusive rights to the state's spirituous liquor distribution. In exchange for these exclusive rights, JobsOhio pays a portion of the annual liquor profits to the state. The current agreement between the state and JobsOhio is set to expire in 2038.

Abolish Ohio Housing Finance Agency

(R.C. 122.941, 135.143, 149.43, 154.20, 169.05, 174.01, 174.03, 174.05, 174.06, 174.07, 175.01, 175.02, 175.03 (repealed), 175.04, 175.05, 175.051 (future repeal), 175.052, 175.053, 175.06, 175.07, 175.08, 175.09, 175.10, 175.11, 175.12, 175.13, 175.14, 175.15, 175.31, 175.32, 3701.68, 3742.32, 3951.01, 5315.02; Sections 525.40 and 525.41)

Effective January 1, 2024, the bill abolishes the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (the "agency"). The agency assists with the financing, refinancing, production, development, and preservation of affordable housing for occupancy by low- and moderate-income persons. Its duties include the apportionment and administration of the federal low income housing tax Credit (LIHTC).

Under the bill, all duties, powers, rights, obligations, and functions of the agency related to financing obligations (i.e., bonds, notes, and other obligations) are transferred to the Treasurer of State. All other duties, rights, obligations, and functions of the agency are transferred to the newly created Governor's Office of Housing Transformation in the Department of Development. All current employees of the agency are retained and moved to the office, subject to continuing law involving layoffs and other reductions in state agency workforce needs.

OneOhio Recovery Foundation

(R.C. 182.02)

The bill defines “OneOhio Recovery Foundation” to mean a nonprofit corporation receiving payments under the settlement agreement in *State of Ohio v. McKesson Corp.*, Case No. CVH20180055 (C.P. Madison Co., settlement agreement of October 7, 2021) and its constituent regional boards and specifies it is not a state agency, executive agency, public office, state entity, public employer, or a department, office, or institution.³⁰⁷

The bill exempts the OneOhio Recovery Foundation, and its employees, officers, or appointed members, from the requirements of other state agencies, executive agencies, public offices, state entities, public employers, or departments, offices, or institutions. Specifically, the bill exempts OneOhio Recovery Foundation from the following:

- The Ohio Ethics Law, including financial disclosure requirements, conflicts of interest, criminal code offenses related to offenses against justice and public administration, and executive agency lobbying laws.³⁰⁸
- Ohio’s Public Records Law, which requires public records of a public office to be made available for public inspection at all reasonable times during business hours.³⁰⁹
- Ohio’s Open Meetings Law (see below), which requires meetings of public bodies to be open to the public.³¹⁰
- Ohio’s State and Local Government Expenditure database, which includes information about expenditures made in each fiscal year and is available for free to members of the public.³¹¹
- An audit by the Auditor of State, whose office is permitted to audit the accounts of private institutions, associations, boards, and corporations receiving public money.³¹²
- Ohio’s antitrust law.³¹³
- Collective bargaining law that applies to public employees.³¹⁴

³⁰⁷ R.C. 1.60, not in the bill.

³⁰⁸ R.C. 121.41, 121.60, 102.01, and 2921.01, not in the bill.

³⁰⁹ R.C. 9.28 and 149.011, not in the bill; R.C. 149.43.

³¹⁰ R.C. 121.22.

³¹¹ R.C. 113.70, not in the bill.

³¹² R.C. 117.01, not in the bill.

³¹³ R.C. 1331.01, not in the bill.

³¹⁴ R.C. 4117.01, not in the bill.

- Laws governing state employee whistleblower protection, civil service, compensation, work hours, leave, and benefits.³¹⁵
- Ohio's Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS).³¹⁶
- Licensing authority prohibitions against a person who is a victim of nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images.³¹⁷

Although, the bill generally exempts OneOhio Recovery Foundation from Ohio's Open Meetings Law, the bill does require that a meeting of the full board of directors of OneOhio Recovery Foundation be open to the public unless its directors vote to hold an executive session by a majority of the quorum of the board.

Work location for certain state employees

(Section 265.505 and 701.90)

The bill prohibits most state employees from working from their place of residence for more than eight hours per 40 hour workweek during the period beginning October 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. This prohibition applies to full-time state employees paid by Director of Budget and Management warrant, including employees of the Secretary of State, Auditor of State, Treasurer of State, and Attorney General. It does not apply to either of the following:

- Employees of a court or judicial agency;
- Full-time DEW employees, who instead are prohibited under the bill from working from their place of residence for more than eight hours per week from August 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.

A state employer may allow a state employee who is not a DEW employee to work from the employee's place of residence for any hours worked over 40 hours in a workweek. No similar exception applies to DEW employees. The bill does not specify how either prohibition is to be enforced.

The bill does not prevent a state employee who is not a DEW employee from being permitted to work from the employee's place of residence for more than eight hours per 40 hour workweek as a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990³¹⁸ or Ohio's Civil Rights Law.³¹⁹ No similar exception applies to DEW employees.

It is possible a collective bargaining agreement covering state employees addresses work from an employee's place of residence. If so, under the Ohio Public Employees Collective

³¹⁵ R.C. 124.01, not in the bill.

³¹⁶ R.C. 145.012, not in the bill.

³¹⁷ R.C. 9.74, not in the bill.

³¹⁸ 42 U.S.C. 12111, *et seq.*

³¹⁹ R.C. Chapter 4112.

Bargaining Law, if the agreement conflicts with the bill, a state employee covered by the agreement would be subject to the agreement's terms regarding working from the employee's place of residence rather than the bill's prohibition.³²⁰

Data verification codes – children receiving services from publicly funded programs

(R.C. 3301.0714 and 3301.0723)

The bill authorizes certain agency directors – on behalf of programs that receive public funds and provide services to children younger than compulsory school age – to request child data verification codes for children receiving services from the programs. The directors specified in the bill include the Director of Developmental Disabilities, the ODJFS Director, the Director of OhioMHAS, the Medicaid Director, the Executive Director of the Commission on Minority Health, the Executive Director of Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The bill also requires the independent contractor that is under contract with the Department of Education and Workforce to create and maintain student data verification codes for school districts to (1) assign codes to children receiving services from a program and (2) provide the codes to the state agency director who requested them from the contractor on the program's behalf. Existing law already requires this with regard to publicly funded programs administered by a state agency.

After receiving the codes, the agency director must provide them to the program. The bill then requires the program to use the codes for purposes of submitting information about the children to the Department, but only to the extent permitted by federal law.

Month of the Military Child

(R.C. 5.55)

The bill designates April as the Month of the Military Child.

³²⁰ See R.C. 4117.08, not in the bill, and R.C. 4117.10.