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April 2015
INTRODUCTION


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### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>ENACTMENT</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural pollution; fertilizer</td>
<td>S.B. 150</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive plants</td>
<td>S.B. 192</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appropriations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-biennium review of state budget and state policies and programs</td>
<td>H.B. 483</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital appropriations and reappropriations</td>
<td>H.B. 497</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commerce</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale and distribution of hearing aids</td>
<td>H.B. 109</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative nicotine product restrictions</td>
<td>H.B. 144</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory agents</td>
<td>S.B. 98</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicle dealer licensing: not to manufacturers; exception for all-electric vehicles</td>
<td>S.B. 260</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


| **Constitutional Amendments** | | |
| General Assembly redistricting | H.J.R. 12 | 55 |
| Public infrastructure capital improvements bond authorization | S.J.R. 6 | 57 |
### Courts

- **Appointment and powers of receiver; natural gas and petroleum leases; Study Committee on Receivership Laws**
  - H.B. 9
  - 59

- **Court of Claims commissioners; disqualification of judges; filling of judicial vacancies**
  - H.B. 261
  - 61

- **Court interpreters; protection orders and consent agreements**
  - H.B. 309
  - 62

- **Civil commitment and treatment of mentally ill persons**
  - S.B. 43
  - 63

- **Protection of companion animals under protection orders; filing fees for domestic relations proceedings**
  - S.B. 177
  - 65


### Crimes, Corrections, and Law Enforcement

- **Application of menacing, stalking, and protection orders**
  - H.B. 129
  - 67

- **Human trafficking**
  - H.B. 130
  - 68

- **Concealed handgun licenses; suppressors while hunting**
  - H.B. 234
  - 72

- **Confidentiality and other protections regarding involvement in execution by lethal injection; capital cases**
  - H.B. 663
  - 76

- **Criminal and juvenile delinquency records; sentencing and detention; nonpayment of costs or fines; Ex-offender Reentry Coalition**
  - S.B. 143
  - 78

- **Time frame for DNA analysis of rape kits**
  - S.B. 316
  - 82

- **Requisite degrees of culpability; future acts creating crimes specify degree of culpability**
  - S.B. 361
  - 83

*See also: H.B. 144, p. 51; H.B. 366, p. 155; H.B. 394, p. 156; H.B. 488, p. 221; S.B. 106, p. 178; S.B. 141, p. 143; S.B. 177, p. 65; S.B. 207, p. 211; S.B. 276, p. 163*
Economic Development

Career exploration internship grant program .........................H.B. 107 85
Sunset of alternative joint economic development zones (JEDZs); renaming of municipal-only JEDZs .....H.B. 289 85
Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Technology Committee .....H.B. 292 86
Compliance incentive programs; federal submission of state plans; workforce development programs;
Medicaid Reserve Fund ..............................................................H.B. 486 87

See also: H.B. 218, p. 243; H.B. 319, p. 259; S.B. 69, p. 120; S.B. 243, p. 257

Education

Released time religious instruction ............................................H.B. 171 91
School safety drills; seclusion or restraint or students;
   Cleveland Scholarship Program; reimbursement for certain merging school districts ......................H.B. 178 91
Public use of school district premises; limitation of claims arising out of skilled nursing care or personal care services; advertising use of nursing home inspection results; continued operation of courts in emergency .................................................................H.B. 290 93
Straight A Program grants .......................................................H.B. 342 94
Designation of STEM school equivalents; teacher evaluations ..........................................................H.B. 362 95
Primary and secondary education revisions;
   controlled substances regulations ........................................H.B. 367 96
Online education and career planning tool .........................H.B. 393 100
2013-2014 calamity day relief ......................................................H.B. 416 101
Higher education mid-biennium review ....................................H.B. 484 102
Primary and secondary education mid-biennium review,
   including College Credit Plus program, high school graduation assessments, and concussions sustained
   by athletes ........................................................................H.B. 487 103
Course and Program Sharing Network ....................................S.B. 69 120

See also: H.B. 10, p. 227; H.B. 107, p. 85; H.B. 264, p. 150; H.B. 296, p. 151; H.B. 449, p. 221;
S.B. 3, p. 243; S.B. 42, p. 231
## Elections

Absent voter's ballots ............................................................... S.B. 205 121
Provisional ballots; absent voter’s ballots; election administration ............................................................. S.B. 216 122
Days for absent voting ............................................................. S.B. 238 125

See also: H.J.R. 12, p. 55

## Employment, Labor, and Professional Regulation

Certified hyperbaric technologists ......................................... H.B. 165 127
Professional engineers and surveyors ................................... H.B. 202 127
Counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists .......................................................... H.B. 232 128
Orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics license exemptions ............................................................. H.B. 326 130
Salvage motor vehicles and junk motor vehicles ................. H.B. 468 130
Workers’ compensation ............................................................ H.B. 493 132
Construction industry licensing .............................................. S.B. 78 136

See also: H.B. 109, p. 51; H.B. 131, p. 147; H.B. 201, p. 139; H.B. 258, p. 149; H.B. 341, p. 154; H.B. 394, p. 156; H.B. 463, p. 159; H.B. 486, p. 87; S.B. 258, p. 207

## Environment and Natural Resources

See also: H.B. 9, p. 59; H.B. 234, p. 72; S.B. 150, p. 1; S.B. 179, p. 161; S.B. 310, p. 260

## Financial Institutions and Consumer Finance

Entries to satisfaction of mortgages; health insurance ......H.B. 201 139
Credit union share guaranty corporations .........................H.B. 652 140
Control Share Acquisition Act revisions .........................S.B. 202 140

See also: H.B. 117, p. 199
### Gambling
Casinos; instant bingo .............................................................. S.B. 141 143

*See also: H.B. 494, p. 171*

### Health

**Distribution of drugs during public health emergency** ...... H.B. 44 145
**Certificate recognizing delivery of stillborn infant;**
  birth certificate duties of nurse-midwives ...................... H.B. 95 145
**Medicaid payments for telehealth services;**
  confidentiality of peer review committee
  proceedings................................................................. H.B. 123 146
**Tanning facilities** ............................................................ H.B. 131 147
**Hospital admissions by advanced practice registered**
  nurses and physician assistants ..................................... H.B. 139 147
**Naloxone access; English proficiency of Oriental**
  medicine practitioners; Internet-based nurse
  training ........................................................................ H.B. 170 147
**Use of automated external defibrillation; proceedings**
  for mentally ill persons subject to court order .............. H.B. 247 149
**Contact lens dispensing by licensed spectacle**
  dispensing opticians .................................................... H.B. 258 149
**Care in school for students with diabetes** ...................... H.B. 264 150
**School and camp procurement of epinephrine autoinjectors**
................................................................. H.B. 296 151
**Consent for minors’ opioid prescriptions; information**
  disclosure by and to child fatality review boards;
  methadone treatment facility locations ..................... H.B. 314 151
**Opioid dependent newborn reporting; maternity**
  home operation ............................................................ H.B. 315 153
**Free clinics** .................................................................... H.B. 320 153
**Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System** ......................... H.B. 341 154
**Hospice practices to prevent opioid diversion** ............... H.B. 366 155
**Immunizations; mammography reports; infant**
  mortality; opioid prescription reporting; radiologic
  professionals licensing; Lyme disease testing; nursing
  facility admissions; motorsports parks; offense of
  corrupting another with drugs ..................................... H.B. 394 156
**Dental professionals** .......................................................... H.B. 463 160
Down syndrome information sheet; international symbol of access signs .................................................. H.B. 552 161
Recycled water regulated as private water system .......... S.B. 179 161
Sudden infant death syndrome awareness and reporting ........................................................................... S.B. 198 162
Cancer drug delivery standards; Pharmacy Board executive director qualification .............................. S.B. 230 162
Infant safe sleep and shaken baby syndrome programs and policies; opioid prescriptions; corrupting another with drugs; radiologic professional licenses; Lyme disease testing; nursing facility admission .................................................. S.B. 276 163
Reports of sudden unexpected infant death .......... S.B. 278 166


**Highways and Transportation**

Memorial highways .................................................. H.B. 19 167
Highway and bridge designations .............................. H.B. 36 167
Military Sacrifice license plate .................................. H.B. 45 168
Special license plates .................................................. H.B. 206 168
Changes to Motor Vehicle Show and Display Law; utility trailer registration ................................ H.B. 318 169
Memorial highways and bridges .............................. H.B. 440 169
Ohio State Beekeepers Association and Pediatric Brain Tumor Awareness license plates; William M. Mallory, Sr. Memorial Highway .................................................. H.B. 474 171
Regional Transportation Improvement Projects;
state income tax; community entertainment districts;
payments related to racino locations ......................... H.B. 494 171
Tolls; public-private partnerships (P3s) .................... H.B. 533 174
Operation of vehicle on flooded road .................. S.B. 106 178
Army Pvt. Brandon Sloan Memorial Highway ........ S.B. 148 179
Motor vehicle headlights ........................................ S.B. 161 179
Staff Sgt. Sonny Zimmerman Memorial Highway ........ S.B. 185 179
"Knights of Columbus" license plate .................. S.B. 186 180
Parking of motor-driven cycles and scooters on sidewalks; historical motor vehicles ........................................... S.B. 194 180
Memorial highways ................................................................................................................................. S.B. 209 180
Second Lieutenant David E. Rylander Memorial Highway .................................................................................. S.B. 222 181
Sheriff's Sgt. Robert "Bobby" Elliott Memorial Highway ..................................................................... S.B. 226 181
Memorial highways ................................................................................................................................. S.B. 245 182
Proof of financial responsibility via wireless communication devices .................................................. S.B. 255 183
Towing; motor vehicle titles; home solicitation sales ........................................................................ S.B. 274 183
Traffic law photo-monitoring devices; texting while driving ..................................................................... S.B. 342 187

See also: H.B. 468, p. 130; S.B. 260, p. 52

Housing and Real Property
Land banks; tax foreclosure ................................................................................................................ S.B. 172 193

See also: H.B. 201, p. 139

Human Services
Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council meetings ................................................................................ H.B. 286 197

Insurance
Captive insurance companies ....................................................................................................................... H.B. 117 199
Self-service storage facilities that provide storage insurance .................................................................. H.B. 430 202
Insurance coverage for oral chemotherapy drugs (Robert L. Schuler Act) ............................................. S.B. 99 203
Regulation of certain areas of insurance ............................................................................................... S.B. 140 203
Pharmacy audits; analgesic controlled substances in optometry ............................................................. S.B. 258 207

See also: H.B. 201, p. 139; H.B. 493, p. 132; H.B. 652, p. 140; S.B. 255, p. 183
Juvenile and Family Law

Permanent custody of child; guardian ad litem for abused, neglected, or dependent child; court-appointed special advocates and guardian ad litem; foster caregivers...............................................................H.B. 213 209
Termination of certain parental rights regarding child conceived by rape or sexual battery..................................................S.B. 207 211
Adoption law changes..............................................................S.B. 250 213

See also: S.B. 143, p. 78

Liquor Control

Tasting samples; F-6 liquor permit.............................................S.B. 173 217

See also: H.B. 494, p. 171

Local Government

Multi-jurisdiction corrections commission securities;
Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation board .......................S.B. 82 219
Existing joint county ditch improvement proceedings ......S.B. 155 219


Military and Veterans

Residency limitations, veterans at state higher education institutions; conveyance of OSU real state ..........................................................H.B. 449 221
Benefits for service members and veterans; identity theft; STRS membership..........................................................H.B. 488 221

See also: H.B. 19, p. 167; H.B. 45, p. 168; H.B. 85, p. 254; H.B. 292, p. 86; S.B. 301, p. 241
Public Land Conveyances
  Conveyances of state-owned real estate .............................................. H.B. 477 225

See also: H.B. 449, p. 221

Public Officials and Employees
  Removal of fiscal officers; fiscal officer education; school fiscal accountability; acting and interim replacements; Board of Deposit; project manager education ................................................................. H.B. 10 227

See also: S.B. 82, p. 219; S.B. 84, p. 247; S.B. 278, p. 165

Public Retirement
  Retirement law changes; county sheriffs' qualifications; education law changes ........................................................ S.B. 42 231

See also: H.B. 488, p. 221

Public Safety and Homeland Security

See also: H.B. 44, p. 145; S.B. 378, p. 264

Special Designations
  Rare Disease Day .............................................................................. H.B. 27 237
  Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Week .............................................. H.B. 105 237
  Dravet Syndrome Awareness Day ...................................................... H.B. 270 237
  Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness and Education Day .................. H.B. 399 238
  Purple Martin Capital of Ohio ......................................................... H.B. 404 238
  Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness Week .......................... H.B. 465 238
  Ohio Internship and Co-Op Appreciation Day ................................. S.B. 227 239
  Ohio Maple Syrup Products Month; School Bullying Prevention Awareness Month; Rascal Flatts Day; Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month ................................................. S.B. 272 239
### Meningitis Awareness Day (Tess’s Law)
- **S.B. 275** 240

### Safe Driving Awareness Month
- **S.B. 294** 240

### Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Month (Corynna Strawser Act)
- **S.B. 300** 240

### Ohio Warrior Awareness Week
- **S.B. 301** 241

*See also: H.B. 320, p. 153; S.B. 84, p. 247; S.B. 198, p. 162*

### State Government
- **H.B. 218** 243
- **S.B. 3** 243
- **S.B. 84** 247
- **S.B. 263** 247
- **S.B. 287** 248

*See also: H.B. 10, p.227; H.B. 292, p. 86*

### Taxation
- **H.B. 5** 249
- **H.B. 85** 254
- **H.B. 492** 254
- **S.B. 243** 257

*See also: H.B. 494, p. 171; S.B. 172, p. 193; S.B. 250, p. 213*

### Utilities
- **H.B. 319** 259
- **S.B. 310** 260
- **S.B. 378** 264

*See also: H.B. 9, p. 59*
History of Bills That Became Acts ................................................................. A-1

Index ......................................................................................................... Index-1
Am. Sub. S.B. 150

Sens. Hite and Peterson, Coley, Eklund, Hughes, Kearney, Lehner, Manning, Sawyer, Turner, Uecker


Effective date: August 21, 2014

Operation and management plans addressing agricultural pollution

• Specifies that the Division of Soil and Water Resources’ rules establishing standards, and specifying pollution abatement practices eligible for state cost sharing, to abate degradation of state waters from farming are to abate the degradation of state waters by residual "farm products, manure," or soil sediment (rather than by "animal waste" or soil sediment as in former law).

• Applies the provisions in continuing law and the act governing operation and management plans to operators of "animal feeding operations" (AFOs), rather than operators of "concentrated animal feeding operations" as in former law. Retains application of those provisions to "operators of agricultural land."

• Applies other provisions in the Soil and Water Resources and Soil and Water Conservation Commission Laws to AFOs, including a requirement that the Chief of the Division adopt rules for administration of grants to owners or operators of agricultural land or AFOs for implementation of those plans.

• Replaces the term "animal waste" with "residual farm products" and "manure" in the above laws, generally applies the former definition of "animal waste" to "residual farm products," and defines "manure" to mean animal excreta.

• Defines "animal feeding operation" to mean the production area of an agricultural operation where agricultural animals are kept and raised in confined areas other than a facility that possesses a specified type of permit.

• Generally prohibits specified state and local government officials, including the Director of Natural Resources, from disclosing certain information provided by or regarding a person who operates under an operation and management plan.
Voluntary nutrient management plans

- Authorizes a person who operates agricultural land to develop a voluntary nutrient management plan, or have it developed by another person or the supervisors of the applicable soil and water conservation district on the person’s behalf.

- Generally defines "voluntary nutrient management plan" to mean any of the following:
  -- A nutrient management plan that is in the form of the Ohio Nutrient Management Workbook made available by the Ohio State University (OSU);
  -- A comprehensive nutrient management plan developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture or persons authorized by the Conservation Service to develop a plan; or
  -- A document that is equivalent to either of the above documents and that contains specified information, including identification of all nutrients applied.

- Establishes requirements and procedures for the approval of certain voluntary nutrient management plans by the Director of Agriculture, the Director’s designee, or the supervisors of the applicable soil and water conservation district.

- Generally prohibits specified state and local government officials, including the Director of Agriculture, from disclosing information used in the development or approval of or contained in a voluntary nutrient management plan.

Application of fertilizer for agricultural production

- Prohibits a person, beginning September 30, 2017, from applying fertilizer for the purposes of agricultural production unless that person has been certified to do so by the Director of Agriculture or is acting under the instructions and control of a person who is certified.

- Requires persons certified to apply fertilizer for purposes of agricultural production to comply with procedures and requirements established in rules.

- Requires the Director to adopt rules creating a fertilizer applicator certification program and establishing all of the following concerning the certifications:
  -- The amount of the application fee, which must not exceed the cost of a private pesticide applicator license as established in rule;
  -- Information that must be included with an application for certification;
  -- Procedures for the issuance, renewal, and denial of certification and grounds for denial;
--Requirements and procedures governing training that must be successfully completed in order for a person to be certified; and

--Requirements concerning maintenance of records.

- Exempts a person who has been licensed as a commercial or private applicator under the Pesticide Law from the application fee for fertilizer certification.

- Allows the Director, until rules governing fertilizer applicator certification are adopted, to authorize applicants for commercial and private pesticide applicator licenses to obtain additional training and temporary certification in fertilizer application simultaneously with pesticide application training at no additional cost.

- Authorizes the Director to adopt rules that (1) establish criteria by which a person may be exempt from any required training, (2) specify any type of cultivation to be excluded as agricultural production for purposes of the Agricultural Additives, Lime, and Fertilizer Law, and (3) define what constitutes "under the instructions and control" for purposes of fertilizer certification.

- Establishes an affirmative defense in a private civil action for claims involving or resulting from the application of fertilizer if certain conditions are met.

**Additional fertilizer law changes**

- Revises the levying of the fee paid by an applicant for a license to manufacture or distribute fertilizer by:

  --Requiring a fee for each location outside of Ohio from which fertilizer is distributed into Ohio, rather than only for each location outside of Ohio from which fertilizer was distributed in Ohio to nonlicensees; and

  --Adding that the fee applies for each Ohio location from which fertilizer is distributed in Ohio.

- Precludes a fertilizer distributor from being required to obtain a distribution license if the fertilizer is registered with the Director under the statutes governing fertilizer.

- Makes several changes to the provisions governing the tonnage report submitted to the Director by a fertilizer licensee or registrant and payment of a 25¢ per-ton inspection fee on fertilizer.

- Adds certificates to apply fertilizer for agricultural production to continuing enforcement provisions governing the revocation, suspension, and refusal of fertilizer licenses or registration.

- Eliminates the requirement that the Director had to have substantial evidence of a violation before proceeding to revoke, suspend, or refuse fertilizer manufacturing licenses, distribution licenses, or registrations.
• Authorizes the Director to deny, suspend, revoke, refuse to renew, or modify a fertilizer applicator certificate prior to a hearing if the Director has substantial reason to believe that the certificate holder has recklessly applied fertilizer causing a health emergency, but requires the Director to afford an opportunity for a hearing after such an action.

• Specifies that the Director is not required to take certain actions related to the enforcement of the statutes governing fertilizer or applicable rules when the Director believes that the public interest will be best served by a written warning.

• Makes changes in the criminal penalties for violations of the Agricultural Additives, Lime, and Fertilizer Law, including applying those penalties to any violation of that Law or rules adopted under it, rather than to a violation of specified provisions of that Law as in prior law.

• Exempts persons who fail to comply with rules governing maintenance of fertilizer applicator certification records from civil and criminal penalties.

• For purposes of the Agricultural Additives, Lime, and Fertilizer Law, defines "agricultural production" to mean the cultivation, primarily for sale, of plants or any parts of plants on more than 50 acres, excluding the use of start-up fertilizer applied through a planter.

• Revises the list of materials that are not considered fertilizer for purposes of that Law, including adding residual farm products to that list.

**Miscellaneous**

• Revises the membership of the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission by:
  --Expanding the number of members appointed by the Governor from four to six and removing the Director of Agriculture and the OSU Vice-President for Agricultural Administration as voting members;
  --Authorizing the directors of Agriculture, Environmental Protection, and Natural Resources, the OSU Vice-President for Agricultural Administration, and an officer of the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts or their designees to serve as nonvoting, ex officio members; and
  --Removing the requirement that two appointed members be farmers; requiring that four rather than all of the appointed members be persons having a knowledge of or interest in agricultural production as well as the natural resources of the state; and requiring one member to represent rural interests and one to represent urban interests.

• Replaces "animal waste" with "residual farm products" and "manure" in specified continuing exemptions from the Water Pollution Control Law.
• Requires money in the Conservation Reserve Management Program that is not retained by soil and water conservation districts for certain activities related to nutrient reduction in Lake Erie to be deposited in the Healthy Lake Erie Fund created by the act and used for activities related to open lake disposal of dredge material in the Lake.

**Am. Sub. S.B. 192**

**Sens.** Manning, Patton, Seitz, Skindell, Hite, Peterson, Balderson, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Lehner

**Reps.** Hall, Boose, Thompson, Cera, Barborak, Burkley, Curtin, Damschroder, Hill, Landis, Lynch, Patterson, Retherford, Scherer, Anielski, Baker, Beck, Blessing, Brown, Buchy, Celebrezze, Hackett, Hayes, Johnson, McClain, McGregor, Milkovich, O'Brien, Phillips, Pillich, Ramos, Rogers, Ruhl, Slaby, Sprague, Winburn, Batchelder

**Effective date:** September 4, 2014

• Generally grants the Director of Agriculture exclusive authority to regulate invasive plant species, including identification of species and establishment of prohibited activities, and authorizes the Director to adopt rules for that purpose.

• With regard to specified activities for the regulation of wetlands by the Director of Environmental Protection:

  --States that nothing in the act precludes the Director of Environmental Protection from continuing to consider the existence of invasive plant species when performing the specified activities, including using a list of invasive plant species compiled by that Director; but

  --Requires the Director of Environmental Protection, when any rules adopted by the Director of Agriculture under the act take effect, to use the list of invasive plant species established in those rules when conducting the specified wetlands activities.
Appropriations

Am. Sub. H.B. 483

(For details of fiscal provisions of the act, see LSC Comparison Document, "As Enacted," available online at www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/mbr130/comparedoc-hb483-en.pdf)

Reps. Amstutz, Sprague, McGregor, Grossman, Hackett, McClain, Sears, Stebelton, Wachtmann, Batchelder

Sens. Bacon, Burke, Coley, Faber, Oelslager, Peterson

Effective date: September 15, 2014; appropriations effective June 16, 2014; certain provisions effective on other dates; contains item vetoes

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Official public notice website

• Renames the state public notice website the official public notice website, and transfers responsibility to operate the website to the Ohio trade association that represents newspapers of general circulation, from the Office of Information Technology.

• Requires that all notices or advertisements that are required by law to be published in a newspaper or in a daily law journal also be posted on the official public notice website by the publisher of the newspaper or journal.

• Authorizes the operator of the official public notice website to charge a fee for enhanced search and customized content delivery features.

• Revises and eliminates certain requirements for maintaining and operating the official public notice website.

• Requires the operator to provide access to the official public notice website to Ohio newspaper or daily law journal publishers for posting notices and advertisements at no cost or for a reasonable, uniform fee.

• Specifies that an error in a notice or advertisement posted on the website, or a temporary outage of the website, does not make publication defective, so long as publication in the newspaper or daily law journal is correct.

• Prohibits the website from containing any political publications or political advertising.
• Requires a newspaper publisher to post legal advertisements, notices, and proclamations on the newspaper's Internet website, if the newspaper has one.

• Prohibits the publisher from charging for that posting if the legal advertisement, notice, or proclamation is required by law to be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

• Changes some of the second, abbreviated notice or advertisement publication requirements that a state agency or political subdivision must meet to eliminate further newspaper publications.

• Requires a newspaper publisher to post a second, abbreviated notice or advertisement on the official public notice website at no additional cost.

Other provisions

• Extends the deadline for the reinstatement of a person holding an office or position in the classified service, who has been separated from the service due to injury or disability, to within 60 days after the person submits a written application for reinstatement.

• Permits the Director of Administrative Services to dispose of excess or surplus supplies to the general public by sale, in addition to the continuing authority to dispose of those supplies to the general public by auction, sealed bid, or negotiation.

• Removes construction managers from the definition of "principal contractor" for purposes of the public construction "prompt pay" law.

• Repeals the Cybersecurity, Education, and Economic Development Council.

• Requires the Office of Information Technology generally to assume the Council's duties by reviewing and making recommendations for improving the state's cybersecurity operations and assisting state efforts to grow the cybersecurity industry in Ohio.

DEPARTMENT OF AGING

• Establishes database review and criminal records check requirements for self-employed providers seeking or holding a community-based long-term care services certificate, contract, or grant from the Department of Aging or its designee.
• Provides that a consumer of community-based long-term care services provided under a Department-administered program is responsible for the database review and criminal records check if the consumer, as the employer of record, directs the provider in providing the services to the consumer.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Dangerous wild animals and restricted snakes

• Revises care and housing requirements for restricted snake possession or propagation permit holders by eliminating the use of the standards adopted by the Zoological Association of America that were in effect on September 5, 2012, and instead establishing both of the following in statute:

  --Enclosure requirements specifically for venomous restricted snakes and distinct enclosure requirements specifically for constricting restricted snakes;

  --Specific requirements governing temperature, bedding, materials used in the construction of enclosures, and locking or latching of enclosures.

• Revises an exemption from the Dangerous Wild Animal Law for a person who has been issued a rehabilitation or scientific collection permit under the Hunting and Fishing Law by specifying that the exemption applies only if the permit lists each specimen of wild animal that is a dangerous wild animal or restricted snake in the person’s possession.

Amusement ride inspection fees

• Increases the annual inspection and reinspection fee for a roller coaster that is not a kiddie ride from $950 to $1,200.

• Requires the Department of Agriculture to charge an annual inspection and reinspection per-ride fee of $105 for inflatable rides, both kiddie and adult.

• Stipulates in statute what constitutes a kiddie ride by doing all of the following:

  --Defining it to mean an amusement ride designed for use by children under 13 years of age rather than designed primarily for use by children up to 12 years of age as defined in rule;

  --Adding that the children are unaccompanied by another person;
--Adding that it includes a roller coaster that is not more than 40 feet in elevation at any point on the ride;
--Correspondingly removing the requirement that "kiddie rides" be defined by rule.

- Clarifies that the annual $5 inspection and reinspection fee for go karts is calculated per kart.

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**Consumer Sales Practices Act investigations**

- Clarifies that the person subpoenaed by the Attorney General (AG) investigating violations of the Consumer Sales Practices Act may file a motion to extend the return day or to modify or quash the subpoena stating good cause.
- Changes the venue for filing the motion to the Court of Common Pleas of Franklin County or any other county.
- Changes the venue for the AG to apply for an order compelling compliance with a subpoena to the Court of Common Pleas of Franklin County or any other county.

**Payment for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis**

- Requires the cost of HIV post-exposure prophylaxis provided to a victim of a sex offense, as part of a medical examination performed for the purpose of gathering physical evidence, to be paid out of the Reparations Fund in the same manner as other examination expenses are paid.
- Requires the hospital or emergency facility performing the examination to accept a flat fee payment for providing HIV post-exposure prophylaxis, and requires the AG to determine a reasonable flat fee payment amount for that purpose.
- Defines "HIV post-exposure prophylaxis" as the administration of medicines to prevent AIDS or HIV infection following exposure to HIV.

**Instant bingo**

- Specifies that a properly licensed charitable organization may apply in writing to the AG for an amended license to conduct instant bingo other than at a bingo session at additional locations not identified on the license.
• Requires the application to indicate the additional locations at which the organization desires to conduct instant bingo other than at a bingo session.

**School district contracts for online services**

• Permits the AG to educate school districts about contracting with any entity that provides students with account-based access to a website or an online service, including e-mail.

**Fingerprint database**

• Extends the use of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation’s retained applicant fingerprint database to private parties and entities in connection with employment and licensure and criminal record checks.

• Permits the Director of Budget and Management to authorize expenditures to pay for costs associated with the administration of the Medicaid program, including the development and operation of the retained applicant fingerprint database, in response to authorized requests from participating public offices and participating private parties for information from the database.

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**OFFICE OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT**

**Shared services**

• Authorizes the Director of Budget and Management to operate a shared services center to consolidate common business functions and transactional processes.

• Specifies that the shared services center may offer services to state agencies and political subdivisions of the state.

• Authorizes the Director to administer a payment card program under which political subdivisions may use a payment card to purchase equipment, materials, supplies, or services in accordance with guidelines issued by the Director.

• Requires that the services provided by the Director be supported by charges to defray the expense of those services.

• Permits a political subdivision to enter into an agreement with a state agency under which the agency performs a function or renders a service for the political subdivision that the political subdivision is otherwise legally authorized to do.
• Permits a state agency to enter into an agreement with a political subdivision under which the political subdivision performs a function or renders a service for the agency that the agency is otherwise legally authorized to do.

**Appropriations related to grant close-out**

• Permits the director of an agency to request the Director of Budget and Management to authorize additional expenditures in order to return unspent cash to a grantor when, as a result of the reconciliation and close-out process for a grant, an amount of money is identified as unspent and requiring remittance to the grantor.

• Appropriates the additional amounts upon the approval of the Director.

**Director’s authority relative to taxable bond funds**

• Permits the Director to create a fund in the state treasury to receive proceeds of federally taxable obligations if both of the following apply:

  1. The application of the proceeds of obligations to a particular project would negatively affect the tax-exempt status of the obligations.
  2. There is no existing fund in the state treasury from which to draw moneys for the project from the proceeds of federally taxable obligations.

• Permits the Director to transfer capital appropriations between the taxable and tax-exempt bond funds within a particular purpose for which the bonds were authorized.

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**CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION**

• Entitles each Ohio Casino Control Commission member to an annual salary of $30,000.

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**CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONALS BOARD**

• Enables a chemical dependency counselor to add a gambling disorder endorsement on the counselor’s license to enable the counselor to address gambling disorders.

• Based on the individual’s license, allows an individual holding a valid license issued under the Chemical Dependency Professionals Law and the endorsement to
diagnose and treat gambling disorder conditions, and to perform treatment planning.

- Prohibits an individual holding a chemical dependency counselor II license or a chemical dependency counselor III license from practicing as an individual practitioner.

- Defines "gambling disorder" as a persistent and recurring maladaptive gambling behavior that is classified in accepted nosologies.

- Modifies the Chemical Dependency Professionals Board's rule-making authority to include rules regarding the endorsement.

- Requires the Board to establish and adjust fees to be charged for issuing an initial endorsement and for renewing the endorsement.

- Prohibits the Board from discriminating against any endorsement holder or applicant for an endorsement because of the individual's race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or age.

- Requires an individual seeking an endorsement to be one or more of certain listed counselors and other medical professionals and to have training in gambling disorders and work or internship experience, with certain exceptions.

- Permits the Board to refuse to issue, refuse to renew, or suspend, revoke, or otherwise restrict an endorsement, or to reprimand an individual holding an endorsement for certain enumerated reasons.

- Requires each individual who holds an endorsement to complete continuing education.

- Specifies throughout the Chemical Dependency Professionals Law that certified nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists can provide supervision for certain assistants and counselors.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Mortgage brokers and loan originators

Testing requirements

• Requires a designated business operations manager of a mortgage broker business to pass a written test developed and approved by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry (NMLS) instead of a written test approved by the Superintendent of Financial Institutions.

• Revises the standard for passing the test to obtain a mortgage loan originator license or a loan originator license.

NMLS reports

• Permits the Superintendent to accept call reports and other reports of condition submitted to the NMLS in lieu of the annual report described in the Second Mortgage Loan Law and Mortgage Brokers Law.

• Requires the Superintendent, instead of the Division of Financial Institutions, to annually publish an analysis of information submitted from second mortgage loan registrants, mortgage broker registrants, and loan originator licensees to the NMLS in addition to the information required by continuing law that is submitted to the Superintendent.

Escrow and monthly payment disclosure form

• Changes the time period within which mortgage brokers and loan originators must deliver a disclosure form to a buyer that describes any property tax escrow and monthly payments of a loan.

• Identifies the specific state and federal forms that fulfill the disclosure form requirement.

Underground Storage Tank Revolving Loan Fund

• Creates the Underground Storage Tank Revolving Loan Fund in the state treasury to be used by the State Fire Marshal to make underground storage tank revolving loans in accordance with ongoing law.

• Specifies that the Fund is to consist of:
(1) Amounts repaid for underground storage tank revolving loans; and

(2) Under certain circumstances, fines and penalties collected for violations related to petroleum releases and other moneys received by the State Fire Marshal for enforcement actions.

- Permits unobligated money in the Fund to be transferred to the Underground Storage Tank Administration Fund if the cash balance in the Administration Fund is insufficient to implement the underground storage tank, corrective action, and installer certification programs.

Roller skating rinks

- Removes the requirement to obtain a certificate of registration in order to operate a roller skating rink.

A-1-A liquor permits

- Allows certain A-1-A liquor permit holders to sell growlers of beer from the permit premises provided that certain criteria are met, including requiring the beer to be dispensed in glass containers with a capacity that does not exceed a gallon.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY

- Does both of the following with respect to the grants awarded by the Director of Development Services to local organizing committees, counties, and municipalities to support the selection of a site for certain national and international sports competitions:

  -- Includes boxing and the Special Olympics as eligible sports competitions for purposes of the program; and

  -- Eliminates the requirement that the Director of Budget and Management establish a schedule for the disbursement of the grant payments and that the disbursements be made from the GRF.

- Provides that nothing in the Metropolitan Housing Authority (MHA) Law limits an MHA’s authority to compete for and perform federal housing contracts or grants.
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Meaning of "developmental disability" and eligibility for services

- Provides that an individual under age three may have a developmental disability if the individual has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability (rather than an established risk) of resulting in a developmental delay.

- Removes established risk as a factor in determining whether an individual at least age three but under age six has a developmental disability.

- Eliminates a requirement that the Director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (ODODD) adopt a rule defining "substantial functional limitation," and instead requires the Director to adopt a rule specifying how to determine whether a person age six or older has a substantial functional limitation in a major life activity as appropriate for the person’s age.

- Eliminates a requirement that the Director adopt rules defining "established risk," "biological risk," and "environmental risk."

- Eliminates: (1) ODODD’s express authority to adopt rules establishing eligibility for programs and services for individuals under age six who have a biological or environmental risk of a developmental delay, and (2) county boards of developmental disabilities' (county DD boards’) express authority to establish the individuals' eligibility.

- Requires that the Director’s rules regarding programs and services offered by county DD boards include standards and procedures for making eligibility determinations.

Certification and registration of county DD board employees

- Provides that the Director, rather than the county DD board superintendent, is responsible for the certification or registration of early intervention supervisors and specialists who seek employment with, or are employed by, a county DD board or an entity that contracts with a county DD board.

Supported living providers

- Revises who is a related party of a supported living provider for the purpose of the continuing law that makes a provider and related party temporarily ineligible to apply for a supported living certificate if the Director denies an initial or renewed certificate or revokes a certificate.
• Makes consistent the procedures that ODODD must follow after completing surveys of supported living providers and residential facilities, including requiring survey reports and plans of correction for both to be made available on ODODD’s website.

**ICFs/IID**

• Modifies the Medicaid payment rate formula for intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs/IID) by establishing provisions that apply only to ICFs/IID in peer group 3, and specifies how ICFs/IID are classified in peer group 1, 2, or 3.

• Provides that the Medicaid payment rate for an ICF/IID in peer group 3 is not to exceed the average Medicaid payment rate in effect on July 1, 2013, for developmental centers; specifies how the maximum cost per case-mix unit is to be determined for peer groups 1 and 2 for fiscal year 2015; and specifies the maximum cost per case-mix unit for peer groups 1 and 2 for fiscal years thereafter.

• Eliminates requirements that the ODODD Director, for the purpose of Medicaid payment rates for direct and indirect care costs, adopt rules that specify peer groups of ICFs/IID.

• Provides that the efficiency incentive paid to an ICF/IID under Medicaid for indirect care costs is to be the lesser of: (1) the amount prior law provided, or (2) the difference between the ICF/IID’s per diem indirect care costs as adjusted for inflation and the maximum rate established for the ICF/IID’s peer group.

• Revises: (1) the reduction made to the Medicaid rate paid to an ICF/IID that fails to file a timely cost report or files an incomplete or inadequate cost report, and (2) the period for which the reduction is made.

• Eliminates prohibitions against: (1) more than 600 beds converting from providing ICF/IID services to providing home and community-based services available under ODODD-administered Medicaid waiver programs, and (2) the Medicaid Director seeking federal approval for more than 600 slots for such home and community-based services for the purpose of the bed conversions.

• Revises the requirement that ODODD strive to reduce the statewide number of ICF/IID beds.
**County DD board authority**

- Requires a county DD board, when the superintendent position becomes vacant, to first consider obtaining the services of a superintendent of another county DD board.

- Requires a superintendent of a county DD board, when a management employee position becomes vacant, to first consider obtaining the services of personnel of another county DD board.

- Authorizes two or more county DD boards to agree to share the services of any employee.

- Repeals the law prohibiting a county DD board from contracting with a nongovernmental agency whose board includes a county commissioner of any of the counties served by the county DD board.

-Eliminates requirements that each county DD board: (1) establish an advisory council to provide ongoing communication among all persons concerned with non-Medicaid-funded supported living services, and (2) develop and implement a provider selection system for non-Medicaid-funded supported living services.

- Provides that "adult services" available through county DD boards no longer expressly includes adult day care, sheltered employment, or community employment services.

- Eliminates a provision specifying that "adult day habilitation services," which is a part of "adult services," included counseling and assistance provided to obtain housing.

**Other provisions**

- Requires ODODD to establish a voluntary training and certification program for individuals who provide evidence-based interventions to individuals with an autism spectrum disorder.

- Authorizes disclosure of records and certain other confidential documents relating to a resident, former resident, or person whose institutionalization was sought if disclosure is needed for treatment or the payment of services.

- Authorizes a board of county commissioners to appoint individuals to a county DD board who are eligible for services provided by the board.
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Funding for city, local, and exempted village school districts

- Adds to a school district’s "formula ADM" (the student count used to calculate a district’s state payments) 20% of the number of students who are entitled to attend school in the district and are enrolled in another district under a career-technical education compact.

- For calculating targeted assistance funding for school districts, specifies that the "net formula ADM" does not include 75% of the number of the district’s students who attend a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) school.

Funding for community schools

- Requires the Department of Education to pay each community school, including each Internet- or computer-based community school, 20% of the formula amount for each student who is not taking career-technical education classes provided by the school but is enrolled in career-technical programs at a joint vocational school district or another district in the school’s career-technical planning district.

- For each student for whom a payment is made under that provision, requires the Department to make a corresponding deduction from the state education aid of the student’s resident district.

Adult Career Opportunity Pilot Program

- Establishes the Adult Career Opportunity Pilot Program to permit a community college, technical college, state community college, or technical center that provides post-secondary workforce education to offer a program that allows individuals who are at least 22 years old and have not received a high school diploma or an equivalence certificate to obtain a high school diploma.

- Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Chancellor of the Board of Regents, to adopt rules for the implementation of the program, including requirements for applying for program approval.

- Permits the Superintendent to award planning grants in fiscal year 2015 of up to $500,000 to no more than five eligible institutions geographically dispersed across the state for the purpose of building capacity to implement the pilot program.
• Requires the Superintendent, in consultation with others, to develop recommendations for the method of funding and other associated requirements for the pilot program, and to report the recommendations by December 31, 2014.

**Enrollment of individuals age 22 and older**

• Beginning with fiscal year 2015, permits an individual age 22 or older who has not received a high school diploma or equivalence certificate to enroll for up to two cumulative school years in any of the following for the purpose of earning a high school diploma: (1) a city, local, or exempted village school district or a community school that operates a dropout prevention and recovery program, (2) a joint vocational school district that operates an adult education program, or (3) a community college, university branch, technical college, or state community college.

• For fiscal year 2015, limits the combined enrollment of individuals age 22 and older under the act’s provisions to 1,000 individuals on a full-time equivalency basis, as determined by the Department.

• Requires the Department to annually pay an educational entity, for each individual enrolled under the act’s provisions, $5,000 times the individual’s enrollment on a full-time equivalency basis, as reported by the entity and certified by the Department, times the percentage of the school year in which the individual is enrolled.

• Specifies that an individual enrolled under the act’s provisions may elect to satisfy the requirements to earn a high school diploma by successfully completing a competency-based instructional program that complies with standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

• Requires a joint vocational school district, community college, university branch, technical college, or state community college, if an individual completes the requirements for a diploma, to certify the completion to the city, local, or exempted village school district in which the individual resides, which then must issue a high school diploma to the individual.

• Requires the Department, by December 31, 2015, to prepare and submit a report to the General Assembly regarding services provided to individuals age 22 and older.

**Eligibility for the GED tests**

• Specifies that a person who is at least 18 years old (rather than 19 as under prior law) may take the tests of general educational development (GED) without additional
administrative requirements if the person is officially withdrawn from high school and has not received a high school diploma.

- Requires a person who is at least 16 but less than 18 years old and who applies to take the GED to submit to the Department written approval only from the person’s parent or guardian or a court official (eliminating the requirement to obtain approval from the school district superintendent or community school or STEM school principal where the person was last enrolled).

Other provisions

- Authorizes a board of education to use proceeds from the sale of school district real property for the construction or acquisition of permanent improvements.

- Authorizes all STEM schools and up to ten school districts that are members of the Ohio Innovation Lab Network to request a waiver from the state Superintendent for up to five school years from the administration of the elementary and secondary achievement assessments, teacher and administrator evaluations, and reporting student achievement data for report card purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- Requires the Director of Environmental Protection to administer, in part, a Clean Diesel School Bus Program rather than a Diesel Emissions Reduction Revolving Loan Program, and eliminates the Diesel Emissions Reduction Revolving Loan Fund.

- Eliminates the sunset of the privilege provided to information and communications that are part of environmental audits by eliminating the stipulation that the privilege applied only with regard to audits completed before January 1, 2014.

OHIO FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION

Local shares for certain Expedited Local Partnership districts

- Would have revised the method of determining a school district’s priority for assistance, and local share, under the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program, if the district is participating in the Expedited Local Partnership Program and its tangible
personal property valuation (not including public utility personal property) made up 18% or more of its total taxable value for tax year 2005 (VETOED).

**Surety bond to secure water or energy savings**

- Requires an energy services company to provide a surety bond if the Executive Director of the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission determines that such a bond is necessary to secure energy or water savings guaranteed in an installment payment contract promising those savings.

- Requires an energy services company to provide a surety bond if a board of education determines that such a bond is necessary to secure energy, water, or waste water savings guaranteed in an installment payment contract promising those savings.

- Specifies that the surety bond has a term of not more than one year, and can be renewed for one or two additional terms not exceeding one year, but cannot be effective for more than three consecutive years.

- Specifies that the penal sum of the surety bond equals the annual guaranteed savings amount measured and calculated in accordance with the contract.

- Requires the annual guaranteed savings amount to be measured and calculated in each term-year of the surety bond, and limits liability on a renewed surety bond to the amount measured and calculated for the renewal year.

- Specifies that a surety bond filed by a person who is bidding on certain public improvement contracts cannot secure obligations related to energy, water, or waste water savings as are referenced in the surety bond provisions of the act.

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**BOARD OF EMBALMERS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

- Clarifies that courtesy cards are permits and that courtesy card permit holders are not subject to the Ohio licensure requirements required of recognized out-of-state licensees.

- Allows courtesy card permit holders to supervise and conduct entombments in Ohio in addition to conducting funeral ceremonies and interments as under continuing law.
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Certificate of need

- Specifies that the Director of Health, when monitoring the activities of a person granted a certificate of need (CON), is to determine whether the activity for which the CON was granted is conducted in substantial accordance with the CON, and specifies that no activity is to be determined to be not in substantial accordance due to a decrease in bed capacity of a long-term care facility.

- Establishes a CON replacement procedure, in place of a requirement that a new CON had to be obtained for a change in the bed capacity or site of a long-term care facility or other failure to conduct an activity in substantial accordance with a previously granted CON.

- Provides that a long-term care bed that was proposed to be relocated in an approved CON remains eligible to be recategorized in an application for a replacement CON.

- Requires the Director to review, approve, or deny an application for a replacement CON in the same manner as the application for the approved CON application.

- Changes the deadline by which an affected person may submit to the Director written comments about a CON application.

- Allows a long-term care facility operated by a religious order under an exception to the CON law to provide care to individuals designated by the order as associate members.

Long-term care facilities

- Requires a Department of Health survey team to conclude a survey of a nursing facility not later than one business day after the survey team no longer needs to be on site at the facility for the survey.

- Requires the survey team to conduct an exit interview with a nursing facility not later than the day that the survey team concludes the survey.

- Clarifies the requirement that the Department deliver to a nursing facility a statement of deficiencies not later than ten days after an exit interview by expressly providing that this includes an exit interview at which a survey team discloses a finding that immediate jeopardy exists.
- Establishes requirements for long-term care facilities regarding residents who are identified as sex offenders in the Attorney General's Internet-based sex offender and child-victim offender database.

- Requires the Director to commence a licensing inspection of a nursing home or residential care facility not later than ten business days after receiving a request for an expedited inspection.

- Permits the Director, on request, to conduct a review of plans for a building that is to be used as a nursing home or residential care facility for compliance with building and safety codes.

- Authorizes the Director to charge a fee that is adequate to cover the expense of expediting the inspection or conducting the review.

**Physician and Dentist Loan Repayment programs**

- Permits participation in the Physician Loan Repayment Program and the Dentist Loan Repayment Program on a part-time basis.

- Requires program participants to provide services in settings approved by the Department.

- Permits teaching activities to count toward service hours to the extent specified in the contract between the physician or dentist and the Director.

- Requires that the contract specify the required length of service, weekly hours, maximum amount of repayment, and the extent to which teaching activities may be counted toward practice hours.

- Modifies the limit on the amounts of repayment to be made on behalf of a participating physician or dentist.

- Repeals a requirement that the Department mail to each participating physician or dentist a statement showing the amount repaid in the preceding year.

**Lyme disease**

- Requires a dentist, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant, or physician, when ordering a test for the presence of Lyme disease in a patient, to
provide the patient or patient's representative certain information regarding Lyme disease testing.¹

- Permits a licensed veterinarian to report to the Department any test result indicating the presence of Lyme disease in an animal.

**Other provisions**

- Requires the Ohio Public Health Advisory Board to review and make recommendations regarding proposed changes to policies that apply to WIC program vendors.

- Eliminates the Alcohol Testing Program Fund, and transfers the cash balance to the GRF.

- Requires tattoo parlor operators to ensure that invasive tattooing and body piercing equipment is disinfected and sterilized, instead of requiring the operator to require the individual performing the procedure to disinfect and sterilize the equipment.

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**OHIO HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY**

- Requires the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) to submit its annual financial report and report of programs to the chairs of the committees dealing with housing issues in the House and the Senate.

- Requires the OHFA Executive Director to request to testify before those committees in regard to those reports.

- Expands the duties of the OHFA Executive Director relating to the management of the agency.

- Requires OHFA to demonstrate measurable and objective transparency, efficiently award funding to maximize affordable housing production, encourage national equity investment in low-income housing tax credit projects, and utilize resources to provide competitive homebuyer programs.

¹ This requirement was repealed, effective March 19, 2015, by both H.B. 394 and S.B. 276.
DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

Unemployment

• Breaks an individual’s unemployment benefit registration period if the individual fails to report to the Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) or reopen an existing claim as required under continuing law, thus allowing the Director to immediately cease benefit payments until the requirement is satisfied.

• Expands continuing law’s list of the types of compensation that are not considered "remuneration" for purposes of Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law, thus matching the federal exclusions.

• Requires penalties recovered for fraudulent payments and deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Fund under continuing law to be credited to the Mutualized Account within that Fund.

• Eliminates a $500 forfeiture that was required to be assessed against any employer who failed to furnish information to the ODJFS Director as required by the Unemployment Compensation Law.

• Excludes unemployment repayments made pursuant to unclaimed fund recoveries, lottery award offsets, and state tax refund offsets, from the continuing law order by which the Director must credit employer accounts for amounts repaid.

Child care

• Permits a government or private nonprofit entity with which the Director has contracted to inspect type B family day-care homes to subcontract that duty to another government or private nonprofit entity.

• Eliminates the Director’s authority to contract with a government or private nonprofit entity to license type B homes.

Publicly funded child care

• Permits an applicant to receive publicly funded child care while an eligibility determination is pending.

• Permits a licensed child care program to continue to be paid for providing publicly funded child care for up to five days after an applicant is determined ineligible.
• Permits a licensed child care program to appeal a denial of payment for publicly funded child care provided while an applicant's eligibility determination is pending.

• Permits a caretaker parent to continue receiving publicly funded child care for up to 13 weeks (during a 12-month period) despite failure to meet employment, education, or training requirements.

• Specifies that ODJFS, rather than county departments of job and family services, is responsible for ensuring the availability of protective child care.

• Specifies that ODJFS, rather than county departments, may require a caretaker parent to pay a fee for publicly funded child care.

• Specifies that ODJFS, rather than county departments, may establish a waiting list for publicly funded child care when available resources are insufficient to serve all eligible families, and repeals law specifying county procedures with regard to waiting lists when resources become available.

• Repeals provisions that permitted county departments to specify a maximum amount of income a family could have for eligibility for publicly funded child care that was higher than the amount specified by ODJFS.

**Child support**

• Requires ODJFS to implement a real time data match program with the State Lottery Commission and its lottery sales agents and lottery agents to identify obligors who are subject to a final and enforceable determination of default made under a child support order.

• Requires ODJFS to implement a real time data match program with each casino facility’s casino operator or management company to identify obligors who are subject to a final and enforceable determination of default made under a child support order.

**Office of Human Services Innovation**

• Establishes the Office of Human Services Innovation in ODJFS.

• Requires the Office, not later than January 1, 2015, to submit to the Governor recommendations regarding public assistance programs.
Ohio Healthier Buckeye Council and grant program

- Creates the Ohio Healthier Buckeye Advisory Council and the Ohio Healthier Buckeye Grant Program.

Initiatives to reduce reliance on public assistance

- Requires ODJFS to establish an evaluation system that rates county departments, and permits county departments to implement an evaluation system to rate caseworkers, in terms of their success with helping public assistance recipients obtain employment that enables them to cease relying on public assistance.

- Requires the ODJFS Director to establish the Ohio Works First Employment Incentive Pilot Program under which county caseworkers receive bonuses for helping Ohio Works First participants find employment that enables them to disenroll from Ohio Works First.

- Requires the Governor to convene a workgroup to develop proposals to help individuals to cease relying on public assistance.

Children’s residential facilities

Information to be provided by facilities

- Requires a residential facility that cares for children to provide the following information to local law enforcement agencies, emergency management agencies, and fire departments:

  --Written notice that the facility is located and will be operating in the agency’s or department’s jurisdiction, of the address of the facility, that identifies the type of the facility, and that provides contact information for the facility;

  --A copy of the facility’s procedures for emergencies and disasters;

  --A copy of the facility’s medical emergency plan; and

  --A copy of the facility’s community engagement plan.

Community engagement plans

- Requires each private child placing agency, private noncustodial agency, public children services agency, or superintendent of a county or district children’s home to establish a community engagement plan in accordance with ODJFS rules for each residential facility the agency or superintendent operates.
• Requires ODJFS’s rules to include the contents of the community engagement plans, orientation procedures for training residential facility staff on implementation of the plan, and procedures for responding to incidents involving a child at the facility and neighbors or the police.

**Child Placement Level of Care Tool pilot program**

• Requires ODJFS to implement and oversee use of a Child Placement Level of Care Tool on a pilot basis for 18 months in up to ten counties.

• Requires ODJFS to provide for an independent evaluation of the pilot program to rate the program's success in certain areas.

• Requires ODJFS to seek maximum federal financial participation to support the pilot program and the evaluation and to seek state funding to implement the pilot program and to contract for the independent evaluation.

**Workgroups**

• Establishes the Children Services Funding Workgroup in ODJFS to study the children services funding system and make recommendations to the ODJFS Director on how to distribute money appropriated by the act for children services.

• Establishes the Adult Protective Services Funding Workgroup in ODJFS to study the adult protective services system and make recommendations to the Director on how to distribute money appropriated by the act for adult protective services.

**Disposal of county PCSA paper records**

• Authorizes a public children services agency to submit to the county records commission applications for one-time disposal, or schedules of records retention and disposition, of paper case records that have been entered into the state automated child welfare information system or other electronic files.

• Allows a county records commission to dispose of the paper case records under continuing law’s record retention and disposal procedure.

**Funds abolished**

• Requires the Director of Budget and Management to transfer the balances of certain ODJFS funds to ODJFS’s Administration and Operating Fund or the GRF, and abolishes the funds after the transfers are made.
• Provides for all money (received from the sale of real property) that is no longer needed for the operations of the ODJFS Director under the state’s Labor and Industry Law to be deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Special Administrative Fund.

• Requires all interest earned on funds within the Benefit Account of the Unemployment Compensation Fund to be deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

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**JUDICIARY/SUPREME COURT**

• Requires a reviewing court to determine whether a public children services agency (PCSA) or private child placing agency (PCPA) made reasonable efforts to finalize the permanency plan for a child.

• Requires a reviewing court that determines that a PCSA or PCPA has not made reasonable efforts to finalize the permanency plan to issue an order finalizing a permanency plan requiring the PCSA or PCPA to use reasonable efforts to permanently place the child and to finalize that placement.

• Amends a cross reference in a section of law that lists the circumstances under which a mediator may disclose otherwise confidential communications concerning a mediation to a court or other entity that may make a ruling on the dispute that is the subject of the mediation to do both of the following:

  --Add a reference to a section of law that details exceptions to the mediation communication privilege, including, for example, communications made in a public meeting and communications concerning imminent criminal activity; and

  --Remove a reference to a section of law that states that except as provided in the Open Meetings Law and the Public Records Law, mediation communications are confidential to the extent provided by the parties' agreement or provided by rule or law.

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**MANUFACTURED HOMES COMMISSION**

• Voids a rule that required the Manufactured Homes Commission headquarters to be in Dublin, Ohio.
• States that nothing in the Commission’s rules is to be construed to limit the Department of Administrative Services' authority to lease space for the use of a state agency and to group together state offices in any city in Ohio.

**DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAID**

- Authorizes a nursing facility to receive the higher of the two maximum quality incentive payment rates if it meets the accountability measure regarding a tool for tracking residents’ admissions to hospitals.

- Establishes accountability measures for fiscal year 2016 and thereafter regarding the employment of an independent social worker or social worker and regarding the utilization of a person-centered method of medication delivery.

- Modifies provisions authorizing an alternative purchasing model for certain nursing facility services for residents with specialized health care needs, including establishing the authority on an ongoing basis.

- Provides that a new nursing facility is not required to file a Medicaid cost report for the first calendar year for which it has a Medicaid provider agreement if the agreement goes into effect after the first day of October of that year.

- Creates the Nursing Facility Behavioral Health Advisory Workgroup.

**STATE MEDICAL BOARD**

- Defines the term "massage therapy" for the purposes of the law governing certification of massage therapists by the State Medical Board.

- Allows the Board to adopt rules to establish continuing education requirements for all of the limited branches of medicine regulated by the Board, and eliminates the statutory requirements for continuing education for cosmetic therapists.

- Authorizes the Board to accept money from a fine, civil penalty, or seizure or forfeiture of property.
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

ADAMHS board members

- Modifies the criteria to be considered when appointing the members of a board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services (ADAMHS board) who must be recipients of mental health or addiction services by eliminating a provision requiring that those services are publicly funded.

ADAMHS board's continuum of care

- Requires, beginning September 15, 2016, that the addiction and mental health services that are part of the continuum of care established by an ADAMHS board include intensive and other supports, recovery support, prevention and wellness management, sub-acute detoxification, and an array of treatment and support services for all levels of opioid and co-occurring drug addiction.

- Requires that the array of treatment and support services include at least ambulatory and sub-acute detoxification, nonintensive and intensive outpatient services, medication-assisted treatment, peer mentoring, residential treatment services, recovery housing, and 12-step approaches.

- Establishes requirements and options for the recovery housing that is part of the array of treatment and support services, including requirements regarding who may and may not own and operate the recovery housing.

- Requires an ADAMHS board’s proposed budget to identify funds the board has available for the array of treatment and support services required to be included in the continuum of care.

- Requires the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (ODMHAS) to disapprove an ADAMHS board's proposed budget if the proposed budget would not make available in the board’s service district the essential elements required to be included in the continuum of care.

- Requires ODMHAS to withhold funds otherwise to be allocated to an ADAMHS board if the board’s use of federal or state funds fails to comply with its approved budget and if ODMHAS disapproves all or part of the board's annual community addiction and mental health services plan, budget, or statement of services.

- Establishes duties for community addiction services providers regarding treatment and support services required to be included in an ADAMHS board's continuum of
care, including requirements regarding waiting lists and reports of information to ADAMHS boards.

- Requires ADAMHS boards to compile the information they receive from community addiction services providers and to make certain determinations regarding denied applications for services included in the array of treatment and support services for all levels of opioid and co-occurring drug addiction.

- Requires ADAMHS boards to report to ODMHAS the information they compile and determine and all other information the ODMHAS Director requires.

- Requires ODMHAS to make the reports it receives from ADAMHS boards available on its website.

**Procedures when ADAMHS board is out of compliance**

- Gives an ADAMHS board, when it receives a notice from ODMHAS that the board is out of compliance with statutory requirements, the option to submit evidence of corrective action the board took to achieve compliance.

- Provides that an ADAMHS board has 30, instead of 10, days to present its position that it is in compliance or to submit evidence of corrective action, and requires ODMHAS to hold a hearing within 30, instead of 10, days after receiving the board’s position or evidence.

- Permits ODMHAS to appoint a representative of another ADAMHS board that is in compliance to serve as a mentor for the board in developing and executing a plan of corrective action.

**Intake and resumption of services**

- Requires the ODMHAS Director to adopt rules to: (1) streamline provider intake procedures, and (2) enable providers to retain patients as active patients even though the patients last received services more than 30 days before resumption of services.

**Services for returning offenders**

- Requires the ADAMHS boards serving Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Summit counties to prioritize the use of certain funds to temporarily assist offenders being released from state correctional facilities who have severe mental illnesses and substance use disorders in obtaining Medicaid-covered community mental health and drug addiction services.
Medical records

- Excludes medical records that are covered by release provisions under laws administered by ODMHAS from the general state law that establishes procedures for examining and copying medical records.

Charge-backs

- Requires that the expenses of returning a mentally ill person to the person’s county of legal residence be charged to the county of residence, that a transcript of proceedings be sent to the probate court of the county of residence, and that if the person’s residence cannot be established, the matter be referred to ODMHAS.

Franklin County Probate Court Mental Health Fund

- Expands the possible donors to the Franklin County Probate Court Mental Health Fund to include individuals, corporations, agencies, or organizations, in addition to the Franklin County ADAMHS and Developmental Disabilities (DD) boards.

- Expands the use of the money in the Fund for services for persons under the care of other guardianships, in addition to the Franklin County ADAMHS and DD boards.

- Authorizes the money in the Fund used for the establishment and management of adult guardianships to be utilized to establish a Franklin County guardianship service by creating a Franklin County Guardianship Service Board.

- Permits the members and the director, if any, of the Board to receive appointments from the Franklin County Probate Court to serve as guardians of both the person and estate of wards.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OHIOANS WITH DISABILITIES AGENCY

- Includes the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency within the scope of the Governor’s Office of Health Transformation Law.

- Creates a workforce integration task force within the Agency, and requires the task force to collect specified employment information regarding individuals who are deaf or blind in Ohio.

- Requires the task force to issue a report to the Governor by January 1, 2015, using data that it collected and containing findings and recommendations regarding how
individuals who are deaf or blind in Ohio may be more fully integrated into the workforce.

• Specifies that a member of the Governor's Council on People with Disabilities continues in office after the member's term expires until the member's successor takes office.

• Changes the term of the chairperson of the Council from a one-year term, with the possibility of a second term, to a single two-year term, and specifies that the chairperson continues in office after the chairperson's term expires until the successor chairperson takes office.

• Revises provisions governing administrative support for the Council, but retains the requirement that the Agency's Executive Director provide the Council with an executive secretary.

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**STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**

**Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System**

• Beginning April 1, 2015, establishes conditions related to the State Board of Pharmacy's Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) that apply to a prescriber when prescribing or personally furnishing certain drugs, including the following:

  --That the prescriber, before initially prescribing or personally furnishing an opioid analgesic or a benzodiazepine, request patient information from OARRS that covers at least the previous 12 months;

  --That the prescriber make periodic requests for patient information from OARRS if the course of treatment continues for more than 90 days.

• Specifies circumstances when review of an OARRS report is not required.

• Beginning January 1, 2015, requires that prescribers, as well as pharmacists, when renewing their professional licenses, certify to their licensing boards that they have access to OARRS.

• Requires the Board to provide information from OARRS to the Administrator of Workers' Compensation and a workers' compensation managed care organization if certain criteria are met.
• Permits the Board to use a portion of the licensing fees of terminal distributors of dangerous drugs, pharmacists, pharmacy interns, and wholesale distributors of dangerous drugs to establish or maintain OARRS.

**Terminal distributor licensing**

• Changes to April 1 (from January 1) the beginning of the 12-month licensing period that applies to terminal distributors of dangerous drugs.

• Beginning April 1, 2015, requires certain business entities that previously were exempt from licensure to hold a terminal distributor license in order to possess and distribute dangerous drugs that are compounded or used for compounding.

• Exempts a law enforcement agency from the requirement to be licensed as a terminal distributor when securing and maintaining a supply of naloxone.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

• Clarifies the purposes for which moneys in county indigent drivers alcohol treatment funds, county juvenile indigent drivers alcohol treatment funds, and municipal indigent drivers alcohol treatment funds may be used, and authorizes surplus moneys in the funds to be used for additional purposes.

• Authorizes additional uses for surplus moneys in county indigent drivers interlock and alcohol monitoring funds, county juvenile indigent drivers interlock and alcohol monitoring funds, and municipal indigent drivers interlock and alcohol monitoring funds.

• Creates the Infrastructure Protection Fund in the state treasury.

• Requires that the following fees be deposited into the Infrastructure Protection Fund instead of the Security, Investigations, and Policing Fund: (1) scrap metal and bulk merchandise container dealer registration fees, and (2) impoundment fees relating to a vehicle used in the theft or illegal transportation of metal.

• Authorizes an optometrist to certify that a person is blind, legally blind, or severely visually impaired for purposes of obtaining an accessible parking placard or license plates.

• Makes organizational and technical changes to the law governing parking placards and license plates for persons with disabilities.
• Requires the Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety, not later than January 23, 2015, to submit a written recommendation to the 131st General Assembly for reducing user fees for the Multi-agency Radio Communications System.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

• Specifies that certain persons exempt from the motor carrier law must not be construed to be relieved from complying with the continuing law and rules governing the uniform registration and permitting for transportation of hazardous materials and the duty to pay related fees.

• Permits the Public Utilities Commission, at its discretion and in accordance with federal law, to waive compliance with the federal gas pipeline design requirement regulations that apply to operators of certain pipelines that transport gas produced by horizontal wells.

• Specifies that the 1,125-foot-minimum setback (or in certain cases, the 750-foot-minimum-grandfathered setback) distance for a wind turbine be measured from the tip of the turbine's nearest blade at 90 degrees to the property line of the nearest adjacent property (rather than to the nearest, habitable, residential structure on adjacent property, as required in former law).

• Specifies that amendments made to existing certificates after September 15, 2014, are subject to the measurement changes made by the act.

• Specifies that measurement changes made by the act must not be interpreted to "limit or abridge any rights or remedies in equity or under the common law."

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

• Requires that any repayment of a Clean Ohio Conservation grant be deposited into the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund for return to the natural resource assistance council that approved the original grant application.

• Requires that grant repayments be used for the same purpose for which the grant was originally approved.
• Requires the Ohio Public Works Commission to establish policies that provide for "proper liquidated damages and grant repayment" rather than "proper penalties, including grant repayment," for entities that fail to comply with long-term ownership or control requirements.

**BOARD OF REGENTS**

• Specifies that students attending state universities are not public employees based upon participating in athletics for the state university.

• Requires members of the board of trustees of a state community college district to be qualified electors of the state, rather than qualified electors residing in the district as under prior law.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES/SENATE**

• Entitles members of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (JMOC) to per diem compensation and reimbursement of traveling expenses.

• Specifies that the compensation and reimbursement of traveling expenses are to be paid from funds appropriated for the payment of expenses of legislative committees.

**RETIREMENT**

**STRS membership - performance of auxiliary services**

• Excludes from the membership of the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) any individual holding a teaching license who is performing state-funded auxiliary services for nonpublic school students, regardless of whether the individual is employed by a public school district or under a contract with a third party.

• Requires the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC) to develop a procedure to determine if the individuals excluded from STRS under the act are teachers for purposes of STRS membership and, by December 31, 2014, make its recommendation to the STRS Board.
STRS alternative retirement program mitigating rate

- Provides that, until July 1, 2015, the percentage of an alternative retirement program (ARP) participant’s compensation paid by a public institution of higher education to STRS to mitigate any financial impact of an ARP on STRS cannot exceed 4.5% of the participant’s compensation.

- Requires ORSC to study and recommend changes to the ARP mitigating rate and, by December 31, 2014, report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker.

Deferred compensation programs

- Authorizes a board of education or state institution of higher education that maintains a deferred compensation program for its employees and makes payments to a custodial account for investment in stocks to invest in any stock that is treated as an annuity under Internal Revenue Code provisions dealing with such programs, rather than purchasing stocks only from persons authorized to sell the stock in Ohio.

- Allows a supplemental annuity contract or custodial account offered to an employee by a public institution of higher education to be offered through either: (1) the institution’s choice of providers, or (2) a provider designated by the employee, rather than only through an employee-designated provider.

- Allows a public institution of higher education to impose any terms and conditions the institution chooses on the provider of an annuity contract or custodial account and to prohibit transfer of funds to a third party without the institution’s consent.

SECRETARY OF STATE

- Eliminates the requirement that an entity, other than a candidate, legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee, include the name and residence or business address of the chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of the entity in any political publication or communication it issues.

- Requires instead that all entities, instead of only a candidate, legislative campaign fund, or campaign committee as under prior law, include the name of the entity in their political publications and communications.

- Removes the requirement that an entity that issues a political radio or television communication either: (1) identify the speaker with the speaker's name and
residence address, or (2) identify the chairperson, treasurer, or secretary of the entity with the name and residence or business address of that officer.

- Requires instead that an entity that issues a political radio or television communication include the name of the entity.

- Consolidates language describing the identification and disclaimer requirements for various entities when they print or broadcast communications and hold telephone banks concerning candidates and ballot issues.

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**DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION**

**Income tax**

- Accelerates the phase-in of an income tax rate reduction previously scheduled to reduce tax rates by 9% in the 2014 taxable year and 10% in the 2015 taxable year (compared to 2012 rates), by shifting the 10% rate reduction to the 2014 taxable year and thereafter.

- Increases the personal exemption amounts available to income taxpayers whose Ohio adjusted gross income is $80,000 or less, from $1,700 to either $2,200 or $1,950, depending on the taxpayer's income.

- Increases the Ohio earned income tax credit from 5% to 10% of a taxpayer's federal credit, subject to preexisting limitations on the maximum amount of credit allowed.

- Increases the income tax deduction for business income from 50% to up to 75% of that income for taxable years beginning in 2014 only.

**Property tax**

- Would have required that all new water-works company tangible personal property first subject to taxation in tax year 2014 or thereafter be assessed at 25% of its true value, instead of 88% as required under existing law (VETOED).

- Exempts from taxation the property of a charitable organization that is used exclusively for receiving, processing, distributing, researching, or developing human blood, tissues, eyes, or organs.
• Reduces the number of years a fraternal organization must have been operating in Ohio to be eligible for a property tax exemption for property used primarily for meetings and administration.

• Requires the Superintendent of Real Estate and Professional Licensing to adopt administrative rules governing the qualifications of mass appraisal project managers.

Lodging taxes

• Allows a county with a population of between 375,000 and 400,000 (currently, Stark County) to use up to $500,000 of the revenue it receives each year from an existing lodging tax to finance the improvement of a stadium located in the county, in cooperation with other parties.

• Authorizes Allen County to levy a tax on hotel lodging transactions of up to 3% for the purpose of expanding, maintaining, or operating a soldier's memorial.

Historic building rehabilitation credit

• Permits the Development Services Agency to issue one historic building rehabilitation tax credit certificate per fiscal biennium to the owner of a "catalytic project."

• Provides that the certificate may equal up to $25 million, instead of the $5 million cap that applies to other projects, but limits the owner of the catalytic project to claiming only $5 million of the total certificate amount per year.

• Temporarily authorizes owners of an historic rehabilitation tax credit certificate to claim a credit against the commercial activity tax (CAT) if the owner cannot claim the credit against another tax.

Other provisions

• Authorizes limited pass-through treatment of the CAT historic rehabilitation tax credit for corporate owners of a pass-through entity eligible to claim the credit.

• Authorizes political subdivisions to use revenue collected from tax increment financing (TIF) to fund the provision of gas or electric services by or through privately owned facilities if doing so is necessary for economic development.
• Modifies the procedure that the Tax Commissioner and a vendor may use to allow the vendor to remit sales tax on the basis of a prearranged agreement without keeping complete and accurate records of the vendor’s taxable sales.

• Would have authorized the Department of Taxation to disclose otherwise confidential sales and use tax return or audit information to counties as necessary to verify vendor compliance with county sales and use taxes (VETOED).

• Extends, from 24 to 36 months, the period of time over which the Tax Commissioner may spread the recovery of refunds that are deducted from taxes and fees collected by the Commissioner and distributed to local governments.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

• Authorizes the Director of Transportation to allow associations of local governments to participate in Department of Transportation contracts for the purchase of machinery, materials, supplies, or other articles, and exempts those purchases from competitive bidding.

• Creates the Maritime Port Funding Study Committee to explore alternative funding mechanisms for Ohio’s maritime ports.

• Designates the portion of U.S. 23 in Scioto County, from mile marker 3 to mile marker 10, as the Branch Rickey Memorial Highway, in addition to the portion of that road that is already designated under continuing law.

TREASURER OF STATE

• Permits state obligations issued to finance a transportation facility pursuant to a public-private agreement to have a maximum maturity of 45 years.

• Permits the costs associated with the issuance of the obligations, such as services provided by attorneys, financial advisors, and other agents, to be paid from sources other than state infrastructure bank funds, if so provided in the bond proceedings.

• Specifies that, if the obligations are additionally secured by a trust agreement or indenture with a trust company or bank:

  (1) The trust company or bank may have a place of business outside the state; and
The trust company or bank must possess corporate trust powers.

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

Child abuse or neglect

- Requires a person who reports abuse, neglect, or threat of abuse or neglect of a child under 18, or a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically impaired child under 21, to direct the report to the State Highway Patrol if the child is a delinquent child in the custody of a Department of Youth Services (DYS) institution or a private entity under contract with DYS.

- Requires the Patrol, upon finding probable cause of the abuse, neglect, or threat, to report its findings to DYS, the court that ordered the delinquent child’s custody to DYS, the public children services agency in the child’s county of residence or where the abuse, neglect, or threat occurred, and the Correctional Institution Inspection Committee.

- Adds a superintendent or regional administrator employed by DYS to the list of persons prohibited from failing to make reports of abuse or neglect or threat of abuse or neglect of a child under 18 or a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically impaired child under 21.

Quality Assurance Program

- Establishes the Office of Quality Assurance and Improvement within DYS.

- Provides that quality assurance records are confidential and are not public records.

- Provides circumstances for when quality assurance records may be disclosed and testimony may be provided concerning those records.

Placement of delinquents in a community corrections facility

- Allows DYS, with the consent of the juvenile court with jurisdiction over the Montgomery County Center for Adolescent Services, to establish a single unit within the community corrections facility for female felony delinquents committed to DYS’s custody.

- Permits DYS to place female felony delinquents in the facility without separate approval of the court.
County juvenile program allocations

- Amends a provision pertaining to the formula for DYS's division of county juvenile program allocations among county juvenile courts.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

County transit franchise agreements

- Permits a board of county commissioners, on behalf of a county transit board, to award a franchise to a franchisee to operate a public transit system.

- Authorizes the board of county commissioners to issue a certification to the franchisee to operate the public transit system, and prohibits the franchisee from operating the system until the certification is issued.

- Requires a certification to include certain performance targets for the franchisee, including cost savings to the county, gains in efficiency, safety and security, service to the traveling public, return on investments, and any other performance targets as determined by the board.

- Specifies that a franchise may include the right of a franchisee to provide transportation services for a county department of job and family services.

- Prescribes a competitive bidding procedure that a board of county commissioners must follow when it awards a franchise to operate a public transit system.

- Provides that if a board of county commissioners awards a franchise to a franchisee on behalf of a county transit board, the board of county commissioners, the county transit board, and the franchisee all are required to submit certain annual reports.

Other provisions

- Converts the judgeship of the Avon Lake Municipal Court from part-time to full-time.

- Extends the option to select three-year or permanent registration to persons who acquire a dog after the January 31 registration deadline, and clarifies that the penalty for failure to timely register a dog is the amount of the one-year registration fee.
• Effective December 1, 2014, revises the registration deadlines, options, and fees for dogs becoming three months of age after July 1 or purchased outside the state after that date.

• Permits county homes and district homes that are nursing facilities to provide sub-acute detoxification services to residents who have been determined to be addicted to opioids by the Preadmission Screening and Annual Resident Review System.

• Specifies that a township or village financial planning and supervision commission terminates when the township or village dissolves.

• Expands the individuals who are authorized to participate in a direct deposit payroll policy of a municipal corporation, county, or township.

• Allows art museums, upon meeting certain conditions, to receive annual payments, calculated on the basis of taxable property values, from boards of education, the governing board of an educational service center, and the city or county in which the art museum is located.

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**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

**Qualifications for certain boards and commissions**

• Defines "office of trust or profit" to specify which other positions an individual holds disqualify the individual from being elected or appointed to the State Board of Education, or appointed to: the State Personnel Board of Review, the Industrial Commission, the Unemployment Compensation Review Commission, the Liquor Control Commission, or the Public Utilities Commission.

**Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission**

• Requires the 12 General Assembly members on the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission to meet, organize, and elect co-chairpersons, and to appoint additional members to re-create the Commission, not later than January 10 of every even-numbered year.

• Allows members of the Commission to continue in office until their successors are appointed.
Veterans memorial and museum

- Requires a new nonprofit corporation to be organized to operate a veterans memorial and museum that is to be constructed at a designated site in Columbus that is owned by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners.

- Authorizes the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners to lease the site to an Ohio nonprofit corporation for the construction, development, and operation of the veterans memorial and museum.

- Authorizes a board of county commissioners to appropriate funds to the new nonprofit corporation or to the nonprofit corporation to which the county has leased the property for permanent improvements and operating expenses of the veterans memorial and museum.

- Provides for the appointment of the board of directors of the new nonprofit corporation.

- Specifies that meetings and records of the new nonprofit corporation are to be open to the public.

Federal-Military Jobs Commission

- Establishes a nine-member Federal-Military Jobs Commission (FMJC) to develop and maintain an ongoing strategy for retention and growth of federal-military agencies and missions and associated private sector jobs in the state.

- Requires the FMJC to issue a report of its activities, including the findings and evaluations required by the act, not later than April 1, 2015.

- Creates the Federal-Military Jobs Fund.

Appropriations of property under Eminent Domain

- Under the Eminent Domain Law, increases from $10,000 to $25,000 the maximum amount an agency (public or private agency or displacing agency) that appropriates property must pay to a farm owner, nonprofit corporation, or small business for reestablishment expenses.

- Increases from $20,000 to $40,000 the maximum fixed amount a displacing agency must pay to a person who is displaced from the person's place of business or farm operation in lieu of the payment of the reestablishment expenses.
• Increases from $22,500 to $31,000 the maximum additional payment such a displacing agency must pay to a person who is displaced from a dwelling the person owns and occupies.

• Reduces from 180 days to 90 days the period of time the displaced person must have occupied the dwelling prior to the initiation of negotiations for the acquisition of the property, for purposes of qualifying for the additional maximum payment of $31,000.

• Reduces from 180 days to 90 days the period of time the acquired dwelling must have been encumbered by a bona fide mortgage in order for the displaced person to be eligible for additional payment for any increased interest costs or debt service.

• Increases from $5,250 to $7,200 the maximum supplemental payment a displacing agency must pay to a person who is displaced from a dwelling to enable, under specified circumstances, the person to lease or rent a comparable replacement dwelling.

• Eliminates the limitation on the amount of the supplemental payment if the person occupied the dwelling for more than 90 but less than 180 days prior to the initiation of negotiations.

State Penal Museum

• Designates the museum located on the grounds of the Ohio State Reformatory, which is operated by the Mansfield Reformatory Preservation Society, as the official State Penal Museum.

Limitations period for actions against surveyors

• Establishes four years from the completion of the engagement on which the cause of action is based as the period within which a professional negligence action against a registered surveyor must be commenced.

Shock probation

• Permits an offender whose offense was committed before July 1, 1996, who otherwise satisfies the criteria for shock probation as the law applied prior to July 1, 1996, to make a one-time application to the offender's sentencing court for shock probation under that former law.
Criminal Justice Recodification Committee

- Creates the temporary Criminal Justice Recodification Committee to study Ohio's criminal statutes with the goal of enhancing public safety and the administration of justice, and requires the Committee to submit recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2016.

Lawrence County's use of former juvenile correctional facility

- Authorizes the Lawrence County Board of County Commissioners and the Director of Administrative Services to enter into an agreement under which the Lawrence County sheriff may use a portion of the former Ohio River Valley Juvenile Correctional Facility in Scioto County (referred to in the act as the Ohio River Valley Facility) as a jail.

- Specifies that if a portion of the Facility is used as a jail pursuant to such an agreement:
  
  (1) It may be used for confinement of prisoners from Lawrence County or another county that has entered into an agreement with the Lawrence County sheriff for its use;
  
  (2) It generally will be subject to the same laws and conditions as if it were a Lawrence County jail; and
  
  (3) Its use is subject to specified terms and conditions, including duties and responsibilities for its operation, management, payment of costs, and potential liability, etc., as if it were a Lawrence County jail.

International Symbol of Access

- Requires any person who erects or replaces a sign that contains the International Symbol of Access to use forms of the word "accessible" rather than any form of the words "handicapped" or "disabled" whenever words are included on the sign.

Community improvement corporations

- Provides that, in addition to land, a community improvement corporation may sell, lease, or accept the conveyance of other categories of real property (buildings, structures, and other improvements to land) owned by a political subdivision that has designated the corporation as its agent for economic development purposes.
Am. H.B. 497

(For details of fiscal provisions of the act, see LSC Fiscal Note and Capital Item Analysis, As Enacted, available online at www.lsc.ohio.gov/fiscal/capitalbudget130/enacted/default.htm)


Sens. Sawyer, Tavares, Bacon, Beagle, Brown, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Lehner, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Turner, Uecker

Effective date: July 1, 2014

• Makes capital appropriations and reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2016.

• Specifies what duties and functions of the Ohio Building Authority are to be carried out by the Treasurer of State, the Department of Administrative Services, or another state agency.

• Establishes the Transportation Facilities Bond Service Trust Fund as a custodial fund.

• Establishes the Transportation Building Fund in the state treasury.
Am. Sub. H.B. 109

Sens. Bacon, Burke, Coley, Hughes
Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Prohibits a person from selling or distributing a hearing aid to a consumer through the mail without a written acknowledgment from the ultimate consumer that an in-person examination is recommended.
- Makes a violation of the prohibitions an unfair or deceptive act or practice, and establishes a fine of up to $1,000.

Sub. H.B. 144

Sens. Beagle, Eklund, Hughes, Lehner, Peterson
Effective date: August 2, 2014; Section 3 effective June 3, 2014

- Prohibits a child, unless accompanied by a parent, adult spouse, or legal guardian, from consuming, possessing, using, purchasing, attempting to purchase, ordering, paying for, sharing the cost of, accepting, or receiving alternative nicotine products.
- Prohibits a child from knowingly furnishing false identification to obtain alternative nicotine products.
- Expands the offense of "permitting children to use cigarettes or other tobacco products" to include alternative nicotine products.
- Expands the offense of "illegal distribution of cigarettes or other tobacco products" to include alternative nicotine products.
- Requires age verification in a specified manner before alternative nicotine products, papers used to roll cigarettes, or tobacco products other than cigarettes can be sold or otherwise distributed over the Internet or through another remote method.
• Authorizes sellers to perform transaction scans to check the validity of drivers' licenses and other identification cards presented as a condition for distributing alternative nicotine products.

• Permits sellers to raise as an affirmative defense against a charge of distributing alternative nicotine products to a child that a transaction scan of the recipient's license or identification card was performed, the scan indicated validity, and the scan was reasonably relied upon.

**Am. S.B. 98**

**Sens.** Obhof and Kearney, Eklund, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, LaRose, Brown, Uecker, Burke, Coley, Gardner, Hughes, Jones, Manning, Oelslager

**Reps.** Anielski, Antonio, Ashford, Baker, Beck, Bishoff, Blessing, Boose, Brown, Burkley, Butler, Carney, Hall, Hayes, Letson, Pillich, Romanchuk, Sears, Terhar, Thompson, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** May 20, 2014

• Standardizes the law regarding statutory agents or designated agents for corporations, nonprofit corporations, foreign corporations, limited liability companies, foreign limited liability companies, associations, credit unions, unincorporated nonprofit associations, business trusts, real estate investment trusts, health insuring corporations, partnerships, foreign limited liability partnerships, limited partnerships, and foreign limited partnerships.

**Sub. S.B. 260**

**Sens.** Patton, Balderson, Hite, Coley, Hughes, Jones


**Effective date:** September 4, 2014

• Prohibits the Registrar of Motor Vehicles from issuing a dealer's license or leasing dealer's license to a manufacturer for the retail sale or lease of new or used motor vehicles.

• Does not prohibit a motor vehicle manufacturer from owning, operating, or controlling not more than three licensed motor vehicle dealerships in Ohio if, as of January 1, 2014, the manufacturer was selling or otherwise distributing all-electric motor vehicles at an established place of business in Ohio.
• Terminates the foregoing exception if the manufacturer's motor vehicle operations are sold or acquired or if the manufacturer produces any motor vehicles other than all-electric vehicles.
Proposes to amend the Ohio Constitution as follows:

**Ohio Redistricting Commission**

- Replaces the Apportionment Board with the Ohio Redistricting Commission, and makes the Commission responsible for redistricting the state for the General Assembly.

- Specifies that the Commission consists of the Governor, the Auditor of State, the Secretary of State, and four persons appointed by majority and minority leaders in the General Assembly.

- Requires the legislative leaders in the Senate and the House of Representatives of each of the two largest political parties represented in the General Assembly, acting jointly by political party, to appoint a co-chairperson of the Commission.

- Requires the Governor to convene the Commission only in years ending in the numeral one, unless the Commission is convened by a court to draw judicially invalidated districts or the Commission must draw new districts following the expiration of a plan adopted under the proposal's impasse procedure.

- Prescribes procedural requirements for meetings of the Commission.

- Requires the General Assembly to make the appropriations it determines are necessary in order for the Commission to perform its duties.

**Method of selecting a district plan**

- Requires the Commission to adopt a district plan by a specified bipartisan vote of four members.

- Specifies that, if the Commission fails to adopt a final district plan not later than September 1, the Commission must introduce a district plan by a simple majority vote and must hold a public hearing on the plan.
• Requires the Commission, not later than September 15, to adopt a final district plan, either by the bipartisan vote described above or by a simple majority vote.

• Specifies that if the Commission adopts a plan by that bipartisan vote, the plan remains effective until the next year ending in the numeral one, unless a court convenes the Commission to redraw judicially invalidated districts.

• Provides generally that if the Commission adopts a plan by a simple majority vote, the plan remains effective until two general elections for the House of Representatives have occurred under the plan.

• Specifies that if, before a year ending in the numeral one, the Commission adopts another plan by a simple majority vote to replace a plan adopted under the impasse procedure, the newly adopted plan remains effective until a year ending in the numeral one, unless the Commission is reconstituted and convened by a court to draw judicially invalidated districts.

• Requires a plan adopted by a simple majority vote to include a statement explaining what the Commission determined to be the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio and the manner in which the statewide proportion of districts in the plan whose voters, based on statewide state and federal partisan general election results during the last ten years, favor each political party corresponds closely to those preferences.

• Allows a member of the Commission who does not vote in favor of the plan to submit a declaration of the member’s opinion concerning that statement.

• Requires, after a plan adopted by a simple majority vote ceases to be effective after two general elections for the House of Representatives, that the Commission convene not earlier than July 1 of the following year to adopt a new General Assembly district plan using the same population and political subdivision boundary data as were used to draw the previous plan.

**District standards**

• Establishes new constitutional standards for the drawing of General Assembly districts.

**Legal challenges**

• Specifies that, if any section of the Constitution relating to redistricting, any General Assembly district plan, or any district is determined to be invalid by an unappealed final order of a court of competent jurisdiction, then the Commission must be reconstituted and convene to adopt a district plan that conforms with the provisions of the Constitution that are then valid.
• Prohibits a court, in any circumstance, from ordering the implementation or enforcement of any plan that has not been approved by the Commission.

• Prohibits a court from ordering the Commission to adopt a particular General Assembly district plan or to draw a particular district.

• Prescribes the available remedies in the event that the Ohio Supreme Court determines that a General Assembly district plan adopted by the Commission does not comply with the constitutional district standards.

Miscellaneous

• Repeals the constitutional provision describing the district plans in effect until January 1, 1973.

S.J.R. 6

Sens. Bacon and Manning, Coley, Oelslager, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Gardner, Sawyer, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Peterson, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Lehner, Schaffer, Seitz, Turner, Uecker


Adopted: January 22, 2014; approved by voters May 6, 2014, and effective May 6, 2014

• Enacts Section 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution to permit the issuance of an additional $1.875 billion of general obligation bonds to fund public infrastructure capital improvements of local subdivisions.
Sub. H.B. 9


Sen. Coley

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Appointment of receiver

- Expands the law that prohibits any party, attorney, or person interested in an action from being appointed receiver except by consent of the parties by providing that the consent also be of all other persons holding a recorded ownership interest in or a recorded or filed lien on the property that is subject to the action.

- Modifies one of the conditions for appointing a receiver in foreclosure actions by providing that either the property is probably insufficient to discharge the mortgage debt (continuing law) or the mortgagor has consented in writing to the appointment of a receiver.

- Provides that a receiver may be appointed to enforce a contractual assignment of rents and leases.

- Requires that a receiver appointed in specified types of actions be appointed only with respect to the particular property that is the subject of the action.

Powers of receiver

- Requires the powers of a receiver to be specified in the order of the court that appointed the receiver as those powers may be modified by the court or otherwise approved by the court upon application of the receiver or a party to the action.

- Expands the powers of receivers to include the execution of deeds, leases, or other documents of conveyance of real or personal property and to open and maintain deposit accounts in the receiver's name.

- Specifically authorizes a receiver to enter into contracts, including sale or lease or, so long as existing lien rights will not be impacted, contracts for construction and for the completion of construction work.

- Requires that funds expended in entering or performing the contracts be taxed as court costs or otherwise treated as an administrative expense of the proceeding.
• Modifies the laws pertaining to attachment proceedings and the examination of a judgment debtor in proceedings in aid of execution to provide that a receiver appointed in those proceedings, under the control of the appointing judge, may exercise the same powers specified in the act and in continuing law.

**Power to sell property; manner of sale**

• Specifies that a receiver may sell and make transfers of real or personal property.

• Specifies that, subject to the court's approval and supervision, a receiver may sell property free and clear of liens by private sale, private or public auction, or any other method determined by the court to be fair to the owners and parties with an interest in the property, to be reasonable, and will maximize the return to the receivership.

**Procedures for sale of real property**

• Prescribes the requirements for a sale of real property, including an application by the receiver or the first mortgage holder for authority to sell the property and notice and an opportunity to be heard given to the property owners, parties to the action, and all other persons with a recorded or filed lien encumbering the property.

• Authorizes a court to order that real property be sold free and clear of all liens, other than a lien for real estate taxes and assessments, if so requested in the receiver's application for authority to sell and upon a finding by the court after notice and an opportunity to be heard that such sale is in the best interest of the receivership.

• Requires that the court order approving the application for authority to sell real property set a reasonable time, not less than three days, after the date of the order approving the sale for the owner and all parties with an equity of redemption in the property to exercise that equity or have it forever barred.

• Until the date the court sets for the termination of the time for redemption, permits a fee owner to redeem the property from the sale by paying the receiver the greater of the sale price or an amount equal to the total liens that were to be canceled by the sale, including principal, interest, costs, and other amounts secured by the liens.

• Requires a receiver to execute and deliver a receiver's deed to the purchaser of the real property if the sale is conducted in accordance with the terms of the court order.

• If the receiver received a specific offer for sale, requires the receiver to file with the court and serve upon all the parties and persons receiving the notice of the application for authority to sell a certificate and report of sale.
Leases pertaining to natural gas and petroleum

• Specifies that all leases, licenses, and their assignments, or any interest in them, given or made concerning lands or tenements in Ohio, by which any right is granted to operate or to sink or drill wells for natural gas or petroleum, create an interest in real estate.

• Specifies that the record of leases, memoranda of leases, and their supplements, modifications, and amendments that a county recorder must keep includes a lease by which any right is granted to operate or to sink or drill wells for natural gas and petroleum or either.

Study committee

• Creates a Study Committee on Receivership Laws to study matters related to receiverships and payment of public utility services, consisting of six members, three from the House of Representatives and three from the Senate.

Am. Sub. H.B. 261

Reps. Butler and Stinziano, Antonio, Baker, Barnes, Bishoff, Blessing, Boose, Burkley, Conditt, Green, Hottinger, Letson, Patmon, Ruhl, Sprague, Terhar, Batchelder

Sens. Obhof, Coley, Seitz, Eklund, Oelslager

Effective date: July 10, 2014

Assigned and acting municipal court judges

• Modifies the law regarding a vacancy in the office of a judge of a municipal or county court, or the incapacitation or unavailability of the judge due to certain circumstances, by allowing for the assignment or appointment of an "assigned judge" or "acting judge," depending on the number of judges on the court and the circumstances of the vacancy.

• Modifies the law regarding the per diem compensation of an assigned or acting judge, and the law regarding the reimbursement of an assigned or acting judge, by allowing for reimbursement by the Supreme Court of a portion of the local funding authority’s costs.

Disqualification of judges

• Eliminates the requirements and procedure for filing an affidavit of disqualification for a judge of a municipal or county court, and instead includes the disqualification of a judge of a municipal or county court or the Court of Claims within the
requirements and procedure for filing an affidavit of disqualification for a judge of the court of common pleas, a probate judge, or a judge of the court of appeals.

**Court of Claims; reparations awards**

- Abolishes the office of commissioner of the Court of Claims.
- Provides that appeals from decisions of the Attorney General on applications for awards of reparations for economic loss arising from criminally injurious conduct go directly to the Court of Claims, instead of to the commissioners or a judge of the Court of Claims.
- Transfers the functions with regards to awards of reparations from the Court of Claims commissioners or a single judge of the Court of Claims to the Court.
- Modifies the Attorney General's annual report on the crime victims reparations program to eliminate from separate listings the compensation of judges and court personnel.
- Conforms the time period within which adult crime victims must file reparations claims to other continuing law.
- Authorizes the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to appoint magistrates (rather than referees) in civil actions in the Court of Claims, and authorizes a magistrate to disclose or refer to certain records or reports otherwise exempt from public disclosure in reparations hearings.
- Changes the basis of the per diem compensation of a retired judge who serves on the Court of Claims from the annual compensation of a court of appeals judge to the annual compensation of a court of common pleas judge.

**Sub. H.B. 309**


**Sens.** Kearney, LaRose, Brown, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Lehner, Patton, Sawyer, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

**Effective date:** September 17, 2014

- Prohibits any court or unit of state or local government from charging a petitioner or movant for, or registrant of, a protection order or consent agreement any money in
connection with the modification, enforcement, dismissal, or withdrawal of the order or agreement.

- Prohibits any court or unit of state or local government from charging a petitioner or movant for, or registrant of, a protection order or consent agreement any money in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, modification, enforcement, dismissal, withdrawal, or service of a witness subpoena.

- Specifies that the continuing prohibition against assessing any money in connection with the filing of a petition or motion for, the filing, issuance, registration, or service of, or obtaining a certified copy of a protection order or consent agreement applies only with respect to a petitioner, movant, or registrant.

- Authorizes a court to assess costs against the respondent, defendant (if convicted), or person subject to a registered protection order in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, modification, enforcement, dismissal, withdrawal, or service of a protection order, consent agreement, or witness subpoena, regardless of whether a court issues a protection order or approves a consent agreement.

- Authorizes a court to assess costs against the respondent, defendant (if convicted), or person subject to a registered protection order for obtaining a certified copy of a protection order or consent agreement, regardless of whether a court issues a protection order or approves a consent agreement.

- Prohibits taxation of interpreter’s fees as costs if the party to be taxed is indigent.

- Eliminates the requirement that a court make a specific determination regarding the qualifications of an interpreter for a mentally retarded or developmentally disabled party or witness who cannot readily understand or communicate because of a hearing, speech, or other impairment.

**Am. Sub. S.B. 43**

**Sens.**  Burke and Tavares, Balderson, Kearney, Seitz, Sawyer, Coley, Bacon, Beagle, Brown, Gardner, Hite, Jones, Lehner, Manning, Oelslager, Peterson, Schaffer, Smith


**Effective date:** September 17, 2014

**Court-ordered treatment for mentally ill person**

- Changes the term "mentally ill person subject to hospitalization by court order" to "mentally ill person subject to court order," and modifies the definition of that term.
• Modifies the term "treatment plan" as used with respect to persons committed or hospitalized under the law.

• Specifies that proceedings for hospitalization of a mentally ill person pursuant to court order are for court-ordered treatment rather than hospitalization.

• Clarifies that the affidavit for the proceedings is filed with the probate court in the county where the mentally ill person resides, requires that the affidavit be in a form prescribed by the Revised Code instead of by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and prescribes the language that must be in the affidavit.

• In the continuing statute requiring an investigation when an affidavit for court-ordered treatment is filed, clarifies that the probate court is the involved court, specifies that the probate court must refer the affidavit within two business days after receipt, and specifies that the purpose of the investigation includes the determination of the availability of alternatives to hospitalization.

**Treatment setting and progress**

• Provides that the court's order may include a requirement that a specified person or entity inform the board of alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health services, or community mental health services provider the board designates, about the respondent's progress with the treatment plan.

• Modifies the law regarding the court-ordered 90-day commitment of a mentally ill individual by: (1) providing that, if the individual is receiving treatment in an outpatient setting or receives treatment in an outpatient setting during a subsequent period of continued commitment, the entity or person to whom the individual is committed must determine the appropriate outpatient treatment for the individual, and (2) replacing the term "environment" with the term "setting" in a provision that specifies what is to be done if a specified person or entity determines during the 90-day period that the individual's treatment needs could be equally well met in a less restrictive setting.

• Adds the term "treatment" in several laws that pertain to voluntary admission of an individual who has been committed or for whom commitment proceedings have been commenced, to the possible discharge of an individual at the end of a 90-day commitment period if the individual has not already been discharged or voluntarily admitted, and the term "commitment" in the provision regarding confidentiality of most documents that pertain to possible court-ordered hospitalization of an individual.

• Provides that if the entity or person to whom the respondent was ordered for treatment determines that the respondent has demonstrated voluntary consent for
treatment, the entity or person must submit to the court a report of its findings and recommendations, and on review of the facts the court may dismiss the case.

- Provides for a procedure if the respondent has either failed to comply with the treatment plan or begun to demonstrate signs of decompensation that may be grounds for hospitalization.

**Liability for persons assisting in treatment**

- Provides that certain specified persons who act in good faith and who procedurally or physically assist in the court-ordered treatment of a person do not come within any criminal provisions and are free from liability to the person receiving court-ordered treatment.

**Court and attorney fees**

- Allows for the payment of attorney’s fees for an attorney appointed by the probate division for an indigent who allegedly is a person suffering from alcohol and other drug abuse and who may be ordered to undergo treatment for alcohol and other drug abuse.

- Establishes a $25 fee for filing an affidavit and proceedings for a mentally ill person subject to court order.

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**Am. Sub. S.B. 177**

**Sens.** Skindell and Hughes, Brown, Cafaro, Gentile, Kearney, Schiavoni, Sawyer, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Hite, Jones, LaRose, Manning, Obhof, Patton, Seitz


**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Permits the court, when issuing any of the following protection orders or consent agreement, to include a term requiring that the respondent or alleged offender not remove, damage, hide, harm, or dispose of any companion animal owned or possessed by the person to be protected, or a term authorizing the protected person to remove a companion animal owned by the person from the possession of the respondent or alleged offender:

  (1) A juvenile court protection order;
(2) A criminal protection order based on a crime not involving a family or household member;
(3) A civil stalking or sexually oriented offense protection order involving any person;
(4) A criminal temporary protection order based on a crime involving a family or household member;
(5) A domestic violence or sexually oriented offense civil protection order or consent agreement involving a family or household member.

- Applies the additional filing fees collected in a civil action to provide financial assistance to legal aid societies and to support the State Public Defender's Office to domestic relations proceedings.
- Establishes an additional filing fee for custody, visitation, and parentage actions.
• In the continuing prohibition under the offense of "aggravated menacing" that prohibits a person from knowingly causing another to believe that the offender will cause serious physical harm to the person or property of the other person, the other person's unborn, or a member of the other person's immediate family, provides that in addition to any other basis for the other person's such belief, the other person's belief may be based on words or conduct of the offender directed at or identifying a corporation, association, or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.

• In the continuing general prohibition under the offense of "menacing by stalking" that prohibits any person by engaging in a pattern of conduct from knowingly causing another to believe that the offender will cause physical harm or mental distress to the other person, provides that in addition to any other basis for the other person's such belief, the other person's belief may be based on words or conduct of the offender directed at or identifying a corporation, association, or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.

• In the continuing prohibition under the offense of "menacing" that prohibits any person from knowingly causing another to believe that the offender will cause physical harm to the person or property of the other person, the other person's unborn, or a member of the other person's immediate family, provides that in addition to any other basis for the other person's such belief, the other person's belief may be based on words or conduct of the offender directed at or identifying a corporation, association, or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.

• Permits a corporation, association, or other organization that employs two or more alleged victims of aggravated menacing, menacing by stalking, or menacing or to which two or more alleged victims of any of those offenses belong to file a motion
for a temporary protection order on behalf of the corporation, association, or other organization if the offense is based on the offender's words or conduct directed at or identifying the corporation, association, or organization.

- Permits a corporation, association, or other organization that employs two or more alleged victims of menacing by stalking or to which two or more alleged victims of that offense belong to file a petition for a civil protection order on behalf of the corporation, association, or other organization if the offense is based on the offender's words or conduct directed at or identifying the corporation, association, or organization.

- Permits an attorney, on behalf of the corporation, association, or other organization, to file an affidavit to provide sufficient evidentiary support for the issuance of a temporary protection order or a civil protection order described above.

- Specifies that, as used in all of the above provisions, "organization" includes an entity that is a governmental employer.

**Am. Sub. H.B. 130**


**Sens.** Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Obhof, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Widener

**Effective date:** Emergency, June 20, 2014

**Juvenile court proceedings**

- Prohibits placement of a child who is in the temporary custody of a public children services agency (PCSA) or private child placing agency (PCPA) with a parent if the parent has been convicted of promoting prostitution, compelling prostitution, or trafficking in persons, a substantially equivalent offense under a law of Ohio, any other state, or the United States, or a conspiracy or attempt to commit or complicity in committing any of those offenses, and the victim was the child, the child’s sibling, or another child who lived in the parent’s household at the time of the offense.
• Provides that a PCSA or PCPA does not have to make reasonable efforts to prevent removal of a child from home, to eliminate continued removal, or to make it possible for the child to return home if a parent has been convicted of promoting prostitution, compelling prostitution, or trafficking in persons, a substantially equivalent offense under a law of Ohio, any other state, or the United States, or a conspiracy or attempt to commit or complicity in committing any of those offenses, and the victim was the child, the child’s sibling, or another child who lived in the parent’s household at the time of the offense.

**Trafficking in persons**

• Makes victims of trafficking in persons eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction.

• Confirms and continues an increase, from six years to 20 years, in the limitation period for the offense of trafficking in persons, and for a conspiracy to commit, attempt to commit, or complicity in committing that offense, that was enacted in 2013 by H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly.

• Regarding the offense of trafficking in persons:
  
  (1) In the preexisting prohibition regarding a person compelled to engage in sexual activity for hire or in a performance or production of material that is obscene, sexually oriented, or nudity oriented, expands the meaning of "compelled" so that the required compulsion is established if the state proves that the victim’s will was overcome by fraud;

  (2) Adds to the offense new prohibitions against knowingly recruiting, luring, enticing, etc., or knowingly attempting to do any of those things to, another person if the other person either (a) is younger than 16 years old or is a developmentally disabled person whom the offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe is a developmentally disabled person, or (b) is 16 or 17 and certain circumstances apply with respect to the offender and the other person (including that the offender is the victim’s parent, teacher, coach, or cleric, or is a peace officer, etc.); and

  (3) Defines various terms, including "sexual activity for hire," "performance for hire," "model or participant for hire," and "developmentally disabled person."

**Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor**

• Creates the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor (knowingly purchasing or otherwise obtaining advertising space for an advertisement for sexual activity for hire that includes a depiction of a minor).
Promoting prostitution

- Regarding the offense of promoting prostitution, confirms and continues changes made in H.B. 59 that: (1) expand a prohibition to also prohibit establishing, maintaining, operating, etc., any enterprise a purpose of which is to facilitate engagement in sexual activity for hire, and (2) eliminate in another prohibition the requirement that, when the offense is committed by transporting a person to facilitate engagement in sexual activity for hire, the transportation had to be across a state or county line.

Soliciting

- Regarding the offense of soliciting, separates the preexisting prohibition into three separate prohibitions and modifies the penalties, as follows:

  1. Prohibits a person from soliciting another who is 18 or older to engage with that other person in "sexual activity for hire" (an implicit or explicit agreement to provide sexual activity for anything of value) – a violation of this prohibition is a third degree misdemeanor;

  2. Prohibits a person from soliciting another to engage in sexual activity for hire if the other person is 16 or 17 and the offender knows that the other person is 16 or 17 or is reckless in that regard – a violation of this prohibition is a fifth degree felony; and

  3. Prohibits a person from soliciting another to engage in sexual activity for hire if the other person is younger than 16, whether or not the offender knows the other person's age, or the other person is a developmentally disabled person and the offender knows or has reasonable cause to believe the other person is a developmentally disabled person – a violation of this prohibition is a third degree felony.

Unlawful advertising of massage

- Creates the offense of unlawful advertising of massage (advertising massage, relaxation massage, any other massage technique or method, or any related service, with the suggestion or promise of sexual activity), and specifies that the new offense does not prevent a municipal corporation or township from enacting any regulation of the advertising of massage further and in addition to the new offense.

Definition of human trafficking

- In the portion of the Criminal Sentencing Law’s definition of "human trafficking" that identifies the object that a scheme or plan must have to qualify as human trafficking, expands the objects that so qualify the scheme or plan to also include:
(1) Facilitating, encouraging, or recruiting one or more victims who are younger than 16 or are developmentally disabled persons, for engaging for hire in sexual activity or in a performance or production of material that is obscene, sexually oriented, or nudity oriented; and

(2) Facilitating, encouraging, or recruiting one or more victims who are 16 or 17 for any purpose described in (1) if certain circumstances apply with respect to the person engaging in the conduct and the victims (including that the offender is the victim’s parent, teacher, coach, or cleric, or is a peace officer, etc.).

Remote testimony by victims of trafficking

- Authorizes a court to allow a victim of trafficking in persons who is younger than 16 to testify under specified procedures at a preliminary hearing via closed-circuit television from another room, and requires the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation to obtain and provide at the court’s request closed-circuit equipment to televise the victim’s testimony.

Sex offender registration

- Regarding the offenses of soliciting and trafficking in persons under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Law:

  (1) Classifies soliciting when the person solicited is under 16 or is a developmentally disabled person, and an attempt or conspiracy to commit or complicity in committing that offense, as a sexually oriented offense under that Law, and classifies a person convicted of soliciting, attempt, conspiracy, or complicity in that manner as a Tier II sex offender/child-victim offender; and

  (2) In the portions of the definitions of sexually oriented offense and Tier II sex offender/child-victim offender under that Law that include trafficking in persons and an attempt or conspiracy to commit or complicity in committing that offense and a person who is convicted of the offense, conforms the provisions to the changes to that offense described in preceding dot points.

Public records

- Generally prohibits law enforcement agencies and their employees from disclosing information in routine factual reports that is highly likely to identify an alleged delinquent child or arrestee who is also an abused child, unless the name or other identifying information is redacted.

Public school in-service training

- Confirms and continues changes made in H.B. 59 that require the board of each city and exempted village school district and of each educational service center to incorporate training in human trafficking content into the school safety and violence
prevention portion of the in-service training that it is required to provide to specified categories of its employees.

**Am. Sub. H.B. 234**


**Sens.** Uecker, Coley, Balderson, Burke, Eklund, Faber, Hite, J ones, Jordan, Lehner, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Seltz, Widener

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

**Reciprocity for concealed handgun licenses**

- Provides that if an Ohio resident has a valid concealed handgun license from another state that has a reciprocity agreement with the Attorney General, that out-of-state license will be recognized in Ohio.

- Provides that if an Ohio resident has a valid concealed handgun license from another state and the Attorney General determines that the eligibility requirements imposed by the other state are substantially comparable to eligibility requirements, that out-of-state license will be recognized in Ohio.

- Requires the Attorney General to publish each determination described above that the Attorney General makes in the same manner as reciprocity agreements are under continuing law.

- Provides that if a person who is an Ohio resident and has a valid concealed handgun license from another state that has not entered into a reciprocity agreement with the Attorney General, that out-of-state license will be recognized in Ohio for a period of six months after the person has become a resident of Ohio.

- Requires that after the six-month period described above, if the person wishes to obtain a concealed handgun license, the person must apply for an Ohio concealed handgun license.

- Provides that if a person who is not an Ohio resident has a valid concealed handgun license from another state, regardless of whether the other state has a reciprocity agreement with the Attorney General, and the person is temporarily in Ohio, that out-of-state license will be recognized in Ohio during the time that the person is temporarily in Ohio.
Automatic firearms

- Removes from the Weapons Law definition of "automatic firearm" any semi-automatic firearm designed or specially adapted to fire more than 31 cartridges without reloading, other than a firearm chambering only .22 caliber short, long, or long rifle cartridges.

Eligibility for license

- Eliminates the requirement that an applicant be a resident of Ohio for at least 45 days and a resident of the county in which the applicant seeks the concealed handgun license, or a county adjacent to that county, for at least 30 days in order to receive or renew a concealed handgun license.

- Permits a person who does not reside in Ohio to receive or renew a concealed handgun license if the person is employed in Ohio and provides adequate proof of that employment.

- Allows a person who usually resides in another state to apply for a temporary emergency concealed handgun license in the county in which the person is temporarily staying.

- Reduces the minimum hours requirements for a firearms competency certification course from 12 to eight, requires a minimum of two hours of in-person training that consists of range time and live-fire training, and allows for a combination of in-person and online training.

- Provides that a firearms safety, training, or requalification or firearms safety instructor course, class, or program can be offered by or under the auspices of a national gun advocacy organization, instead of specifically the National Rifle Association as provided under prior law.

- Expands a provision of law that exempts a former military member from the competency certification requirement for a concealed handgun license by providing that the person be retired or discharged within the past ten years (instead of six under prior law) in order to be exempt from the certification requirement.

- Exempts from the competency certification requirement any applicant who has successfully completed the Ohio Peace Officer Training Program.

- Specifies that an applicant is ineligible for a concealed handgun license if the applicant's out-of-state concealed handgun license is suspended for reasons similar to the reasons that trigger a license suspension in Ohio.

- Prohibits an alien who has been admitted to the United States under a nonimmigrant visa from receiving a concealed handgun license.
• Requires an applicant who is not a U.S. citizen or national to provide the name of the applicant’s country of citizenship and the applicant’s alien registration number.

• Requires an applicant for a concealed handgun license to certify that the applicant has not renounced the applicant’s U.S. citizenship.

• Makes several changes to the criminal charges and convictions that disqualify an applicant for a concealed handgun license, and specifically disqualifies an applicant for similar violations in other states.

• Removes certain offenses that under prior law made an applicant ineligible for a license, including offenses relating to the regulation of business practices and misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for two years or less.

• Prohibits a license agent from considering a conviction, guilty plea, or delinquent child adjudication to a minor misdemeanor when making a determination regarding a concealed handgun license.

• Requires an applicant to certify that the applicant is not an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance, as defined in federal law.

• Prohibits a person who has been discharged from the U.S. armed forces under dishonorable conditions from receiving a concealed handgun license.

• Provides that the Ohio concealed handgun license of a person who is no longer an Ohio resident or no longer employed in Ohio, as applicable, is valid until the expiration date of the license, and the person is prohibited from renewing that license.

**Criminal records check for license**

• Requires a sheriff, as part of a criminal records check, to contact the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) to verify that the applicant is eligible lawfully to receive or possess a firearm in the United States.

**Application forms**

• Repeals the statutory application form and instead requires the Attorney General to prescribe and make available to license agents the concealed handgun license application form.

• Requires the Attorney General to make printable versions of the application forms to receive a concealed handgun license or a temporary emergency concealed handgun license or renew a concealed handgun license available online.

• Requires the Attorney General to post a printable version of the application forms on the Attorney General’s website and provide the address of the website to any person who requests the form.
Having weapons under disability

- Provides that relief from specified firearms disabilities may be "under operation of law or legal process," instead of only under the relief from weapons disability statute.

- Provides that "under operation of law or legal process" does not itself include mere completion, termination, or expiration of a sentence imposed as a result of a criminal conviction.

Renewal grace period for certain service members

- Establishes a six-month concealed handgun license renewal grace period for an individual who is on active duty in the armed forces or in service with the Peace Corps, the Volunteers in Service to America, or the U.S. foreign service, or is the spouse or dependent of such a person.

Sign prohibiting firearms or concealed firearms

- Modifies the sanction for violating a firearms or concealed firearms ban on private land or premises posted by the owner of the private land or premises.

Law enforcement certification

- Allows an Ohio resident to submit to the sheriff of the county in which the resident resides or to the sheriff of any adjacent county any federal form that requires a law enforcement certification by a chief law enforcement officer.

- Requires the sheriff to accept and process that certification in the same manner as an application for a concealed handgun license, including the requirement for a background check, except that if a resident submits one or more federal forms, submits one or more federal forms and currently has a concealed handgun license, or the sheriff has previously approved a federal form for that resident, the sheriff must charge the person only one fee.

- Defines "certification" as the participation and assent of the chief law enforcement officer necessary under federal law for the approval of an application to make or transfer a firearm.

- Defines "chief law enforcement officer" as any official the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, or any successor agency, identifies by regulation or otherwise as eligible to provide any required certification for the making or transfer of a firearm.
Expenditure by sheriff from License Issuance Expense Fund

- Authorizes a sheriff, under certain circumstances, to spend money from the Concealed Handgun License Issuance Expense Fund for any costs associated with a firearm safety education program, or a firearm training or qualification program.

Purchase of firearms in another state

- Permits an Ohio resident to purchase a rifle, shotgun, or ammunition in any state by eliminating a law that allowed residents of Ohio who are 18 or older to purchase those items only in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, or West Virginia.

- Allows a resident of any state to purchase a rifle, shotgun, or ammunition in Ohio by repealing a law that only allowed residents of Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, or West Virginia to do so.

Use of suppressor while hunting

- Authorizes a person who holds a valid hunting license to use a suppressor attached to an authorized gun while hunting game birds or wild quadrupeds.

- Exempts a person who owns a firearm muffler or suppressor attached to a gun that is authorized to be used for hunting from the continuing prohibition against knowingly acquiring, having, carrying, or using any dangerous ordnance.

- Replaces "silencer" with "suppressor" within the definition of "dangerous ordnance" and in provisions requiring mandatory prison terms for conviction of a firearms specification.

Intent statement

- Specifies the intent of the General Assembly to make Ohio concealed handgun license law compliant with NICS.

Sub. H.B. 663

Reps. Buchy and Huffman, Brenner, Maag, Scherer, Wachtmann, Batchelder
Sens. Coley, Eklund, Hughes, Patton, Seitz
Effective date: March 23, 2015

Confidentiality and protection, involvement in execution by lethal injection

- Declares the General Assembly’s intent in enacting the act is to:

  --Protect the identities of persons who assist the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) in carrying out a court-ordered sentence of death by lethal
injection, in order to protect those persons from harassment and potential physical harm; and

--Enable DRC to obtain the necessary assistance of persons in carrying out a court-ordered sentence of death by lethal injection or the drugs needed to administer such a sentence.

- Excludes from the definition of "public record" and prohibits the disclosure of any information or record in the possession of a public office that identifies or reasonably leads to the identification of any individual and the individual’s involvement in the execution that, at any time prior to March 23, 2017, makes, supplies, or administers drugs or equipment used in executions by lethal injection or who participates in carrying out such executions and the individual’s involvement in the execution, other than DRC's Director and prison wardens. And provides the same privacy protections, except that the protection sunsets after 20 years, to entities who participate in those activities at any time prior to March 23, 2017, in those activities if the entity submits the proper application for recognition of the protections.

- Specifies that if the information or record to be protected pertains to the manufacture, compounding, distribution, or supplying, etc., of any item or material, the person or entity that maintains it must disclose it to the Ohio Ethics Commission, the Commission may use the information or record to confirm specified ethical and licensing requirements, the Commission must complete its use of the information or record within 14 days of its receipt, and the Commission promptly must report its findings to DRC's Director.

- Specifies that if the confidentiality and other protections in the act apply to a person with respect to any conduct or activity of the person occurring at a time prior to March 23, 2017, the expiration of that period does not affect, add to, or diminish the confidentiality and protections with respect to their application to that person.

- Requires a court immediately to seal records pertaining to information protected by the act whenever the records come into the court’s possession. And provides that the information or record is not subject to disclosure unless a court, through clear and convincing evidence, finds that the protected person appears to have acted unlawfully.

- Establishes a process for DRC's Director to follow if a protected document is subpoenaed or requested by a court.

- Creates a civil cause of action for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information relating to executions by lethal injection.
• Prohibits a licensing authority from taking disciplinary action against a licensee for, at any time prior to March 23, 2017, participating in, consulting regarding, performing any function with respect to, or providing any expert opinion testimony regarding an execution by lethal injection.

Capital cases

• Provides for a schedule of fees to be paid to appointed counsel in a capital case as set by the Supreme Court.

• Provides that the attorney-client privilege does not apply if the case in which the attorney-client relationship is established is a capital case and the client subsequently claims ineffective assistance of counsel regarding the case.

• Provides for written jury instructions in capital cases.

Joint legislative study committee – homicide and death sentence issues

• Provide for a joint legislative study committee to study the manner in which families of homicide victims can best be supported by government programs, social service entities, and charitable organizations and the manner and means by which a court-ordered sentence of death is performed in Ohio, consistent with judicial precedent.

Time for filing postconviction relief petition

• Increases, from 180 days after the filing of the trial transcript in the court of appeals or the expiration of the time for filing an appeal to 365 days after the particular event, the time within which a petition for postconviction relief must be filed.

Am. Sub. S.B. 143

Sens.  Seitz and Smith, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Eklund, Hite, Lehner, Patton, Sawyer, Uecker
Reps.  J. Adams, Baker, Butler, Conditt, Green, McGregor, Sprague
Effective date: September 19, 2014

Release of records check and certain public assistance information

• Permits the Attorney General to authorize the release of information possessed by the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCII) relating to:

  (1) The arrest of a person who is 18 or older when the person has not been convicted as a result of that arrest if: (a) the arrest was made outside of Ohio, (b) a criminal action resulting from the arrest is pending, and BCII’s Superintendent confirms that the criminal action has not been resolved at the time the criminal records check is performed, or (c) BCII cannot reasonably determine whether a
criminal action resulting from the arrest is pending, and not more than one year has elapsed since the date of the arrest; and

(2) The adjudication of a child as a delinquent child if: (a) not more than five years have elapsed since the date of the adjudication, (b) the adjudication was for an act that would have been a felony if committed by an adult, (c) the records of the adjudication have not been sealed or expunged under the Delinquency Adjudication Record Sealing Law, and (d) the request for information is made under a mandatory criminal records check provision or a specified discretionary criminal records check provision.

• In a continuing provision that authorizes BCII to release information relating to the adjudication of a child as a delinquent child or that relates in specified circumstances to the conviction of a child who was sent back to a juvenile court under the reverse-bindover mechanism, when the adjudication or conviction was for aggravated murder, murder, or a sexually oriented offense when the court was required to subject the child to the Sex Offender Registration and Notification (SORN) Law, specifies that the portion pertaining to an adjudication or conviction for a sexually oriented offense does not apply if the records of the adjudication or conviction have been sealed or expunged.

• Expands a provision that generally requires the release of information regarding an individual receiving assistance pursuant to a Community Services Division block grant program to specified persons to also require that the information be released to any appropriate person in compliance with a search warrant, subpoena, or other court order.

Community alternative sentencing centers

• Clarifies the authority of boards of county commissioners to establish a community alternative sentencing center.

• Modifies the procedure for sentencing and admitting an eligible offender to a center.

• Clarifies that an eligible offender must successfully complete any term in a center as a condition of a community residential sanction.

• Authorizes municipal corporations to establish centers.

Confinement of juveniles

• Includes the best interests of the person as a reason for which an alleged or adjudicated delinquent child who is at least 18 but younger than 21 may be held in an adult detention facility, and requires that a person under 18 who is transferred to an adult facility for criminal prosecution be kept apart from adults.
• Specifies that all identifying information, other than county of residence, age, gender, race, and the charges against the person, that relates to admission and confinement in an adult detention facility of a person under 21 is confidential, subject to specified exceptions with respect to a person whose case is transferred for criminal prosecution pursuant to the Juvenile Code, who is convicted of or pleads guilty to an offense in that case, who is confined after the conviction or guilty plea in the facility, and who is within any of three specified categories of persons.

• Clarifies that a court that commits a child to the Department of Youth Services for a violation of supervised release may commit the child for a period of time determined by the court, which must be at least 90 days, and requires the Department to assess and provide programming for a returned child.

**Juvenile record sealing**

• Revises the waiting period for making a motion or application for the sealing of a delinquent child's, an unruly child's, or a juvenile traffic offender's juvenile court records.

• Specifies that, when a juvenile court that orders the records of a person sealed sends notice of the sealing order to public offices and agencies that the court has reason to believe may have a record of the sealed record, the public offices or agencies to which the notice must be sent include BCII if the court has reason to believe that BCII may have a record of the sealed record.

**HIV testing for persons charged with sex offenses**

• Modifies the requirements regarding testing for HIV of persons charged with specified sex offenses and payment of the costs of such testing.

• Consolidates two provisions governing HIV testing of persons charged with specified sex offenses, and modifies the resulting consolidated provision by:

  (1) Expanding the provision so that it also applies when a person is charged with a violation of a statute or municipal ordinance in which by force or threat of force the accused compelled the victim to engage in sexual activity;

  (2) Requiring that, if a court orders one or more HIV tests, it must cause the accused to submit to the tests within 48 hours after the indictment, information, or complaint is presented; and

  (3) Requiring the court to order follow-up tests for HIV as may be medically appropriate.
Motor vehicle offenses

- Requires a court to order a person convicted of driving under suspension, under financial-responsibility-law suspension or cancellation, or under a nonpayment of judgment suspension to provide proof of financial responsibility, and authorizes the court to order restitution if the person fails to provide the proof.

- Authorizes a person charged with multiple offenses in connection with the same act to apply for the sealing of a motor vehicle offense if the other charges do not result in conviction.

Conviction Record Sealing Law

- Amends the definition of "eligible offender" who may apply for sealing under the Conviction Record Sealing Law to include a person who has been convicted of two misdemeanors, regardless of whether they are, or are not, of the same offense.

- Changes the language of that Law that refers to the sealing of records to clarify that the record sealing provisions apply with respect to individual convictions and bail forfeitures in a case and not just with respect to an entire case.

- Exempts from the offense of "divulging confidential information" a state or local government officer or employee who mistakenly releases information or other data concerning a law enforcement or justice system matter the records of which the officer knew were sealed or expunged, if:

  1. The officer releases the information or data at the same time as the release of other information or data concerning another law enforcement or justice system matter the records of which were not sealed or expunged;

  2. The officer made a good faith effort to not release information or data from the sealed records; and

  3. Other criteria apply.

- Authorizes a person to request the sealing of multiple records in one application and for one fee.

- Provides that sealing of a motor vehicle conviction does not affect points assessed against the offender.

Other provisions

- Eliminates the requirement that notice of a sealing order under the Not Guilty/Dismissal/No Act Record Sealing Law be sent by certified mail.

- Increases from 18 months to three years the maximum sentence of imprisonment that disqualifies an inmate from participating in the prison nursery program.
• Removes the cap of 40 hours per month and gives the court discretion in setting the amount of credit for community service ordered for a criminal offender who fails to pay a cost judgment or to timely make payment toward that judgment under an approved payment schedule.

• Authorizes a court that receives or is forwarded a petition for a Certificate of Qualification for Employment to direct the clerk of the court to process and record all notices required with respect to the petition and certificate.

• Extends the life of the Ex-offender Reentry Coalition through 2019.

• Limits a court's authority to disapprove the transfer of a prisoner to transitional control to cases in which the prisoner is serving a term of two years or less.

• Requires a sentencing court to consider commission of an offense while on transitional control or being removed for transitional control for absconding as indicating a likelihood of committing future crimes, and authorizes an additional sentence of up to one year for committing a felony while on transitional control.

• Eliminates the warning notice and language relating to installment agreements when a court notifies the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to block the registration or transfer of registration of motor vehicles of a criminal defendant who fails to appear in court or to pay fines or costs when due.

• Makes clear that a presentence investigation report is not required for judicial release.

**Sub. S.B. 316**

**Sens.** Cafaro, Turner, Brown, Schiavoni, LaRose, Obhof, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Seitz, Tavares, Uecker, Widener


**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

• Requires a law enforcement agency to review its records and reports pertaining to investigations of specified homicide and sex offenses as soon as possible and, if it possesses a sexual assault examination kit related to such an offense or another offense committed during the course of such an offense, to forward the contents of the kit to the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCII) or another
crime laboratory within one year for DNA analysis if an analysis has not previously been performed.

- Requires a law enforcement agency that initiates an investigation of a specified homicide or sex offense to forward the contents of a sexual assault examination kit to BCII or another crime laboratory for DNA analysis within 30 days after the agency determines that one or more persons may have committed or participated in a specified homicide or sex offense or another offense committed during the course of a specified homicide or sex offense.

- Requires BCII or a contract laboratory to perform a DNA analysis of the biological material contained in a sexual assault examination kit received pursuant to the act, and enter the resulting DNA record into a DNA database.

- Specifies that DNA records, DNA specimens, and personal identification information attached to a DNA record that BCII receives under the provisions described above are not public records under the state’s Public Records Law.

- Requires BCII’s Superintendent to establish procedures for the forwarding to BCII of DNA specimens collected pursuant to the provisions described above.

- Requires the state DNA laboratory and any contract laboratory to give DNA analysis of DNA specimens received pursuant to the act priority over DNA analyses of specimens that relate to DNA testing requested by a convicted criminal offender.

- Includes findings and declarations of the General Assembly regarding DNA analysis, sexual assault examination kits, and prosecution of sexually oriented offenses.

**Am. S.B. 361**

**Sens.** Seitz, Eklund, Obhof, LaRose, Bacon, Patton, Brown, Burke, Coley, Faber, Hite, Jordan, Kearney, Lehner, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Turner, Uecker

**Reps.** Anielski, Baker, Blessing, Brenner, Burkley, Butler, Carney, Duffey, Grossman, Hackett, Hayes, Huffman, Mallory, Pelanda, Retherford, Rogers, Scherer, Slaby, Stautberg, Stinziano, Terhar, Thompson, Wachtman, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Requires every act that creates a new criminal offense to specify the degree of mental culpability required for the commission of the offense, and provides that a criminal offense for which no degree of mental culpability is specified that is enacted in an act in violation of this requirement is void.
• Specifies that the requirement does not apply to the amendment of an offense that existed on the act's effective date (March 23, 2015), but applies to a new offense added to a statute that existed on that date.

• Specifies that, if one division of a section plainly indicates a purpose to impose strict liability for an offense, that does not by itself plainly indicate a purpose to impose strict criminal liability for an offense defined in other divisions of the section that do not specify a degree of culpability.

• Modifies continuing law by providing that when language defining an element of an offense that is related to knowledge or intent or to which mens rea could fairly be applied neither specifies culpability nor plainly indicates a purpose to impose strict liability, the element of the offense is established only if a person acts recklessly, and provides exceptions to this rule.

• Expands continuing law's mental state of "knowingly" by providing that when knowledge of a particular fact is an element of an offense, knowledge is established if a person subjectively believes that there is a high probability of its existence and fails to ask or tries to avoid learning the fact.

• Modifies continuing law's mental state of "recklessly" by providing that a person acts recklessly when, with heedless indifference to the consequences, the person disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the person's conduct is likely to cause a certain result instead of a known risk.
**Economic Development**

**Sub. H.B. 107**


**Sens.** Sawyer, Tavares, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Schiavoni, Turner, Widener, Schaffer

**Effective date:** June 25, 2014; appropriation effective March 26, 2014

- Authorizes grants for businesses that employ high school students in career exploration internships, equal to 50% of the wages paid to the student intern, up to a $5,000 grant.
- Limits the grants to businesses with substantial operations in this state.
- Requires businesses seeking a grant to submit an application and a completion report to the Development Services Agency (DSA) for approval before being eligible for a grant.
- Limits each business to no more than three grants in a calendar year.
- Requires DSA to annually compile a report including the number of internships approved, the number of interns retained by businesses after the commencement of the internship, the number of grants issued, and the statements provided by the student interns before and after the internship.
- Limits the application period to three years.
- Appropriates $1 million to fund the grants from proceeds of the upfront license fees paid for casino facilities authorized under the Ohio Constitution.

**Sub. H.B. 289**


**Sens.** Coley, Brown, Burke, Gardner, J. Jordan, Oelslager

**Effective date:** Emergency, June 5, 2014
• Renames municipal-only joint economic development zones (JEDZs) "municipal utility districts" (MUDs).

• Terminates, on January 1, 2015, the authority of municipal corporations, or of municipal corporations and townships, to submit a new alternative JEDZ contract to the electors or to substantially amend an existing alternative JEDZ contract.

• Expressly requires subdivisions that enter into or substantially amend an alternative JEDZ contract between June 5, 2014 (the act’s effective date) and December 31, 2014, to create and include an economic development plan for the zone and a schedule for implementation of new or expanded services, facilities, or improvements.

• Requires that at least 50% of any income tax revenue generated within an alternative JEDZ created after June 5, 2014, be used for the new or expanded services, facilities, or improvements until they have been completed.

• Requires subdivisions that enter into or substantially amend an alternative JEDZ contract between June 5, 2014, and December 31, 2014, to create a review council to review the economic development plan for the zone.

• Requires that the council be composed of the county auditor, owners of the four businesses that employ the most persons within the JEDZ, a person affiliated with an economic development organization, and a member of the public.

• Requires the council to hold at least one public meeting before voting on the economic development plan and to allow time at that meeting for the contracting subdivisions and members of the public to present testimony.

• Requires subdivisions that have submitted a proposed JEDZ contract to a board of elections for submission to the electors at an election occurring after June 5, 2014, to recall the JEDZ contract and comply with the act’s new procedures and requirements.

Am. Sub. H.B. 292

Sens. Bacon, LaRose, Uecker, Smith, Brown, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Manning, Obhof, Peterson, Schaffer, Tavares, Widener

Effective date: September 17, 2014

- Creates the Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Technology Committee to promote the aviation, aerospace, and technology industry in Ohio, to encourage resource-sharing within that industry, and to promote research and development in that industry.
- Requires the Committee also to provide assistance related to military base realignment and closure.
- Requires the Committee to be composed of 21 members: three from the Senate, three from the House of Representatives, one appointed by the Governor, and 14 appointed by the Committee’s legislative members to represent the aviation, aerospace, or technology industry, the military, or academia.
- Requires the Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Council to serve as an advisory council to the Committee.
- Requires the Committee to compile an annual report of its activities, findings, and recommendations, and furnish that report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House.

Am. Sub. H.B. 486


Sens. LaRose, Beagle, Coley, Faber, Oelslager, Seitz

Effective date: September 16, 2014

Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation

- Requires the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation to establish criteria for evaluating the performance of state and local workforce programs using basic, aligned workforce measures related to system efficiency and effectiveness.
- Requires the Departments of Job and Family Services (JFS) and Education and the Ohio Board of Regents to provide staff support and assistance for establishing the criteria.
- Requires the Office to develop and make available on the Internet a public dashboard to display metrics regarding the state's administration of primary workforce programs.
• Requires the Office, in collaboration with the Chancellor of the Board of Regents, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and JFS, to submit to the appropriate federal agency, by December 31, 2014, a single state unified plan for federal adult basic literacy, career-technical education, and workforce development programs.

**In-demand jobs report**

• Requires JFS, in consultation with the State Workforce Policy Board, to publish a list of in-demand jobs on JFS' website before December 31, 2014.

• Requires local workforce investment boards, workforce investment agencies, and other providers of workforce training to use the in-demand jobs list to cultivate and prioritize workforce development activities.

**Medicaid Reserve Fund**

• Requires the Director of Budget and Management, at the end of FY 2015, to transfer any unexpended, unencumbered funds in the Medicaid Reserve Fund to the General Revenue Fund.

• Prohibits the transfer or appropriation of money from the Medicaid Reserve Fund except as provided above or as provided by another act of the General Assembly.

• Eliminates the authority of the Controlling Board to transfer excess cash balances from the Medicaid Reserve Fund to the General Revenue Fund or to another state fund.

**Innovation and research and development financial assistance**

• Requires persons applying for innovation financial assistance or research and development financial assistance to provide notice directly to the appropriate local government bodies and state officials if the project entails relocation of operations from elsewhere in Ohio.

**Report due dates**

• Synchronizes the due dates of several annual and biennial reports related to economic development programs.

• Requires the Office of Workforce Development to prepare the annual workforce report for horizontal well production by July 30 of each year.

**Report on programs for adults without diplomas**

• Requires the Chancellor to develop recommendations for increasing access to and participation in programs that offer credentials equivalent to a high school diploma to adults who have not earned a diploma, and to report those recommendations by December 31, 2014.
Compliance incentive programs

- Permits the Director of Commerce to adopt rules to establish incentive programs for compliance with laws and rules pertaining to the divisions of the Department of Commerce.

- Permits the State Fire Marshal to adopt rules to establish an incentive program for compliance with the fire code and sanitary standards.

- Permits the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board to establish a compliance incentive program by amending continuing education requirements and license renewal schedules for its licensees.
Sub. H.B. 171


Sens.  Faber, Hite, Jordan, Obhof, Schaffer, Uecker, Widener

Effective date:  September 11, 2014

• Permits a school district board of education to adopt a policy authorizing students to attend released time courses in religious instruction conducted off school property during regular school hours.

• Permits the district policy to grant up to two units of high school credit for the released time religious instruction, subject to the district board’s evaluation of the courses based on secular criteria.

• Grants immunity from a civil action for damages to a school district, member of a school district board of education, or school district employee for injury allegedly arising during a student’s transportation to or from a place of instruction when private transportation is used under a released time policy.

Am. Sub. H.B. 178


Sens.  Gentile, Hughes, Patton, Sawyer, Skindell, Turner

Effective date:  March 23, 2015; appropriation effective December 19, 2014

School safety drills

• Requires each public or private school to conduct six fire drills and three safety drills each year, if the school has smoke detectors or a sprinkler system, or nine fire drills and three safety drills each year, if the school does not have smoke detectors or a sprinkler system.

• Requires each school to conduct one additional "theoretical" safety drill during the school year for faculty and staff.
• Adds rapid evacuation procedures to school safety drills.

• Requires safety drills that include student participation to: (1) be conducted in conjunction with the local police chief or similar chief law enforcement officer, (2) be conducted pursuant to the school’s emergency management plan, and (3) for at least one of the three safety drills, involve a scenario where students are secured in the school building rather than rapidly evacuated.

• Requires each school to conduct at least one fire drill or one safety drill during each month of the school year.

• Permits a school’s principal or director to determine the exact date and time that each drill will be conducted and to conduct a fire drill and a safety drill during the same month of the school year.

• Requires a school’s principal or director to provide certification by mail, facsimile, or electronic submission of the date and time that each safety drill was conducted during the previous school year and that each drill will be conducted during the current school year.

**Physical restraint or seclusion**

• Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules that establish a policy and standards for the implementation of positive behavior intervention supports and the use of physical restraint or seclusion on students.

• Requires each school district, community school, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) school, and college preparatory boarding school to comply with the policies and standards adopted by the State Board.

**Cleveland Scholarship Program**

• Qualifies a private secondary school (serving any of grades 9-12) located outside of the Cleveland Municipal School District to enroll students under the Cleveland Scholarship Program, as long as the school is located in a district adjacent to the Cleveland district and in a municipal corporation with a population of at least 50,000 people.

**Reimbursement to Old Fort Local School District**

• Appropriates $200,900 in fiscal year 2015 for the Old Fort Local School District’s costs related to the transfer of the Bettsville Local School District.
Sub. H.B. 290


Sens. Coley, Patton, Seitz, Uecker

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Use of school premises

• For purposes of the preexisting requirement that a school district make its facilities and grounds available to community members for educational, religious, civic, social, or recreational purposes, replaces all references to schoolhouses, facilities, and school grounds with the term "school premises."

• Specifies that recreational uses of school premises are all indoor and outdoor games or physical activities, either organized or unorganized, that are undertaken for exercise, relaxation, diversion, sport, or pleasure.

• Grants school districts and their employees, schools in those districts and their employees, and members of districts' boards of education qualified immunity from liability in a civil action for damages allegedly arising from the use of school premises by others in the manner described above.

Operation of courts in extraordinary circumstances

• Provides that, in the event of a natural or man-made disaster, civil disorder, or any extraordinary circumstance that interrupts the orderly operation of a municipal court, county court, court of common pleas, or court of appeals, the administrative judge may issue an order authorizing the court to operate at a temporary location.

• Provides that the temporary location of the court can be inside or outside the territorial jurisdiction of the court.

• Establishes procedures for the operation of the court at a temporary location that the administrative judge of the court must follow.

Limitation of claims

• Modifies the definition of "medical claim," for the purpose of the statute of limitations, to include a "plan of care" under certain specified circumstances and to include claims that arise out of skilled nursing care or personal care services provided in a home pursuant to the plan of care, medical diagnosis, or treatment.
Use of nursing home inspections and surveys in advertising

- Prohibits the use of results of an inspection of a nursing home or the results of a Medicare or Medicaid survey of a nursing facility in an advertisement unless certain information is provided.

Sub. H.B. 342


Sens. Balderson, Brown, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker

Effective date: Emergency, March 11, 2014

- Permits an educational service center (ESC) or a county board of developmental disabilities that provides special education and related services to children with disabilities to be a partner in an education consortium seeking a grant under the Straight A Program.

- Permits an ESC to be the lead applicant of an education consortium seeking a grant under the Straight A Program, provided at least one of the ESC’s client school districts is included on the application as a member of the consortium.

- Modifies the goals of a project for which a grant under the Straight A Program may be awarded.

- Requires the Straight A governing board, when determining whether to award grants, to give priority to applicants that demonstrate cost savings over applicants that do not demonstrate cost savings.

- Reduces, from $5 million to $1 million, the maximum grant award in a fiscal year that may be awarded to a single school district, ESC, community school, STEM school, college-preparatory boarding school, school building, institution of higher education, or private entity partnering with one or more educational entities.

- Removes a duty of the Auditor of State to determine if an applicant fails to implement a grant agreement entered into with the Straight A governing board.

- Extends, from 75 days to 90 days, the deadline by which the Straight A governing board must issue a decision after receiving a grant application.
Sub. H.B. 362

Reps. Scherer and Derickson, Anielski, Blessing, Butler, Roegner, Young, Bishop, Baker, Beck, Buchy, Burkley, Conditt, Green, Grossman, Hackett, Hall, Maag, Romanchuk, Stebelton, Terhar, Wachtman, Batchelder

Sens. Gardner, Coley, Manning, Lehner, Eklund, Hite, LaRose, Patton, Peterson, Seitz, Widener

Effective date: September 11, 2014

STEM schools

- Creates a new designation of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) school equivalent that may be granted to a community school or chartered nonpublic school that satisfies certain requirements.

- Specifies that the existing STEM Committee is a committee of the Department of Education.

- Permits the governing authority of a chartered nonpublic school to submit a proposal to receive a grant for a STEM program of excellence that serves students in any of grades kindergarten through eight in that school.

- Permits a community school, a chartered nonpublic school, or both to be part of a partnership of public and private entities that submits a proposal for the establishment of a new STEM school.

- Regarding the continuing requirement that a STEM school proposal include evidence that it will utilize an established capacity to capture and share knowledge for best practices and innovative professional development, requires this knowledge to be shared with the Ohio STEM Learning Network.

- Requires the STEM Committee to: (1) seek technical assistance from the Ohio STEM Learning Network when accepting, evaluating, and choosing to approve proposals for new STEM schools, and (2) consider the recommendations of the Network when approving proposals.

Teacher evaluations

- Permits a school district or school to evaluate any teacher who received a rating of "accomplished" on the teacher's most recent evaluation once every three years, so long as the teacher's student academic growth measure is "average" or higher.

- Permits a school district or school to evaluate any teacher who received a rating of "skilled" on the teacher's most recent evaluation once every two years, so long as the teacher's student academic growth measure is "average" or higher.
• Provides that in any year a teacher is not formally evaluated, as a result of receiving a "skilled" or "accomplished" rating on the most recent evaluation, that teacher must still receive an observation and a conference.

• Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, authorizes a district or school to choose not to evaluate a teacher who was on leave from the school district for 50% or more of the school year or has submitted a notice of retirement that was accepted not later than December 1 of the school year.

• Permits a district or school, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, to use an alternative framework, as prescribed by the act, for teacher evaluations.

• Requires the Department of Education to compile a list of approved instruments for districts and schools to use when evaluating student surveys, teacher self-evaluations, peer review evaluations, and student portfolios under an alternative evaluation framework.

Sub. H.B. 367


Sens. Bacon, Balderson, Brown, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Seitz, Turner

Effective date: March 23, 2015; reappropriation effective December 19, 2014

World history

• Requires one-half unit of instruction in world history and civilizations in the high school social studies curriculum.

• Prohibits the State Board of Education and the Department of Education from developing or administering an end-of-course examination in world history.

State assessments

• Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Chancellor of the Board of Regents to designate multiple, rather than one, nationally standardized assessments of college and career readiness, from which school districts or schools must choose one to administer to eleventh-grade students.
- Requires that the nationally standardized assessment be administered in the spring of the school year.

- Eliminates the requirement that the nationally standardized assessment include "components in English, mathematics, science, and social studies."

- Phases out the physical science end-of-course exam so that students entering the ninth grade for the first time between July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015, take either the physical science or biology exam, and students entering the ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2015, take the biology end-of-course exam.

- Requires the Department of Education to make available the physical science end-of-course exam until July 1, 2019, for students who wish to retake it and who entered the ninth grade for the first time between July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015.

- Requires the State Board of Education to adopt rules by July 1, 2016, prescribing the requirements for the end-of-course exam in science for students who have not completed one of the three prescribed graduation pathways by July 1, 2019, due to failure to attain a cumulative passing score on the end-of-course exams and who entered the ninth grade for the first time between July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015.

- Exempts from an end-of-course exam students who received high school credit for an applicable course prior to July 1, 2015, rather than July 1, 2014, if the exam was not available for administration prior to July 1, 2015.

- Requires students exempted from such an exam to choose to either: (1) be considered to have attained a "proficient" score, or (2) use the student's course grade in lieu of a score.

- Requires the state Superintendent, in consultation with the Chancellor, to adopt guidelines for calculating the corresponding final course grades and the minimum cumulative performance score that demonstrates the level of academic achievement necessary to earn a high school diploma.

- Permits school districts or schools that utilize an integrated approach to math instruction to replace the required Algebra I end-of-course exam with an integrated mathematics I end-of-course exam and to replace the required geometry end-of-course exam with an integrated mathematics II end-of-course exam.

- Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, requires final course grades, rather than substitute exams, to be used in lieu of end-of-course exams in specified subjects for students enrolled in courses under the College Credit Plus (CCP) Program or an Early College High School (ECHS) Program.
• Specifies for the 2014-2015 school year, depending on the former dual enrollment programs in which students are enrolled, which students must take substitute exams and which must use final course grades in lieu of specified end-of-course exams.

• Requires the state Superintendent, in consultation with the Chancellor, to adopt guidelines for calculating the minimum final course grades for CCP and ECHS courses, as well as specified former dual enrollment courses, that demonstrate the level of academic achievement necessary to earn a high school diploma.

• Addresses deadlines regarding the phase-out of the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) and OGT practice assessments.

• For the 2014-2015 school year, requires school districts and schools to administer the Ohio Achievement Assessment for English language arts to all third-grade students in the spring administration.

• Specifies that student scores on state assessments for the 2014-2015 school year be sent to districts and schools by November 15, 2015, instead of within 60 days after administration or June 15 as otherwise required under continuing law.

• Exempts, for the 2014-2015 school year only, chartered nonpublic schools from being required to administer the required end-of-course exams, and exempts students from being required to take those exams.

• Removes the September 30 deadline by which the language and reading skills portion of the diagnostic assessment must be administered to students in kindergarten through third grade for purposes of the third-grade reading guarantee.

**Attendance reporting**

• Removes a school funding formula provision stating that a student’s enrollment was considered to cease when the student had 105 continuous hours of unexcused absences.

• Specifies that a student in any of grades 9-12 is considered a full-time equivalent student if the student is enrolled in at least five units of instruction per school year.

**Admission of children placed in foster homes or residential facilities**

• Prohibits public and nonpublic school officials from denying admission to a child placed in a foster home or residential facility solely because the child does not present a birth certificate or comparable document upon registration.

• Requires the child or the child’s parent, custodian, or guardian to present a birth certificate or comparable document to the person in charge of admission of the school within 90 days after the child’s initial entry into the school.
Teach for America licenses

- Requires each participant in the Teach for America Program who is assigned to teach in Ohio to remain an active member of the TFA support program, for the duration of the program, in order to continue to possess a resident educator license.

- Requires the State Board of Education to revoke a participant’s resident educator license if that participant resigns or is dismissed from the program prior to completion.

Montessori

- Expands the community schools eligible to enroll children younger than age five to include those that use the method endorsed by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education.

- Specifies that community schools with approved Montessori programs must provide 455 hours of learning opportunities per school year to students who are under age five.

- Adds institutions accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education to the list of institutions that may offer a teacher education program for alternative resident educator licensure.

Other education provisions

- Reappropriates, for fiscal year 2016, any unexpended, unencumbered funds remaining at the end of fiscal year 2015 for the Career Advising and Mentoring Grant Program in the Department of Education.

- Corrects an engrossing error from H.B. 487 of the 130th General Assembly, from which language that clarifies the manner in which state-required assessment questions become a public record was omitted.

Diabetes care by nurses employed by educational service centers

- Permits a school district board of education to contract with an educational service center (ESC) for the purpose of procuring the services of a school nurse, a registered nurse, or a licensed practical nurse employed by the ESC providing diabetes care to students in the district in accordance with continuing law.

Opioid abuse prevention education

- Requires each school district to include instruction in prescription opioid abuse prevention in the district’s health curriculum.

- Requires the Governor's Cabinet Opiate Action Team to develop recommendations for instruction in prescription opioid abuse prevention and submit them to the Department of Education no later than July 1, 2015.
• Requires the Department, upon receiving the recommendations, to publish them on its website.

**Physician use of controlled substances to treat dependence or addiction**

• Requires the State Medical Board to establish, by rule, standards and procedures for physicians to follow in using controlled substances to treat opioid dependence or addiction.

• Modifies the conditions under which buprenorphine is not included in determining whether prescribers have exceeded their limits on personally furnishing controlled substances.

• Requires, beginning April 1, 2015, that certain prescriber-based business entities hold a terminal distributor license from the State Board of Pharmacy in order to possess and distribute buprenorphine-containing drugs used to treat drug dependence or addiction.

• Makes a conforming change regarding the conditions under which methadone is not included in determining whether prescribers have exceeded their limits on personally furnishing controlled substances.

**Sub. H.B. 393**


**Sens.** Eklund, Lehner, Obhof, Widener

**Effective date:** September 17, 2014

• Requires the Director of Job and Family Services by September 1, 2014, in consultation with the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, to develop and maintain an online education and career planning tool to assist students in developing education and career plans.

• Requires the Director to provide information regarding the online planning tool and all appropriate website links, including a link to the OhioMeansJobs website, to the Department of Education by September 1, 2014.

• Requires the Department of Education to post the online planning tool and other information received from the Director in a prominent location on its website and to distribute that information to all public high schools by September 30 of each year.
• Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, requires each public high school, by April 1 of each year, to distribute information on the online planning tool to parents and students.

• Requires the Department of Education to annually survey high school administrators and guidance counselors regarding their use of the online planning tool and to provide the survey results to the Director of Job and Family Services to support future refinements and improvements to the tool.

Am. Sub. H.B. 416


Sens. Coley, Sawyer, Brown, Eklund, Hite, Lehner, Obhof

Effective date: Emergency, March 26, 2014

• Waives up to four additional days a school is closed due to a public calamity (such as hazardous weather conditions) for the 2013-2014 school year for a school district, STEM school, or chartered nonpublic school, as long as the district or school has (1) made up or invoked plans to make up at least four days and (2) affirmed its intention to request the additional waived days in a resolution (waives closed days 10 through 13).

• For the 2013-2014 school year, authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to waive compliance with the minimum school year for a school operated by a county board of developmental disabilities.

• For the 2013-2014 school year, authorizes schools to make up unwaived calamity days by lengthening one or more other school days in half-hour increments.

• Permits school districts, STEM schools, and chartered nonpublic schools to update their contingency plans for making up unexcused days at any time during the 2013-2014 school year, and to include in their plans online lessons or paper lesson "blizzard bags" as a means to make up days.

• Requires the Department of Education to accept applications to make up unexcused calamity days using online lessons and "blizzard bags," for the 2013-2014 school year, at any time after August 1, 2013.

• For the 2013-2014 school year, permits a school district to excuse graduating twelfth-grade students from attending school during any time that school is open after the
scheduled graduation or culminating event, as a result of adding time to the school calendar to make up calamity days.

- Extends the deadlines for return of the elementary achievement assessment scores for the 2013-2014 school year to June 16 for third-grade assessments and June 30 for all other assessments.

**Sub. H.B. 484**


**Sens.** Beagle, Brown, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Lehner, Oelslager, Sawyer, Tavares, Uecker

**Effective date:** September 4, 2014; certain sections effective June 5, 2014

- Repeals the enrollment limits (shown in parentheses) for the central campuses of Bowling Green State University (17,000), Kent State University (22,000), Miami University (17,000), Ohio University (22,000), and the Ohio State University (42,000).

- Authorizes a community college, state community college, or technical college to establish a tuition guarantee program, subject to the approval of the Chancellor of the Board of Regents, and requires the Chancellor to establish guidelines for developing the programs and submitting applications to the Chancellor.

- Authorizes the treasurer of a state community college to be insured, in lieu of being bonded as otherwise required, and eliminates the requirement that a state community college treasurer’s bond be approved by the Attorney General.

- Requires the Chancellor to establish a course and program sharing network to enable state institutions of higher education and adult career centers to share curricula for existing courses and academic programs and to adopt rules to administer the network.

- Eliminates the prohibition on awarding proposals under the Co-Op/Internship Program after June 30, 2014, and instead prohibits commitments to any award for a period exceeding five fiscal years.

- Specifically permits an institution of higher education to apply for a new award under the Co-Op/Internship Program.

- Prescribes a revised formula for funding community colleges, state community colleges, and technical colleges, beginning with fiscal year 2015, that allocates amounts to colleges in proportion to their share of certain student success factors.
• Prescribes a formula for funding Ohio Technical Centers based on certain milestones of student achievement.

• Requires the Chancellor, by December 31, 2014, to evaluate performance-based funding practices and policies at all state institutions of higher education, report each institution's graduation rate compared to its expected graduation rate, and make recommendations regarding funding weights and factors to the Governor and the General Assembly.

• Creates the Higher Education Student Financial Aid Workgroup to review financial assistance provided to Ohio residents who attend institutions of higher education in the state and to develop recommendations regarding the types of financial assistance available, including assistance for at-risk populations, and optimal funding levels, by December 31, 2014.

• Permits the Chancellor to enter into a reciprocity agreement with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact to allow a participating institution of higher education in another state to enroll Ohio residents, and a participating institution in Ohio to enroll residents of a participating state, in distance education programs without prior approval from the Chancellor or appropriate agency.

• Requires the Chancellor to designate a "post-secondary globalization liaison" to work with state institutions of higher education, state agencies, and representatives of the business community to enhance the state's globalization efforts.

• Requires the Chancellor, by December 31, 2014, to submit recommendations to the Governor, Speaker of the House, and President of the Senate regarding future efforts to promote the state's post-secondary globalization.

• Requires the Chancellor to make available on the Chancellor's website a complete inventory of education programs that focus on workforce development and training.

• Permits a teacher preparation program to satisfy the standards of an independent accreditation organization by satisfying the standards of any national educator preparation accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Am. Sub. H.B. 487

Reps. Brenner, Anielski, Grossman, Henne, Stebelton, Terhar, Batchelder
Sens. Lehner, Gardner, Hite, Sawyer
Effective date: September 17, 2014
College Credit Plus (CCP) program

- Renames the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program as the College Credit Plus (CCP) program, and makes several changes to the program.

- Commences the CCP program with the 2015-2016 school year, and requires the Department of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Chancellor of the Board of Regents to adopt rules, guidelines, and procedures to ensure that the program is fully operational for that school year.

- Requires all public high schools and all public colleges, except the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to participate in the program, and subjects all participating chartered nonpublic high schools and participating private colleges to the CCP requirements.

- Permits eligible out-of-state colleges to participate in the CCP program, and subjects them to the same requirements, with a few exceptions, and the same funding structure as participating private colleges.

- Specifies that CCP will govern all arrangements in which a high school student receives transcripted credit from a college, except under specified programs.

- Permits any public or participating chartered nonpublic high school and any public or participating private college to apply to the Chancellor and the state Superintendent for a waiver from CCP requirements for agreements that meet specified criteria.

Funding and payments

- Changes the amount paid to colleges for enrolling high school students to a per credit hour amount based on the school funding "formula amount" and calculated according to (1) the type of high school and college and (2) how students receive instruction.

- Prescribes default payment amounts (calculated according to the factors described above) for payments by the Department to colleges for students participating in CCP, unless an agreement specifying an alternative payment structure is entered into by the high school and college.

- Requires the Department to make payments in January and July of each school year, for students participating under Option B, for students who were enrolled during the previous term after the date on which a withdrawal from a course would have negatively affected the student’s transcripted grade.

- Eliminates the option for a college to receive reimbursement through an alternative funding agreement with a high school; however, permits a high school and a college
to enter into an agreement to establish an alternative payment structure that meets specified criteria.

- Eliminates the law prohibiting charging students for tuition, textbooks, and fees related to the program and, instead, permits a student to be charged for a portion of these costs, unless the student: (1) is enrolled in a public college, (2) is economically disadvantaged, or (3) is enrolled in a nonpublic high school under specified scholarship programs and a private or out-of-state college.

- Permits, rather than requires, a high school to seek reimbursement from a student or a student's parent for failed courses under the program, unless the student is identified as economically disadvantaged by the Department and was not expelled.

- Specifies that, under continuing law: (1) payments to colleges for public high school students are deducted from the state operating payments of the students' school district or school, and (2) payments to colleges for nonpublic high school and home-instructed students are deducted from funds appropriated by the General Assembly for them to participate in CCP.

- Permits a public college to include students enrolled under CCP in its "state share of instruction" count for state higher education subsidies.

**CCP requirements**

- Requires all students, in order to participate in CCP, to both: (1) apply to a college in accordance with the college's established admission procedures, and (2) meet the college's established standards for admission and for course placement.

- Specifies that: (1) nonchartered nonpublic school students are subject to the same requirements as home-instructed students under CCP, and (2) payments by the Department for nonchartered nonpublic school students must be the same amount and in the same manner as payments for home-instructed students.

- Qualifies students in grades 7 and 8 to participate in CCP.

- Specifies that no high school, except in limited circumstances, may prohibit a student from participating in CCP, if the student meets all requirements for participation.

- Requires public and participating chartered nonpublic high schools and public and participating private colleges to: (1) promote CCP on their websites and include details of current CCP agreements, (2) schedule or coordinate an informational session for interested students and parents, and (3) annually collect, report, and track specified data related to the program.
• Requires high schools to: (1) implement a policy for awarding grades and calculating class standing for CCP courses, and (2) ensure the policy is equivalent to the school’s policy for Advanced Standing or honors courses.

• Requires public high schools to develop, in consultation with a public partnering college, a 15-credit hour and a 30-credit hour model course pathway, and publish the pathways among the school’s official list of course offerings for the program.

• Requires public and participating chartered nonpublic high schools to provide specified counseling information to students in grades 6 to 11 and their parents before the students participate in the program.

• Requires each college to apply established standards and procedures for admission under CCP and for course placement, as well as to (1) consider student data that may be an indicator of college readiness, (2) give priority to its current students for enrollment in courses, and (3) adhere to course capacity limitations.

• Requires colleges to: (1) provide one professional development session per school year for high school teachers who teach courses under CCP, and (2) conduct one classroom observation per school year for each course authorized by the college and taught by a high school teacher.

• Requires each instructor teaching a course under CCP to meet the established credential requirements.

• Requires the Chancellor and the state Superintendent to: (1) annually compile specified data related to the program from participating high schools and colleges and post the data on the Board of Regents' and Department of Education's websites, (2) submit a biennial report detailing the program's status to various state officials, beginning in 2017, and (3) establish a College Credit Plus advisory committee.

Advanced standing programs

• Renames "dual-enrollment program" as "advanced standing program."

• Adds college-preparatory boarding schools to the public schools required to offer an advanced standing program.

• Modifies programs that qualify as advanced standing to specifically include International Baccalaureate diploma courses, along with CCP, Advanced Placement courses, and Early College High School (ECHS) programs.

• Requires specified information about Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate diploma courses and examinations be provided to students in grades 8 through 11, including: (1) the awarding of credit by colleges, (2) the availability of courses, waivers for tuition and fees, and no-cost options, and (3) the benefits of earning college credit through the courses.
Changes a reference from "Early College High School" to "Early College High School Program," and specifically defines the program and the students it serves (students who are underrepresented in completing post-secondary education, economically disadvantaged students, or students whose parents did not earn a college degree).

- Makes any agreement between a school district or community school and an associated college, which governs an ECHS program, subject to the requirements of CCP, unless specified criteria are met.

- Permits a high school and a college operating an ECHS program to apply to the Chancellor and the state Superintendent for a waiver from CCP requirements, which, if granted, applies only to the agreement for which the waiver is granted and not to other CCP agreements between the school or college.

**Community schools**

- Requires the Department to withhold state payments to a new community school opening for its first year of operation until the school's sponsor confirms that the school has complied with certain requirements.

- Requires that the Department calculate the value-added progress dimension for purposes of community school closure using value-added data from only the most recent school year.

- Prohibits a community school that is permanently closed from reopening under another name if certain conditions still apply to the new school.

- Specifies conditions under which an educational service center may sponsor a conversion or start-up community school within and outside of its service territory.

- Revises the role of a transformation alliance in recommending sponsors to operate community schools in a municipal school district (Cleveland).

- Permits community schools that operate programs using the Montessori method to admit individuals younger than five years old, and authorizes them to apply for early childhood education funding for those programs.

**EdChoice scholarship program**

- Revises the eligibility provisions for the Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program to qualify students enrolled in a high school that receives a grade of "D" or "F" for the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate in two of the three most recent report cards, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

- Permits a chartered nonpublic school to charge a student receiving an EdChoice scholarship whose family income is above 200% of the federal poverty guidelines "up to the difference" between the scholarship amount and the school's tuition.
• Permits, instead of requires as under prior law, a chartered nonpublic school to allow an eligible student's family to provide volunteer services in lieu of cash payment to pay all or part of the school's tuition not covered by an EdChoice scholarship.

• Requires each chartered nonpublic school that charges a student receiving an EdChoice scholarship an additional amount to annually report to the Department the number of students charged and the average amount charged.

High school diploma requirements
• Revises the diploma requirements for students entering the ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2014, in public and chartered nonpublic high schools to require those students to:
  (1) Score at "remediation-free" levels in English, math, and reading on nationally standardized assessments;
  (2) Attain a cumulative passing score on the end-of-course examinations; or
  (3) Attain a passing score on a nationally recognized job skills assessment and obtain either an industry-recognized credential or a state agency- or board-issued license for a specific vocation.

• Prohibits the State Board of Education from creating or requiring any additional assessment for granting a high school diploma other than as prescribed by the act.

• Prohibits the State Board from creating any endorsement or designation that may be affiliated with a high school diploma.

• Requires the State Board to approve the industry-recognized credentials and licenses that may qualify a student for a high school diploma.

• Requires the State Board to select by December 31, 2014, at least one nationally recognized job skills assessment for each school district to administer to students who opt to take the assessment, and to establish the minimum score on the assessment to demonstrate a student's workforce readiness and employability for the purpose of high school graduation.

• Requires the Chancellor to monitor the standards in math, science, reading, and writing that were established by the state university presidents to ensure that the standards adequately demonstrate a student’s remediation-free status.

High school assessment content and administration
• Sets the replacement of the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) with the College and Work-Ready Assessment System beginning with the 2014-2015 school year for students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2014.
• Prescribes seven end-of-course examinations, for one portion of the College and Work-Ready Assessment System: one in each of English language arts I, English language arts II, physical science, Algebra I, geometry, American history, and American government.

• Authorizes the State Board to replace the Algebra I end-of-course examination with one in Algebra II beginning with the 2016-2017 school year for students who enter the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2016.

• Specifies that the OGT may not be administered to first-time takers after July 1, 2015.

• Requires the nationally standardized assessment that measures college and career readiness, which comprises the rest of the College and Work-Ready Assessment System, to: (1) be administered to all eleventh-grade students, (2) include components in English, math, science, and social studies, and (3) be an assessment used for college admission.

• Requires a student who is enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) course or other advanced standing program course to take the AP, IB, or advanced standing program examination in lieu of the physical science, American history, or American government end-of-course examinations.

• Explicitly prohibits a student from taking a substitute examination in place of the English language arts I, English language arts II, Algebra I, or geometry end-of-course examinations.

• Requires the State Board to consider additional assessments that may be used, beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, as substitute examinations in lieu of the prescribed end-of-course examinations.

• Specifies that any student who received high school credit prior to July 1, 2014, for a course for which an end-of-course examination is prescribed may not be required to take that examination.

• Provides a contingent exemption for a student attending a chartered nonpublic school from passing the end-of-course examinations as a prerequisite for high school graduation, if the student's school publishes for each graduating class the results of the required nationally standardized assessment that measures college and career readiness, but only if the General Assembly does not enact different requirements that are effective by October 1, 2015, regarding end-of-course examinations for chartered nonpublic schools.

• Eliminates the prior end-of-course examination exemption for students attending a chartered nonpublic school accredited through the Independent Schools Association of the Central States.
• Permits nonchartered, nonpublic school students and home-instructed students to participate in the system of college and work ready assessments and end-of-course examinations.

State achievement assessments

• For the 2014-2015 school year: (1) prohibits school districts and schools from being required to administer state achievement assessments in an online format, (2) permits districts and schools to administer assessments in any combination of online or paper formats, and (3) requires the Department to furnish, free of charge, all such assessments.

• Requires the Department to publish, by July 1, 2015, the number of districts or schools that administer assessments in paper format, in online format, or in a combination of formats.

• Requires the state Superintendent to submit a report, by January 15, 2015, to the Governor and the General Assembly that includes a review of, as well as recommendations for, the number of elementary and secondary achievement assessments.

• Authorizes a chartered nonpublic school that meets specified conditions to submit to the state Superintendent a request for a waiver for administering the elementary achievement assessments beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.

Achievement assessments as public records

• Beginning with the spring assessments for the 2014-2015 school year, makes the questions and corresponding preferred answers on the third- through eighth-grade achievement assessments and high school end-of-course examinations a public record under a staggered release process, so that the entirety of those assessments and questions are a public record within three years of their administration.

• Requires the Department to post questions and answers from the assessments that have been made a public record on its website.

Student data privacy

• Requires that data collected in the course of administering elementary and secondary achievement assessments must be used for the sole purpose of measuring and improving the academic progress and needs of students, educators, school districts, and schools.

• Requires the state Superintendent to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2014, on the security and use of student data.
• Requires the Department to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2014, on the security of student data with regard to the administration of online assessments.

• Requires the State Board to establish standards providing strict safeguards to protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information in the use of the statewide Education Management Information System.

**Report cards**

• Establishes an additional graded value-added progress dimension measure for a "high mobility" school district or building that is exempt from the computation of the overall letter grade of a school or district.

• For the 2014-2015 school year, requires the Department to include the academic progress measure for high school students on the report card as an ungraded measure.

• Adjusts the assessment subjects used to calculate the performance index score as follows: (1) for grades 3 to 8, assessments in English language arts, math, science, and social studies (unchanged), and (2) for high school, assessments in English language arts and math.

• Makes other miscellaneous changes to the report card law.

**Diagnostic assessments**

• Permits kindergarten diagnostic assessment data to be included on the annual report cards issued for schools and school districts.

• Specifies that the results of the language and reading diagnostic assessment must be reported to the Department and are not subject to a continuing parental option not to report that data.

• Specifies that a student who transfers prior to the administration of diagnostic assessments must take those assessments at the scheduled administration dates.

• Exempts students with "significant cognitive disabilities," as defined by the Department, from taking diagnostic assessments.

• Permits a school district or school that received an "A" or "B" for performance index score or for overall value-added progress dimension on the report card for the prior school year to administer different diagnostic assessments than those prescribed by the Department.
Safe harbor

- Prohibits the report card ratings issued for the 2014-2015 school year from being considered in determining whether a school district or school is subject to sanctions or penalties.

- Prohibits the Department from: (1) assigning an overall letter grade for school districts and schools for the 2014-2015 school year, and (2) ranking districts and schools based on operating expenditures, performance achievements, and other specified items for the 2014-2015 school year.

- Permits the Department, at the discretion of the State Board, to not assign an individual grade for the six components that comprise the state report card for only the 2014-2015 school year.

- Permits a school district, community school, or STEM school to enter into a memorandum of understanding with its teachers’ union stipulating that the value-added progress rating based on the results of the elementary and secondary state achievement assessments, administered in the 2014-2015 school year and used to assess student academic growth will not be used when making decisions regarding teacher dismissal, retention, tenure, or compensation.

Waiver from testing, teacher evaluations, and report card ratings

- Authorizes all STEM schools, and up to ten school districts that are members of the Ohio Innovation Lab Network, to request a waiver from the state Superintendent for up to five school years from the administration of the elementary and secondary achievement assessments, teacher and administrator evaluations, and reporting student achievement data for report card purposes.

Study - chartered nonpublic schools

- Creates a committee to make recommendations on graduation and testing requirements for students of chartered nonpublic schools by January 15, 2015.

Third-grade reading guarantee

- Beginning July 1, 2015, generally provides that third-grade students who attend chartered nonpublic schools with either an EdChoice or Cleveland Pilot Project scholarship are subject to the retention provisions of the third-grade reading guarantee.

- Requires chartered nonpublic schools to:

  (1) Adopt policies and procedures for the annual assessment of reading skills of state scholarship students in grades K to 3;
(2) Notify parents and guardians of scholarship students identified as reading below grade level;

(3) Provide intensive reading instruction services to those scholarship students; and

(4) Report annually to the Department the number of those scholarship students.

- Specifies which English language arts assessment is to be administered to third-grade students enrolled in a school district, community school, or STEM school in the 2014-2015 school year for purposes of the third-grade reading guarantee.

- Permits a school district or community school that cannot furnish the number of qualified teachers needed to teach third-graders who read below grade level for the 2014-2015 or 2015-2016 school year to submit an alternative staffing plan for that school year.

**Academic content standards**

- Revises the statutory specifications for the statewide academic content standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

- Creates separate academic standards review committees for each of the subjects of English language arts, math, science, and social studies.

- Requires the State Board, in its periodic adoption or revision of standards, to adopt or revise the academic content standards in social studies, American history, American government, or science independently and not as part of a multistate consortium.

- Prohibits any official or board of the state from entering into any agreement with any federal or private entity that would require the state to cede any measure of control over the development, adoption, or revision of any academic content standards.

**District authority over instructional materials and curriculum**

- Specifies that the board of education of each school district is the sole authority in determining and selecting all instructional materials and the academic curriculum to be used for the schools under its control.

- Requires each school district board to establish a parental advisory committee to provide an opportunity for parents to review selected instructional materials and academic curriculum.
Statewide curriculum requirements

- Removes references in the law to the "Ohio core curriculum" (the minimum number of course units a student must complete to graduate from high school), and, instead, generally refers to it as the curriculum "requirements for graduation."

- With respect to the conditions that a dropout prevention and recovery program must satisfy to receive a waiver from the state minimum high school curriculum, requires the program to develop a student success plan (rather than an individual career plan as under former law) that satisfies the act's requirements and, starting July 1, 2015, to satisfy new requirements related to career advising and student services.

- Extends to July 1, 2016 (from July 1, 2014) the terminal date of an exemption from the state minimum high school curriculum for students who enter ninth grade before the terminal date, have a student success plan (rather than an individual career plan as under prior law), and meet certain other conditions.

- Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2014, changes the curriculum that must be satisfied for the temporary exemption.

- Requires each public school and chartered nonpublic school to annually notify the Department of the number of students who choose to qualify for graduation under the temporary exemption and the number of students who complete the student’s success plan and graduate from high school.

- Extends to December 1, 2015 (from August 1, 2014) the deadline for the Department to submit its findings and any recommendations regarding the extension of this exemption beyond the date provided in law.

Eligibility for the GED

- Specifies that a person who is at least 18 years old (rather than 19 as under prior law) may take the tests of general educational development (GED) without additional administrative requirements if the person is officially withdrawn from high school and has not received a high school diploma.

- Requires a person who is at least 16 but less than 18 years old and who applies to take the GED to submit to the Department written approval only from the person’s parent or guardian or a court official (eliminating the former requirement to obtain approval from the school district superintendent or community school or STEM school principal where the person was last enrolled).

Career-technical education

- Specifies that each city, local, and exempted village school district must provide career-technical education to students in grades 7 through 12.
• Requires the Department to waive the requirement to provide career-technical education in grades 7 and 8, if a district's board adopts a resolution specifying its intent not to provide career-technical education in those grades for a particular school year and submits the resolution to the Department by September 30.

• Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, increases the minimum enrollment for comprehensive career-technical course offerings in school districts to 2,500 students in grades 7 through 12 (from 1,500 students in grades 9 through 12).

Student career advising

• Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, requires each school district, community school, and STEM school to adopt a policy on career advising that specifies how it will perform certain related activities, and to update that policy at least once every two years.

• Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, requires each district, community school, and STEM school to:

  (1) Identify students who are at risk of dropping out of school using a research-based, locally based method developed "with input" from its classroom teachers and guidance counselors; and

  (2) Develop a "student success plan" for each of those students that addresses the student’s academic pathway to graduation and the role of career-technical education, competency-based education, and experiential learning, as appropriate, in that pathway.

• Requires a district or school, prior to developing a student success plan for a student identified as at risk of dropping out of school, to invite the student’s parent, guardian, or custodian to assist in developing the plan.

• Requires the Department to develop and post on its website, by December 1, 2014, model policies on career advising and model student success plans.

• Requires the Department to create, by July 1, 2015, an online clearinghouse of research related to proven practices for policies on career advising and student success plans that districts may access when fulfilling the act’s requirements.

Clearinghouse of information regarding at-risk students

• Requires the Department to establish, by July 1, 2015, a clearinghouse of information regarding the identification of and intervention for at-risk students.

Age and schooling certificates

• Until July 1, 2016, permits a superintendent to issue an age and schooling certificate to a child over age 16 who satisfies certain requirements under continuing law.
- Beginning July 1, 2016, permits a superintendent to issue an age and schooling certificate to a child over age 16 who satisfies certain requirements and is enrolled in a competency-based instructional program to earn a high school diploma in accordance with rules adopted by the State Board.

**Academic distress commissions**

- Revises the conditions for the establishment of a school district academic distress commission.

- Requires the state Superintendent by December 31, 2014, to submit recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly for legislative changes regarding intervention for poor performing school districts that are at risk of becoming subject to an academic distress commission.

**School emergency management plans**

- Changes the term "school safety plan" to "emergency management plan," and revises the law regarding development and administration of the plans.

- Requires the "administrator" of specified schools, preschools, and educational centers and facilities to develop, adopt, and submit to the Department and local law enforcement agencies a comprehensive emergency management plan that incorporates a floor plan, site plan, and emergency contact information sheet, in addition to protocols for threats and emergency events.

- Requires each administrator annually to review the plan and certify its accuracy to the Department, as well as to update the plan every three years, whenever major modifications require changes, or whenever information on the emergency contact information sheet is not accurate in a manner similar to former law.

- Requires each administrator to conduct at least one annual emergency management test designed to assess and evaluate an emergency management plan.

- Subjects any administrator who applies for or holds a license from the State Board of Education to disciplinary action on the administrator's license, if the administrator fails to comply with the requirements related to emergency management plans.

- Specifies that copies of the emergency management plans and information incorporated into the plans, including related information that is required to be posted on the Contact and Information Management System by the Director of Public Safety, are not public records.
State School for the Blind

- Requires the State Board to establish a program of education at the State School for the Blind to train and assist parents of children of preschool age whose disabilities are visual impairments.

- Permits the Superintendent of the State School for the Blind to allow children who do not have disabilities that are visual impairments to participate in the methods of instruction used for the preschool education program, and requires the Superintendent to establish policies and procedures regarding their participation.

- Permits the Superintendent to establish reasonable fees for participation in the preschool education program, and requires those fees to be deposited in the State School for the Blind Even Start Fees and Gifts Fund, which the act creates.

- Requires the State Board to establish at the State School for the Blind career-technical education and work training programs for secondary and post-secondary students whose disabilities are visual impairments.

- Permits the State School for the Blind to use any gifts, donations, or bequests it receives for specified purposes related to the career-technical education and work training programs.

- Creates the State School for the Blind Educational Program Expense Fund, and requires the following to be credited to the Fund: money received by the school from donations, bequests, student fundraising activities, fees for certain programs, receipts from school activities, and any other money designated for deposit in the Fund be credited to the Fund.

- Specifies that, for purposes of laws related to the State School for the Blind, visual impairment means "blindness, partial blindness, deaf-blindness, or multiple disabilities if one of the disabilities is vision-related."

District extracurriculars - community school and STEM school students

- Affords a student enrolled in a community school or STEM school the opportunity to participate in any extracurricular activities at the school of the student’s resident school district to which the student would have been assigned (regardless of whether the community school or STEM school is sponsored or operated by the school district, as was required under prior law).

- Permits the superintendent of any school district to afford to any student who is enrolled in a community school or STEM school and who is not entitled to attend school in that district, the opportunity to participate in a school's extracurricular activities, if: (1) the student's school does not offer the extracurricular activity, and
(2) the activity is not interscholastic athletics or interscholastic contests or competition in music, drama, or forensics.

- Eliminates a provision permitting a school district board of education to require a community school student to enroll and participate in no more than one academic course as a condition to participating in an extracurricular activity.

- Prohibits a school district board from imposing additional rules on a community school or STEM school student that do not apply to other students participating in the same extracurricular activity.

**Concussions in interscholastic and youth sports**

- Authorizes a licensed health care professional other than a physician to assess and clear interscholastic and youth sports organizations’ athletes for return to practice or competition following suspected concussions if: (1) the professional’s licensing agency adopts standards equal to or stronger than the guidelines developed by the committee established by the act, and (2) the professional meets the minimum education requirements established in those rules.

- Beginning September 17, 2015, applies the requirements described above to physicians and to health care professionals that district boards, school governing authorities, or youth sports organizations previously authorized to assess athletes who have been removed from practice or competition.

- Requires the Director of Health to establish a committee regarding: (1) concussions and head injuries sustained by athletes while participating in interscholastic athletic events and athletic events organized by youth sports organizations, and (2) the assessment and clearance of those athletes.

- Requires the committee, by March 17, 2015, to develop and publish guidelines for: (1) the diagnosis, treatment, and clearance of concussions and head injuries sustained by such athletes, and (2) the minimum education requirements necessary to qualify a physician or other licensed health care professional to assess and clear those athletes for return to practice or competition.

- Requires that, if an agency responsible for licensing physicians or other health care professionals seeks to have its licensees authorized to assess and clear athletes for return to practice or competition, it must adopt rules establishing standards that are equal to or stronger than the guidelines developed by the committee.

- Permits a licensing agency to adopt rules establishing continuing education requirements for its licensees who assess and clear athletes for return to practice or competition.
Debt forgiveness for certain consolidating districts

- Provides that if the voluntary transfer of a school district: (1) is initiated by December 31, 2015, (2) results in the complete dissolution of that district, and (3) satisfies certain specified conditions, the acquiring school district will acquire the transferring district’s territory free and clear of any debt owed by the transferring district to the state Solvency Assistance Fund.

- Specifically permits the Director of Budget and Management to transfer available money from the General Revenue Fund, appropriated for operating payments to schools, into the Solvency Assistance Fund to replace the amount owed by the transferring district.

- Requires the cancellation of the amount owed to the Solvency Assistance Fund by any school district that has fewer than 500 students when the district is transferred in its entirety to, or receives the entire territory of, a contiguous school district within the same educational service center by June 30, 2015.

Resident educator licenses

- Permits renewal of resident educator licenses and alternative resident educator licenses for reasons specified in rules to be adopted by the State Board.

- Requires the State Board to issue an alternative resident educator license to qualified applicants who are employed in a school that operates an approved Montessori program.

School Facilities Commission

- Requires a school district’s energy conservation project report to include estimated costs for measurement and verification of energy savings, in addition to other estimated costs required under continuing law.

- Specifies that if, pursuant to continuing law a school district board opts not to use general bidding requirements for an installment payment contract for energy conservation measures, the contract must be awarded through a competitive selection process prescribed by School Facilities Commission (SFC) rules.

- Revises the requirements related to annual reporting of reductions in energy consumption and resulting operational and maintenance cost savings.

- Requires SFC to establish guidelines for assisting STEM schools in the acquisition of classroom facilities.

- Requires, rather than permits as under former law, SFC, subject to Controlling Board approval, to provide funding to any STEM school that is not governed by a single school district board.
Other provisions

- Requires the Department, by October 30 of each year, to publish on its website each school district’s expenditures of the gifted student identification funds and gifted student unit funding it received for the previous fiscal year.

- Specifies that no rule of the State Board may permit a school district to report that it has provided services to an identified gifted student unless those services are paid for by the district, and specifies that this provision does not prohibit a district from requiring a student to pay for Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate examinations.

- Specifies that any state subsidy paid to an educational service center is a "state operating subsidy" to be used for the operation of that service center and for any other services provided to a school district that are required by the Education Code.

- Creates the School Based Health Care Advisory Workgroup to study and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the improvement of academic achievement through better student health.

Sub. S.B. 69

Sens.  
Beagle, Balderson, Hite, Patton, Uecker, Widener, Coley, Oelslager, Sawyer, Tavares, Jones, Lehner, Turner

Reps.  
Amstutz, Anielski, Baker, Blessing, Brown, Carney, Derickson, Grossman, Hackett, Huffman, Milkovich, O’Brien, Patterson, Phillips, Rogers, Schuring, Sears, Slaby, Stebelton, Strahorn, Terhar, Winburn, Batchelder

Effective date: March 3, 2015

- Establishes the Course and Program Sharing Network to be administered by the Chancellor of the Board of Regents.

- Requires the Network to consist of course-share programs developed through agreements among Ohio economic development organizations and other nonprofits approved by the Chancellor, colleges, universities, and adult career centers.
Sub. S.B. 205

Sens. Coley, Seitz, Burke, Eklund, Jordan, Uecker
Reps. Becker, Huffman, Maag, Stebelton, Terhar, Wachtman, Batchelder

Effective date: June 1, 2014

- Permits the Secretary of State to mail unsolicited applications for absent voter’s ballots only for a general election and only if the General Assembly has made an appropriation for that particular mailing.

- Prohibits any other public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, and any public office, from mailing any unsolicited applications for absent voter’s ballots.

- Permits the Secretary of State to send unsolicited applications for absent voter’s ballots for elections in 2014, regardless of whether the General Assembly has made an appropriation for that purpose.

- Prohibits a board of elections from prepaying the return postage for any application for absent voter's ballots and for any absent voter's ballots that it delivers to an elector.

- Generally prohibits an election official from filling out any portion of an absent voter's ballot application, or from filling out any portion of an absent voter's ballot or absent voter's ballot identification envelope, on behalf of a voter.

- Allows the Secretary of State or a board of elections to preprint an applicant’s name and address on an application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant.

- Permits a board of elections to preprint an elector’s name and address on an absent voter’s ballot identification envelope before mailing the ballots to the elector.

- Permits a disabled or illiterate elector to receive assistance in the marking of the voter’s ballot and the completion of the absent voter’s ballot identification envelope.

- Allows a person’s right to vote to be challenged on the ground that the identification statement of voter is incomplete, and specifies that, if the election officials find that the statement accompanying an absent voter's ballot is incomplete or insufficient, the vote must not be accepted or counted.

- Specifies the circumstances under which an absent voter's ballot identification envelope must be considered incomplete.
• Requires a board of elections to contact an absent voter whose identification envelope is incomplete or does not match the information in the statewide voter registration database by mail to inform the voter of the defect.

• Permits such an absent voter to deliver a written form to the office of the board, in person or by mail, not later than the seventh day after the day of the election in order to cure the defect.

Sub. S.B. 216

Sens. Seitz, Burke, Eklund, Jordan, Uecker
Reps. J. Adams, Brenner, Buchy, Maag, Stebelton
Effective date: June 2, 2014

Individuals who may cast a provisional ballot

• Consolidates several categories of individuals described in the statute who may cast a provisional ballot.

• Permits an elector who has had a change of name but has not updated the elector's registration to cast a regular ballot if the elector completes a change of name form and provides proof of a legal name change to the precinct election officials.

• Eliminates a procedure that allowed an individual who refused to execute a provisional ballot affirmation still to cast a provisional ballot.

• Eliminates language enumerating several types of individuals who do not have or are unable to provide the required identification (ID).

• Combines multiple references to individuals who may cast a provisional ballot because their right to vote has been challenged.

Provisional ballot affirmation form

• Makes several changes to the provisional ballot affirmation form, and prevents the Secretary of State or a board of elections from producing a form that deviates from the exact language set out in the act.

• Adds a provisional voter's current address and date of birth as required fields on the provisional ballot affirmation form.

• Makes a provisional voter responsible to complete all parts of the provisional ballot affirmation form.

• Requires a board of elections to treat a provisional voter's completed ballot affirmation as an application to register to vote or to update the person's registration
for the purpose of future elections if the person is not registered to vote or must update the person’s registration, as long as the person provided the required information.

- Eliminates the need for an elector who has moved or had a change of name to submit a separate registration update form when casting a provisional ballot.

**Provisional ballot counting requirements**

- Requires a provisional voter to provide the voter’s date of birth and current address on the provisional ballot affirmation in order for the ballot to be eligible to be counted, and provides generally that the address and the month and day of the date of birth must not be different from the information in the statewide voter registration database.

- Specifies circumstances under which the month and day of the date of birth provided by the provisional voter are not required to match the information in the statewide voter registration database.

- Removes an exception to the affirmation requirement that specified that if the provisional voter declined to execute the provisional ballot affirmation, the affirmation had to include only the voter’s name, written either by the voter or by an election official, in order for the ballot to be eligible to be counted.

- Allows an elector who does not have or is unable to provide the required ID to cast a provisional ballot by writing the elector’s driver’s license or state identification card number or the last four digits of the elector’s Social Security number on the provisional ballot envelope or providing the required ID or one of those numbers to the board of elections not later than the seventh day after the election.

- Eliminates a procedure that allowed an elector who has neither the required ID nor a Social Security number to execute an affirmation to that effect and to have that affirmation satisfy the requirement that the elector provide ID in order for the provisional ballot to be counted.

- Shortens, from the ten days to seven days after the election, the period of time for a provisional voter who has not provided ID or who has been challenged to provide additional information to the board of elections in order to have the ballot counted.

**Free access system for provisional ballot information**

- Clarifies that an individual may use the state’s free access toll-free telephone number for provisional voters only to gain access to information about the individual’s own provisional ballot.
**Records concerning rejected provisional ballots**

- Specifies that a board of elections need not make a separate record of certain information concerning rejected provisional ballots if the board has already recorded that information in another database.

**Provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct**

- Requires an election official, if an individual insists on casting a ballot in the wrong precinct but the correct polling location, to complete a form showing the individual’s correct precinct and stating that the election official directed the individual to the correct precinct.

- Specifies that if an individual cast a provisional ballot in the wrong precinct but in the correct polling location, and the election official failed to direct the individual to the correct precinct, the individual’s ballot must be remade and counted for each office, question, and issue for which the individual was eligible and attempted to vote.

- Specifies that the election official must be deemed to have directed the individual to the correct precinct if the election official correctly completed the form described above.

- Prohibits a provisional ballot cast in the wrong precinct and the incorrect polling location from being counted.

**Voting locations that serve more than one precinct**

- Requires a vote of three of the four members of a board of elections for the board to choose to have a single voting location serve more than one precinct.

- Allows a board that does so to designate a single presiding judge for the voting location who is a member of the dominant political party in the combined precincts.

- Permits the board to combine the pollbooks for precincts that share a voting location to create a single pollbook for the location.

**References to precincts, jurisdictions, and polling places**

- Changes several references to eligibility to vote in a "jurisdiction" to eligibility to vote in a precinct.

- Amends certain references to polling places to refer instead to precincts, in order to reflect the practice of having a single polling place serve multiple precincts.

**Driver’s licenses or state identification cards with a former address**

- Eliminates the requirement that, if an elector appears to vote and provides a driver’s license or state identification card that contains a former address, the precinct
election official had to record that fact, along with the last four digits of the elector's driver's license or state identification card number.

- States that the General Assembly does not intend for the act to alter the provisions of continuing law or of any rules, directives, or advisories previously issued by the Secretary of State that permit an elector to cast a regular ballot if the elector provides a driver's license or state identification card that contains the elector's former address.

**Incomplete or defective absent voter's ballot identification envelopes**

- Allows a person's right to vote to be challenged on the ground that the identification statement of voter is incomplete, and specifies that, if the election officials find that the statement accompanying an absent voter's ballot is *incomplete* or insufficient, the vote must not be accepted or counted.

- Specifies the circumstances under which an absent voter's ballot identification envelope must be considered incomplete.

- Requires a board of elections to contact an absent voter whose identification envelope is incomplete or does not match the information in the statewide voter registration database by mail to inform the voter of the defect.

- Permits such an absent voter to deliver a written form to the office of the board, in person or by mail, not later than the seventh day after the day of the election in order to cure the defect.

**Am. S.B. 238**

**Sens.** LaRose, Schaffer, Seitz, Jordan, Eklund, Coley, Widener, Burke, Lehner

**Reps.** J. Adams, Beck, Becker, Blessing, Bose, Brenner, Buchy, Damschroder, Green, Hayes, Henne, Hood, Huffman, Maag, McClain, Retherford, Roegner, Scherer, Sears, Terhar, Thompson, Wachtman, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** June 1, 2014

- Requires generally that absent voter's ballots be ready for use on the first day after the close of voter registration before the day of an election.
Sub. H.B. 165

Reps. Roegner, Thompson, Wachtmann, Beck, Hood, Huffman, Scherer, Schuring, Sears, Batchelder
Sens. Bacon, Eklund, LaRose, Seitz
Effective date: September 4, 2014

- Exempts certified hyperbaric technologists who meet specified requirements from the laws governing the practice of respiratory care.
- Requires that exempted certified hyperbaric technologists administer hyperbaric oxygen therapy under the direct supervision of a physician, a physician assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse.

Sub. H.B. 202

Sens. Bacon, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Peterson, Seitz, Uecker
Effective date: June 3, 2014

- Requires, if an applicant for registration as a professional engineer has graduated from an unaccredited college curriculum, that the curricula be evaluated by the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors and found essentially equal to accredited curricula.
- Expressly adds a prerequisite for registration as a professional engineer or professional surveyor that the applicant first be certified as an engineer intern or surveyor intern, and specifies requirements to obtain that certification.
- Converts the number of surveying course hours required for certain persons to register as a professional surveyor to semester hours from quarter hours.
- Eliminates the presumption that certain disputed continuing education credit hours, coursework, or activities submitted for approval comply with the law.
- Extends to two years from one year the duration of a certificate of authorization issued to a firm, partnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation.
• Modifies requirements for reports that the Board annually must submit to the Governor.

Sub. H.B. 232


Sens. Brown, Burke, Eklund, Hite, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Patton, Sawyer, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Widener

Effective date: July 10, 2014

Counselor titles

• Revises professional clinical counselor and professional counselor titles to licensed professional clinical counselor and licensed professional counselor.

Licensing requirements

• Modifies licensing requirements for licensed professional clinical counselors, licensed professional counselors, independent social workers, and independent marriage and family therapists.

• Renames the provisional license that may be issued under certain circumstances to a licensed professional clinical counselor or licensed professional counselor as a temporary license, and adds a circumstance under which a temporary license may be issued to a licensed professional counselor for up to 90 days.

• Limits to 90 days the duration of a temporary social worker license under one of the circumstances for which a license may be granted, and modifies the requirements for a temporary license.

• Establishes a process whereby a person holding a license or certificate of registration issued by the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board may have the license or certificate classified as inactive.

• Provides for voluntary registration of master’s level counselor, social worker, and marriage and family therapy trainees enrolled in practice and internships.

Public employees

• Generally prohibits an employee in the service of the state from engaging in the practice of professional counseling, social work, or marriage and family therapy without a license, unless on July 10, 2014, the employee has two years of service.
• Gives state employees practicing prior to that date who are not exempt two years to comply with the licensing requirement.

• Specifies that a vocational rehabilitation counselor or a caseworker not licensed as an independent social worker or social worker who is employed by a public children services agency is not required to be licensed or certified by the Board.

**Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board**

• Revises the membership of the Board, and specifies additional qualifications to be eligible to serve on the Board.

• Authorizes the Board to take disciplinary action against: (1) a counselor trainee, social worker trainee, or marriage and family therapist trainee, and (2) an individual or entity that has applied for or is registered to provide continuing education programs.

• Authorizes the appropriate professional standards committee of the Board to enter into a consent agreement in lieu of an adjudication.

• Authorizes the Board to impose discipline without a hearing if there is no timely request for a hearing.

• Modifies the confidentiality provisions that apply to records of Board investigations.

• Extends to all professionals licensed or registered by the Board an existing provision requiring a court to notify a professional licensing board if a person holding specified professional licenses is convicted of or pleads guilty to certain drug offenses.

**Professional conduct**

• Applies to independent marriage and family therapists and to marriage and family therapists the law governing circumstances under which a mental health provider might be held liable for harm resulting from failing to predict, warn of, or take precautions against a client’s violent behavior.

• Expands to all professionals licensed or registered by the Board requirements regarding reports of abuse or neglect that apply to other professionals regulated by the Board.

• Exempts professionals licensed by the Board from the duty to disclose privileged information between the professional and a client that is related to a felony or knowledge of death.

• Permits professionals licensed by the Board to provide services through certain business entities formed in combination with other health care professionals.
Other provisions

- Extends to athletic trainers, chemical dependency counselors, and alcohol and other drug prevention specialists qualified civil immunity when providing volunteer health care services.
- Includes additional health care professionals among those whose mental health services must be covered by certain health insurance policies.
- Includes reports of examinations conducted by independent marriage and family therapists and marriage and family therapists among the information that an entity placing a delinquent child in a foster home or for adoption must provide to foster caregivers or prospective adoptive parents.
- Eliminates a number of obsolete provisions and references.

Am. H.B. 326


Sens. Bacon, Burke, Hughes, LaRose, Manning, Patton

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Exempts from the requirement to be licensed by the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics a licensed pharmacist, licensed pharmacy intern, registered wholesale distributor of dangerous drugs, or licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs who is acting within the respective scope of practice.

Sub. H.B. 468

Reps. Sears and McGregor, Becker, Hackett, Henne, Wachtmann, Batchelder

Sens. Bacon, Uecker, Jordan

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Salvage motor vehicle sales

- Permits a person to engage in the business of selling at retail salvage motor vehicles to authorized purchasers if the person has a salvage motor vehicle auction license or a salvage motor vehicle pool license.
• Prohibits a person licensed as a salvage motor vehicle auction or salvage motor vehicle pool from knowingly selling a salvage motor vehicle to anyone other than an authorized purchaser.

• Prohibits any person who is not an authorized purchaser from purchasing a salvage motor vehicle from a salvage motor vehicle auction or salvage motor vehicle pool.

• Prohibits a person who is not licensed under the Motor Vehicle Salvage Law from making more than five sales of salvage motor vehicles in a calendar year, as opposed to a 12-month period, to a person who purchases the salvage motor vehicle for use as a consumer.

• Permits a person to sell salvage motor vehicles at retail or at wholesale to or through a salvage motor vehicle auction or pool without a license if the transaction is incidental to the person's primary business.

• Repeals the requirement that any person licensed as a motor vehicle salvage dealer purchasing salvage motor vehicles at salvage motor vehicle auctions or pools obtain a buyer's identification card (BID).

**Records and reporting**

• Requires every salvage motor vehicle auction and pool to comply with certain records requirements.

• Requires every salvage motor vehicle auction and pool to submit monthly to a third party consolidator selected by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles an electronic record with certain information for each sale of a salvage motor vehicle.

• Authorizes the Registrar to adopt any rules necessary to facilitate the timely submission of the required information.

• Requires every salvage motor vehicle auction and pool to comply with the reporting requirements of the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System.

• Requires the Common Sense Initiative Office to submit a report to the General Assembly by January 1, 2018, regarding the cost-effectiveness of having the Registrar contract with a data consolidator and whether to continue the required reporting process.

**Titles**

• Requires the clerk of the court of common pleas to issue a salvage certificate of title containing a specified disclosure.

• Permits the physical inspection of a salvage motor vehicle owned by an insurance company to be made at an established place of business operated by a salvage motor vehicle auction or salvage motor vehicle pool.
Township removal of junk motor vehicles

- Requires, if a junk motor vehicle is removed and disposed of pursuant to a township resolution to remove a junk vehicle, the clerk of courts of the county to issue a salvage certificate of title for that junk motor vehicle to a licensed motor vehicle salvage dealer or scrap metal processing facility if certain conditions are met.

Sub. H.B. 493

Reps. Sears and Henne, Hackett, Huffman, Stebelton, Wachtman

Sens. Bacon, Faber, Peterson, Schaffer, Seitz

Effective date: September 17, 2014; certain provisions effective July 1, 2015

Prospective payment of premiums

- Requires, rather than permits as under former law, the Administrator of Workers' Compensation to calculate workers' compensation premiums for most employers on a prospective rather than retrospective basis, beginning policy year 2015.

- Requires most employers to pay premiums on an annual basis, rather than semiannually as under former law.

- Allows the Administrator to adopt rules to permit periodic premium payments and to set an administrative fee for these periodic payments.

- Adjusts the calculation for employer payments to the Disabled Worker Relief Fund.

- Makes other changes to conform the Workers' Compensation Law to the prospective payment system.

Premium security deposits

- Eliminates the requirement for most employers commencing coverage on or after July 1, 2015, to pay a premium security deposit.

- Makes an employer a "noncomplying employer" immediately upon a transfer from the Premium Payment Security Fund Account to the State Insurance Fund due to the employer’s account being uncollectible, rather than extending coverage for eight months as under former law.

Payroll reporting

- Requires, for a policy year commencing on or after July 1, 2015, a private employer other than a professional employer organization (PEO) to submit a payroll report by August 15 unless specified otherwise by the Administrator in rules.
• Requires private employers to include, for payroll reports submitted on or after July 1, 2015, the number of employees employed during the preceding policy year.

• Eliminates the forfeiture penalty for failing to submit a payroll report, and allows the Administrator to adopt rules setting forth a penalty, including exclusion from alternative rating plans and discount programs.

• Revises the requirements for public sector payroll reports.

**Late payments and reports**

• Increases, beginning policy year 2015, the additional amount of premium or assessment due from an employer who fails to timely submit a payroll report from 1% to 10% of the amount due, and eliminates the cap for the penalty amount.

• Requires, beginning policy year 2015, the Administrator to adopt a rule to allow the Administrator to assess a penalty on an employer who fails to pay a premium or assessment when due at the interest rate established by the state Tax Commissioner for most delinquent taxes, and eliminates the tiered penalty system.

**Professional employer organizations (PEOs)**

• Requires PEOs to pay premiums on a monthly basis beginning July 1, 2015, and to submit payroll reports on a monthly basis beginning August 1, 2015.

• Permits, rather than requires, the Administrator to adopt rules establishing a PEO security requirement for workers’ compensation premiums beginning July 1, 2015.

• Requires the Administrator to revoke a PEO's registration under the PEO Law if it fails to make timely payment of premiums or assessments.

**Interstate claims**

• Eliminates the requirement to obtain Ohio coverage for an out-of-state employee temporarily working in Ohio if the employee’s home state law lacks a provision similar to the Ohio law that exempts out-of-state employees temporarily working in Ohio obtaining Ohio coverage.

• Requires the Administrator or a self-insuring employer to disallow a claim in which the employee or the employee’s dependents: (1) receive an Ohio award after previously pursuing or otherwise electing to accept an award for that claim in another state, or (2) receive an Ohio award and subsequently pursue or otherwise elect to accept an award for that claim in another state.

• Limits the ability to collect compensation and benefits from an employee or the employee's dependents in claims pursued and decided in multiple jurisdictions to only the Administrator or a self-insuring employer, instead of allowing any employer to take such an action as under former law.
• Adds an other-states’ insurer as a party from whom the Administrator or self-insuring employer may recover compensation, benefits, and costs in claims pursued and decided in multiple jurisdictions.

• Requires the Administrator or a self-insuring employer to dismiss a claim for which the Administrator or self-insuring employer does not receive an election of Ohio coverage within the continuing law time period, rather than suspending the claim as under former law.

**Other-states' coverage**

• Allows the Administrator to provide limited other-states’ coverage to provide workers’ compensation coverage for Ohio employees who are temporarily working in another state in addition to other-states' coverage.

• Prescribes procedures the Administrator must follow to secure a vehicle through which to provide limited other-states' coverage, which is similar to how the Administrator selects the vehicle for other-states' coverage under continuing law.

•Eliminates the requirement that an employer who has other-states' coverage segregate payroll on the employer's annual payroll report based upon whether an employee is covered under other-states' coverage.

• Allows the Administrator to adopt rules with respect to the information to be excluded from the calculation of an employer's state fund premium when the employer obtains other-states' coverage through the Administrator, rather than requiring the information to be excluded as under former law.

**Benefit payments**

• Allows the Administrator to pay for the first fill of prescriptions occurring during an earlier timeframe than under continuing law.

• Allows for the first fill of prescriptions to be charged to the Surplus Fund Account if the claim is ultimately denied and the employer is a state fund employer who pays assessments into that account.

**Health Partnership Program**

• Statutorily permits the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) to summarily suspend a health care provider’s certification to participate in the Health Partnership Program (HPP), and specifies procedures regarding the suspension.

• Expands the example in the definition of "peer review committee" to include a peer review committee of BWC or the Industrial Commission that reviews the professional qualifications and performance of providers certified by BWC to participate in the HPP.
• Requires that type of peer review committee to follow the confidentiality requirements pertaining to committee records and proceedings as set forth in continuing law, subject to specified exceptions.

Claims procedure
• Requires, for an appeal of an Industrial Commission decision filed with a court of common pleas on or after September 17, 2014, the notice of appeal to include the name of the Administrator.

Premium programs and assessments
• Permits public employers to participate in the BWC One Claim Program.
• Requires the Administrator to reimburse a state fund employer from the Surplus Fund Account for any assessments paid for a violation of a specific safety requirement if it is determined that the employer did not commit the violation.
• Eliminates the statutory minimum assessment amount for the Disabled Worker Relief Fund for claims arising before January 1, 1987.

Self-insuring employers
• Eliminates the requirement that most self-insuring public employers annually obtain an actuarial report certifying the sufficiency of reserved funds to cover the costs that the employer could potentially incur under Ohio’s Workers’ Compensation Law and the reliability of computations and statements made with regard to those funds.

Additional changes
• Requires, rather than permits as under former law, the State Board of Pharmacy to provide information from the drug database relating to a workers’ compensation claimant to the Administrator upon request.
• Requires the Board to provide information from the drug database to a managed care organization’s medical director if specified conditions are satisfied.
• Places the Chief Ombudsperson and assistant ombudspersons in the unclassified service, and makes changes regarding their appointment and removal.
• Requires all ombudsperson system staff to comply with Ohio’s Ethics Laws and the Industrial Commission Nominating Council’s human resource and ethics policies.
• Requires the Workers’ Compensation Investment Committee to review BWC’s Chief Investment Officer and any investment consultants retained by the Administrator "to assure effective management” of the workers’ compensation funds, rather than that "the best possible return on investment is achieved,” under former law.
• Requires the Administrator to have an actuarial "analysis," rather than actuarial "audits," of the State Insurance Fund and other specified funds made at least once a year, and revises the requirements for that analysis.

• Changes the method by which "good standing" is determined for purposes of qualifying for a group rating program.

•Eliminates a requirement in the BWC budget for the FY 2014-FY 2015 biennium that any unencumbered cash balance in excess of $45 million in the Workers' Compensation Fund on June 30 of each fiscal year be used to reduce the administrative cost rate charged to employers.

### Sub. S.B. 78

**Sens.** Hughes, Brown, Bacon, Burke, Eklund, Gentile, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni  
**Reps.** Dovilla, Anielski, Beck  
**Effective date:** September 17, 2014

• Requires, rather than permits, an individual's specialty contractor license to be assigned to a contracting company with whom the individual is employed.

• Modifies the criteria under which an assigned license becomes invalid subsequent to a contractor's disassociation from a contracting company.

•Expands the reasons for which discipline may be imposed against a licensee, and modifies the disciplinary actions that may be imposed.

• Requires each specialty section of the Construction Industry Licensing Board to direct the Administrative Section of the Board to refuse to issue a license to an applicant who had another person take the licensing examination for the applicant or who failed the licensing examination.

• Allows a specialty section of the Board to take action against a licensee without a hearing if the licensee does not request a hearing within 30 days of receiving notice of the Board's intent to act against the licensee.

• Allows a specialty section of the Board, upon determining that a person has acted as a specialty contractor without the appropriate license, to file a complaint with the appropriate prosecutor for criminal prosecution.

• Removes, from the requirements for a written notice sent by a specialty section to a person who is alleged to have acted as a specialty contractor without a license, the requirement that the notice be sent within seven days of the section's determination.
• Allows a specialty section to take action against a person who is alleged to have acted as a specialty contractor without a license without a hearing upon an affirmative vote of a quorum of the section’s members if the person does not request a hearing within 30 days of receiving notice of the section’s intent to act against the person.

• Reduces from four to three the number of affirmative votes of specialty section members required to impose a penalty on a person whom the section determines after a hearing has acted as a specialty contractor without a license.

• Eliminates the liability of each licensee of a business to which multiple licenses have been assigned regarding violations of the terms of the license committed during any work conducted under any of the licenses.

• Removes the requirement that liability insurance required by each specialty section of the Board for a person applying to be licensed by the Board had to include complete operations coverage, and requires liability insurance to be maintained in only one contracting company name.

• Allows an applicant who fails a specialty contractor licensing examination to retake the examination 60 days after the initial examination, and limits the retakes to five.

• Transfers responsibility for designing examinations for specialty contractor licenses from the Administrative Section of the Board to the specialty sections.

• Requires each specialty section of the Board to adopt rules establishing criteria for the specialty section to use in deciding whether to issue, renew, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew licenses.
Am. Sub. H.B. 201

Reps. Butler, J. Adams, Terhar, Thompson, Hayes, R. Adams, Amstutz, Anielski, Beck, Bishoff, Blair, Blessing, Budish, Burkley, Conditt, Green, Hood, Huffman, Letson, Milkovich, Perales, Retherford, Sykes, Winburn, Batchelder

Sens. Burke, Coley, Eklund, Jordan, Patton, Seitz

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Entries of mortgage satisfaction

- Requires a mortgagee to record a release of a mortgage evidencing its satisfaction within 90 days from the date of its satisfaction, regardless of whether it is a residential or commercial mortgage.

- Expands to a current owner of real property to which a mortgage pertains the provision permitting a mortgagor to bring a cause of action for damages of $250 for a mortgagee's failure to record a satisfied mortgage.

- Requires a current owner of property to provide a notice to a mortgagee if the mortgagee fails to record a satisfied mortgage within the required time period.

- Creates a cause of action for the current owner to collect damages when a mortgagee fails to record the satisfied mortgage after the current owner provides the notice.

- Provides requirements and damages for noncompliance with the requirements for a mortgagee, mortgagor, and property owner who are parties to an unreleased mortgage that has been satisfied, but not recorded, prior to the act's effective date.

Health care coverage

- Lowers to 26 (from 28) the age to which health insurance coverage must be extended, upon the request of the insured, under certain health policies or plans that provide coverage to an insured's unmarried dependent children.

- Increases to 30 (from 25) the minimum number of hours that an eligible employee works in a normal work week for the purposes of the law governing small employer health benefit plans.

- Specifies that a volunteer firefighter is not an employee for the purposes of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
• Increases the potential length of one-time, limited duration health insurance policies, from policies that are not longer than six months to policies that are less than 12 months.

• Specifies that chemotherapy parity requirements, as they apply to high deductible health plans, apply only after the respective deductible has been met.

**H.B. 652**

**Reps.** Batchelder and Hackett, Brenner, Brown, Antonio, Barnes, Boyce, Buchy, Celebrezze, Fedor, Gerberry, Green, C. Hagan, Hall, Letson, Mallory, Milkovich, O'Brien, Reece, Retherford, Ruhl, Schuring, Sears, Sprague

**Sens.** Kearney, Bacon, Balderson, Hughes, Manning, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Seitz, Widener

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

• Modifies the law governing credit union share guaranty corporations, including with respect to:
  --The primary guaranteed amount;
  --Reinsurance and lines of credit;
  --Investment authority;
  --Relationship with participating credit unions;
  --The collection of special premium assessments and capital contributions for purposes of a corporation's guarantee fund; and
  --Annual license renewals.

**Am. S.B. 202**

**Sens.** Obhof and Kearney, Seitz, Coley, Bacon, Eklund, Hughes, Oelslager, Schiavoni

**Reps.** Anielski, Blessing, Burkley, Butler, Carney, Green, Grossman, Hall, Huffman, Letson, Mallory, Milkovich, Patmon, Perales, Stinziano, Terhar, Batchelder

**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

• Provides additional exceptions to the Control Share Acquisition Act.

• Requires approval from the board of directors of an issuing public corporation before the shareholders can amend the corporation's regulations or articles of incorporation to opt out of the Control Share Acquisition Act.
• Modifies the definition of “interested shareholder” to include a three-year look back period to determine if a person remains an interested shareholder.

• Requires the approval of the board of directors of an issuing public corporation before the shareholders can amend the articles of incorporation to opt out of a Chapter 1704. transaction, as defined in continuing law.
Gambling

Sub. S.B. 141

Sens. Obhof and Hughes, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Jones, Uecker
Reps. Anielski, Bishoff, Buchy, Dovilla, Hackett, Mallory, Rogers, Sheehy

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Specifies that a person who knowingly or intentionally does certain acts related to filing financial reports, maintaining financial records, and structuring financial transactions while participating in casino gaming or otherwise transacting with a casino facility under the Casino Control Law commits a fifth degree felony on a first offense and a fourth degree felony on a subsequent offense.

- Expands the mandatory content of the annual report that the Ohio Casino Control Commission must file, and specifies that the report must cover the fiscal year that is previous to the year in which it is submitted.

- Authorizes a properly licensed charitable organization to apply to the Attorney General for an amended license if it desires to conduct instant bingo other than at a bingo session at additional locations not identified on the license.
Am. Sub. H.B. 44

- Requires the Director of Health to develop one or more protocols regarding the availability of drugs during a public health emergency that separately do the following:
  - Authorize specified licensed health professionals to administer, deliver, or distribute certain drugs;
  - Authorize employees of boards of health and registered emergency volunteers to deliver or distribute certain drugs;
  - Authorize pharmacists and pharmacy interns to dispense limited quantities of certain dangerous drugs without a prescription or record of a prescription.

- Provides that an individual who administers, delivers, distributes, or dispenses a drug or dangerous drug in accordance with one or more of those protocols is not: (1) subject to criminal prosecution or professional disciplinary action, or (2) liable for civil damages (unless the individual’s acts or omissions constitute willful or wanton misconduct).

Sub. H.B. 95

- Provides that an individual who administers, delivers, distributes, or dispenses a drug or dangerous drug in accordance with one or more of those protocols is not: (1) subject to criminal prosecution or professional disciplinary action, or (2) liable for civil damages (unless the individual’s acts or omissions constitute willful or wanton misconduct).
• Prohibits a certificate recognizing the delivery of a stillborn infant from including the word "stillborn" or "stillbirth" or any other words having the same or a similar meaning.

• Requires the Director of Health or the State Registrar to issue a new certificate, on receipt of a written request signed by a parent who was previously issued a certificate containing such a word.

• Provides that, when a burial permit is issued for a product of human conception of at least 20 weeks of gestation that suffers a fetal death, the local registrar must inform the parent or parents of the option to apply for a certificate that recognizes the delivery of a stillborn infant.

• Extends to certified nurse-midwives requirements regarding birth certificates that apply to physicians in attendance at birth.

Am. Sub. H.B. 123


Sens. Tavares, Cafaro, Jones, LaRose, Uecker

Effective date: May 20, 2014

• Requires the Department of Medicaid to establish Medicaid payment standards for telehealth services.

• Specifies that the following are included in the laws pertaining to the proceedings of peer review committees of health care entities: accountable care organizations; hospital groups owned, sponsored, or managed by single entities; and combinations of health care entities.

• Provides that the release of any information produced or presented during peer review committee proceedings, or created to document such proceedings, does not affect the confidentiality of any other information produced or presented during such proceedings or created to document them.

• Specifies that the laws governing the confidentiality of peer review committee records do not preclude health care entities from sharing information, as long as the information is used only for peer review purposes.
Sub. H.B. 131


Sens. Kearney, Hite, Lehner, Seitz, Turner

Effective date: June 23, 2015

• Establishes consent requirements, which vary depending on age, that must be satisfied before a tanning facility operator or employee may allow an individual to use sun lamp tanning services.

• Requires a tanning facility operator or employee to follow procedures established by the Board of Cosmetology to determine the age of an individual seeking to use the facility’s sun lamp tanning services.

• Requires the Board to impose a fine on a tanning facility operator or employee for certain violations.

• Requires that the Board regulate tanning facilities that use tanning chemicals, such as spray-on tans, and facilities that use visible light for cosmetic purposes.

Am. H.B. 139


Sens. Tavares, Beagle, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Hite, Jones, Manning, Oelslager, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: May 20, 2014

• Allows certain advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to admit patients to hospitals under specified conditions.

Sub. H.B. 170

Health 2014 Digest of Enactments

Henne, Hill, Huffman, Landis, Lundy, Mallory, McClain, Patterson, Perales, Redfern, Rosenberger, Ruhl, Sheehy, Slaby, Strahorn, Terhar, Thompson, Winburn, Young, Batchelder

Sens. Tavares, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Smith, Turner, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: Emergency, March 11, 2014

Naloxone access

- Permits a physician or other health care professional who is authorized to prescribe drugs to personally furnish or issue a prescription for naloxone to a friend, family member, or other individual in a position to provide assistance to an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

- Grants a health care professional who in good faith furnishes or issues a prescription for naloxone immunity from criminal or civil liability or professional disciplinary action for the actions or omissions of the individual to whom the drug is furnished or prescription is issued.

- Requires the health care professional to instruct the individual to whom the drug is furnished or prescription issued to summon emergency services immediately before or immediately after administering naloxone.

- Grants immunity from criminal liability to a family member, friend, or other individual (except for certain licensed emergency responders) who administers naloxone obtained pursuant to the act, if the individual summons emergency services.

- Grants immunity from administrative action and criminal prosecution to a peace officer acting in good faith who administers naloxone, if it is obtained from the law enforcement agency that employs the officer and the agency is licensed as a terminal distributor of dangerous drugs.

- Requires wholesale and terminal distributors of dangerous drugs to prioritize the sale, distribution, and delivery of naloxone to hospitals, children’s hospitals, emergency medical service organizations, and urgent care centers.

Internet-based nurse training

- Permits certain nurses who held prescriptive authority in other jurisdictions to satisfy certain controlled substance training requirements for prescriptive authority in Ohio through Internet-based study.

English proficiency standards

- Establishes additional ways that English proficiency may be demonstrated to the State Medical Board by an applicant for a certificate to practice Oriental medicine or acupuncture.
Sub. H.B. 247


Sens.  Brown, Tavares, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Seitz, Turner, Uecker

Effective date: March 23, 2015

• Provides that any person may perform automated external defibrillation (AED) and that training in AED and cardiopulmonary resuscitation is recommended but not required.

• Extends qualified immunity from civil liability to premises owners and other persons involved with automated external defibrillator placement and use.

• Modifies the standards that must be met by a person possessing a defibrillator by: (1) providing that the person must encourage (rather than require) expected users to successfully complete a course in AED, and (2) eliminating a requirement that the person consult with a physician.

• Removes the requirement that an affidavit for a proceeding for a mentally ill person subject to court order be filed with the probate court in the county where the mentally ill person subject to court order resides.

• Allows a notary public to sign an affidavit to initiate proceedings for court-ordered treatment of a mentally ill person.

Sub. H.B. 258


Sen.  Lehner

Effective date: March 23, 2015

• Beginning January 1, 2016, permits a licensed spectacle dispensing optician to dispense prepackaged soft contact lenses if the optician can do so without taking action other than matching the lens packaging with a prescription.
• Adds two hours of study in contact lens dispensing to the continuing education required for spectacle dispensing optician license renewal.

**Sub. H.B. 264**

**Reps.** Wachtman and Barnes, Antonio, Beck, Grossman, Milkovich, Brown, Bishoff, Johnson, Sears, Smith, Sprague, Amstutz, Anielski, Baker, Blair, Buchy, Carney, Fedor, Foley, Green, Hackett, C. Hagan, Hill, Huffman, Mallory, Rogers, Sheehy, Young, Batchelder

**Sens.** Tavares, Balderson, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Smith, Turner, Uecker, Widener

**Effective date:** September 11, 2014

• Requires public and chartered nonpublic schools to ensure that each student with diabetes receives appropriate and needed diabetes care in accordance with an order signed by the student’s treating physician.

• Specifies that certain diabetes care tasks be provided in public and chartered nonpublic schools, including blood glucose monitoring and the administration of insulin and other medications.

• Requires a school governing authority to notify the student’s parent, guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student that the student may be entitled to a 504 plan under federal law.

• Requires the Department of Education to develop a 504 plan information sheet as well as adopt nationally recognized guidelines for the training of school employees in diabetes care.

• Permits a school governing authority to provide diabetes care training to school employees.

• Permits a school governing authority to train certain school employees and bus drivers in the recognition and treatment of diabetes-related emergencies.

• Requires that a student with diabetes be permitted to attend the school that the student would otherwise attend if the student did not have diabetes.

• Allows a student with diabetes to manage the student's own care, and to possess all necessary supplies and equipment, if the student’s treating physician determines that the student is capable of doing so.

• Specifies that a school employee is not subject to disciplinary action under school or district policies for providing care or performing duties under the act.
• Grants qualified immunity from civil liability to school employees, boards of education, and other public and chartered nonpublic school governing authorities for activities authorized by the act.

• Requires public and chartered nonpublic school governing authorities to report annually to the Department the number of students with diabetes and the number of errors associated with the administration of diabetes medication.

• Requires the Department annually to issue and make available on its website a report summarizing the information received.

Sub. H.B. 296


Sens. Brown, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Óelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: Emergency, April 21, 2014

• Permits public and private schools and camps to procure epinephrine autoinjectors without a license for use in specified emergency situations, and specifies procedures for those that do so.

• Grants schools and camps, and their employees and contractors, qualified immunity from liability in civil actions for damages allegedly arising from the procurement, maintenance, accessing, or use of an epinephrine autoinjector.

• Permits drug manufacturers to donate epinephrine autoinjectors to schools, and explicitly authorizes schools and camps to receive financial donations from individuals for the purpose of purchasing epinephrine autoinjectors.

Sub. H.B. 314

Sens. Brown, Tavares, Beagle, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Jones, Lehner, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: September 17, 2014

Opioid prescriptions issued to minors

• Establishes in the Revised Code an explicit informed consent requirement for prescribers who, in the absence of a medical emergency or other specified circumstances, intend to prescribe to minors controlled substances containing opioids.

• Specifies that the informed consent requirement has three components: (1) assessing the minor’s mental health and substance abuse history, (2) discussing with the minor and the parent, guardian, or another authorized adult certain risks and dangers associated with taking controlled substances containing opioids, and (3) obtaining the signature of the parent, guardian, or authorized adult on a consent form.

• Limits to not more than a 72-hour supply the quantity of a controlled substance containing an opioid that a prescriber may prescribe to a minor when another adult authorized by the parent or guardian gives the required consent.

• Requires that the signed consent form, known as the "Start Talking!" consent form, be maintained in the minor's medical record.

• Authorizes regulatory boards to impose sanctions on prescribers who fail to comply with the act's informed consent requirement that are the same as those generally imposed for other disciplinary violations.

• Makes conforming changes to provisions specifying conditions that apply when an advanced practice registered nurse or physician assistant with prescriptive authority issues a prescription.

Child fatality review boards

• Authorizes a county or regional child fatality review board to disclose confidential information to a fetal and infant mortality review team.

• Requires a health care entity that provided services to the mother of a child one year of age or younger whose death is being reviewed by a child fatality review board to submit to the review board, on the board's request, a summary of information from the mother's medical record.

Methadone treatment facilities

• Authorizes the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to issue a declaration that a proposed methadone treatment facility location is not within 500 linear feet of a school, day-care center, or other child serving agency.
• Prohibits the Department from considering the location of a school, day-care center, or other child serving agency when determining whether to issue, reissue, or relocate a methadone treatment facility’s license if the facility obtains a declaration and applies for the license within two years of the declaration.

• Once a facility’s license has been issued, prohibits the Department from considering whether there is a school, day-care center, or other child serving agency within 500 linear feet of the location when determining whether to renew, withdraw, revoke, or reissue the license.

Sub. H.B. 315


Sens. Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: July 10, 2014

• Requires maternity units, newborn care nurseries, and maternity homes to report to the Department of Health the number of newborns diagnosed as opioid dependent.

• Authorizes local boards of health to grant maternity homes variances from or waivers of the Department’s rules regarding their operation.

• Replaces the chemical name for a type of controlled substance.

Sub. H.B. 320


Sens. Coley, Eklund, Hughes, Oelslager, Seitz, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: March 23, 2015
Expressly includes free clinics, and other nonprofit shelter or health care facilities, within the qualified immunity from civil liability that pre-existing law extends to health care facilities associated with professionals who provide volunteer health care services to indigent and uninsured patients.

Grants, until June 30, 2019, a qualified immunity from civil liability to volunteer health care professionals who provide services in free clinics to individuals eligible for or receiving Medicaid.

Specifies that each free clinic must register annually with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and that ODH must monitor the quality of care provided at free clinics.

Designates December as "Free Clinic Appreciation Month," and requires ODH to promote "Free Clinic Appreciation Month" each year and to select annually a "free clinic of the year" and "free clinic volunteers of the year."

Requires ODH to maintain on its website a directory of and other information about free clinics in Ohio.

Requires that each free clinic be designated as a health or dental resource shortage area under ODH's Physician and Dentist Loan Repayment programs, regardless of whether the clinic is located in a geographic area that is designated as such an area.

Specifies that a retired health care professional holding a volunteer's certificate may provide certain health care services without compensation to indigent and uninsured persons at any location, including a free clinic.

Authorizes the Board of Nursing to issue a volunteer's certificate to a retired registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse under specified conditions.

Am. Sub. H.B. 341


Sens. Balderson, Burke, Hughes, Manning

Effective date: September 16, 2014; certain provisions effective January 1, 2015, and April 1, 2015
• Beginning April 1, 2015, establishes several conditions related to the State Board of Pharmacy's Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS) that apply to a prescriber when prescribing or personally furnishing certain drugs, including the following:

  --That the prescriber, before initially prescribing or personally furnishing an opioid analgesic or a benzodiazepine, request patient information from OARRS that covers at least the previous 12 months; and

  --That the prescriber make periodic requests for patient information from OARRS if the course of treatment continues for more than 90 days.

• Establishes several exceptions from the required review of an OARRS report.

• Beginning January 1, 2015, requires that certain prescribers, as well as pharmacists, when renewing their professional licenses, certify to their licensing boards that they have access to OARRS, and subjects them to possible disciplinary action for false certifications.

• Authorizes the State Board of Pharmacy to restrict a person from obtaining further information from OARRS if the person creates, by clear and convincing evidence, a threat to the security of information contained in OARRS.

• Requires, rather than permits as under prior law, the State Board of Pharmacy to provide information from OARRS to prescribers, pharmacists, and the Administrator of Workers' Compensation if certain criteria are met.

• Requires a managed care organization to enter into a contract with the Department of Medicaid before information from OARRS can be provided to the organization.

• Requires the State Board of Pharmacy to provide information from OARRS to a Workers' Compensation managed care organization if certain criteria are met.

Sub. H.B. 366


Sens. Tavares, Brown, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Eklund, Gardner, Jones, Lehner, Manning, Oelslager, Peterson, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: September 17, 2014
• Requires a licensed hospice care program that provides hospice services in a patient’s home to establish a written policy and adopt certain practices for preventing the diversion of controlled substances containing opioids.

• Requires a program to request, in writing, that the hospice patient or family relinquish any controlled substances containing opioids included in the patient’s plan of care that are no longer needed by the patient.

• Requires the program to report to local law enforcement the quantity and type of controlled substances not relinquished to the program, and requires the law enforcement agency to investigate and dispose of them.

• Grants qualified immunity from civil liability to a hospice care program, employee, officer, or director, or prescriber for certain actions required by the act.

Am. Sub. H.B. 394\(^2\)


Sens. Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Eklund, Hite, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Seitz, Tavares, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: Emergency - provisions addressing radiologic professionals and nursing facilities effective January 1, 2015; most other provisions effective March 19, 2015; certain provisions effective April 1, 2015, to maintain the act’s provisions after that date

Immunization by pharmacists and pharmacy interns

• Authorizes a pharmacist to administer certain immunizations to individuals who are 13 years or older.

• Authorizes a pharmacist to administer certain immunizations to individuals between seven and 13 years old if there is a prescription for the immunization.

• Authorizes a pharmacist to administer a flu shot to an individual who is seven years old or older without a prescription.

• Authorizes a pharmacy intern working under direct supervision to administer the same immunizations as a pharmacist.

Mandatory child care immunizations

• Requires that the caretaker parent of a child enrolled in a licensed child care facility or receiving childcare from a certified in-home aide provide to the facility or aide a

\(^2\) Many provisions of H.B. 394 were also simultaneously enacted by S.B. 276.
medical statement indicating that the child has been immunized against specified diseases.

- Provides for certain exceptions to the mandatory immunizations, including that an immunization is medically contraindicated or inappropriate for the child’s age or that the child’s parent or guardian objects based on reasons of conscience or religious convictions.

**Dense breast tissue**

- Requires a mammography facility to include certain information in a patient’s mammogram summary if the mammogram demonstrates the presence of dense breast tissue.

**Safe Sleep Education Program**

- Requires the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to establish the Safe Sleep Education Program, and specifies that it operate in a manner similar to the pre-existing Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Program.

- Requires facilities and locations that must participate in the Safe Sleep Education Program and that have infants regularly sleeping at them to adopt an internal infant safe sleep policy.

- Requires the ODH Director to adopt a model internal infant safe sleep policy that facilities may use when implementing their own policies.

**Infant safe sleep screening procedures**

- Requires freestanding birthing centers and certain hospitals ("facilities") to implement an infant safe sleep screening procedure to assess whether an infant will have a safe crib or other suitable place to sleep in once discharged to the infant’s residence following birth.

- Requires the Director to develop questions that a facility may use when implementing an infant safe sleep screening procedure.

- Subject to certain exceptions, requires a facility to make a good faith effort to arrange for an infant’s parent, guardian, or caregiver to obtain a safe crib or other suitable sleeping place at no charge if the facility determines through screening that the infant is unlikely to have a suitable place to sleep.

- Specifies the means by which a facility may comply with the safe crib requirement described above.

- Requires facilities to report to ODH information concerning their compliance with the safe crib requirement.
• Annually, beginning July 1, 2015, requires the Director to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly summarizing the information that has been reported by facilities in the preceding 12 months.

**Immunity - safe sleep**

• Grants qualified civil immunity to an entity, person, or facility (or any facility employee, contractor, or volunteer), and specifies that none of them are subject to criminal prosecution or professional disciplinary action for an act or omission associated with complying with the act's provisions on the Safe Sleep Education Program and infant safe sleep screening procedures.

**Commission on Infant Mortality**

• Creates the 15-member Commission on Infant Mortality and specifies its duties.

**Shaken Baby Syndrome Education**

• Makes technical and conforming changes to the statutes governing the Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Program, collectively known as "Claire's Law."

**Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System**

• Modifies the law governing prescriber review of patient information from the State Board of Pharmacy’s Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS).

• Eliminates the requirement that an optometrist request patient information from OARRS before prescribing an opioid analgesic.

• Specifies that a prescriber who does not practice in Ohio or a pharmacist who does not dispense controlled substances in Ohio is not required to certify to a licensing board that he or she has been granted access to OARRS.

**Opioid prescriptions for minors**

• Specifies that an emergency facility, when treating a minor patient, is not required to obtain written parental consent for an opioid prescription.

**Semiannual opioid prescription report**

• Requires the State Board of Pharmacy to prepare a semiannual report regarding opioid prescriptions and to submit the report to the Governor, certain members of the General Assembly, and specified agencies.

**Criminal offense - corrupting another with drugs**

• Expands the offense of corrupting another with drugs to prohibit furnishing or administering a controlled substance to a pregnant woman, or inducing or causing a pregnant woman to use a controlled substance, when the offender knows that the woman is pregnant or is reckless in that regard.
• Increases the penalty for corrupting another with drugs if a pregnant woman is involved, as described above.

**Radiologic professionals**
• Authorizes ODH to reinstate an inactive or lapsed license to practice as a general x-ray machine operator, radiographer, radiation therapy technologist, or nuclear medicine technologist.

**Lyme disease testing**
• Repeals the 2014 law, enacted by H.B. 483, that required a dentist, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant, or physician, when ordering a test for Lyme disease, to provide the patient or patient's representative with information regarding the limits of current Lyme disease testing.

**Nursing facilities**
• Allows a nursing facility to continue, on and after January 1, 2015, to exclude one or more parts from its Medicaid provider agreement if certain conditions are met.
• Allows a nursing facility to continue, on and after January 1, 2015, to refuse to admit an individual who is or may become a Medicaid recipient if at least 25% (rather than 80%) of its Medicaid-certified beds are occupied by Medicaid recipients at the time the individual would otherwise be admitted.

**Motorsports parks, park-camp licenses**
• Exempts from licensure under the Park-Camps Law a motorsports park that holds at least one annual event sanctioned by NASCAR or NHRA and provides parking for recreational vehicles, dependent recreational vehicles, and portable camping units belonging to participants in the event.
• Specifies that the exemption applies to participant-only areas during the preparation for and operation of the event.
• Allows a person subject to that Law to apply to the Director of Health for a waiver or variance from it or rules adopted under it.
• Authorizes the Director to grant a waiver or variance if the person demonstrates, to the Director's satisfaction, that it will not result in any adverse effect on the public health or safety.
Sub. H.B. 463


Sens. Gardner, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Eklund, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Tavares, Uecker

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Permits applicants for a license to practice dentistry to fulfill one of the licensing requirements by completing an approved dental residency program, and requires the State Dental Board to submit a report in three years regarding this change.

- Increases the licensing fee paid by dentists and the registration fee paid by dental hygienists.

- Clarifies the role of the coordinator of the Quality Intervention Program.

- Increases by three the number of consecutive terms a hearing referee or examiner may serve for the State Dental Board.

- Creates the Dental Hygienist Loan Repayment Program.

- Modifies the scopes of practice that apply to the following dental personnel while a supervising dentist is not physically present: dental hygienists, certified dental assistants, expanded function dental auxiliaries, and dental x-ray operators.

- Increases the number of dental hygienists who may practice under the supervision of the same dentist.

- Repeals a provision that limited which dentist to whom a dental hygienist had to refer a patient as part of the Oral Health Access Supervision Program.

- Expands the scopes of practice of certified dental assistants and expanded function dental auxiliaries.

- Establishes a temporary volunteer’s certificate that authorizes a dentist or dental hygienist not licensed in Ohio to provide free dental services in Ohio for seven days.

- Qualifies higher education programs that recruit students in the field of dentistry for awards under the Ohio Innovation Partnership.

- Creates the Medicaid Payment Rates for Dental Services Workgroup to study Medicaid payment rates for dental services.
Sub. H.B. 552


Sen.s. Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Turner, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: March 23, 2015

• Requires the Department of Health to create and make available on its website a Down syndrome information sheet.

• Requires specified health care professionals and facilities to provide a copy of the information sheet to patients under certain circumstances.

• Establishes language standards for signs containing the international symbol of access.

Am. S.B. 179

Sen.s. Eklund, Seitz, Coley, Hite, Kearney, Oelslager, Patton, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Turner, Uecker


Effective date: July 10, 2014

• Includes recycled water as a private water system that is subject to regulation by the Department of Health and boards of health of city or general health districts.

• Requires the Director of Health to define by rule "recycled water" as well as "well," "spring," "cistern," "pond," and "hauled" water, which are private water systems under continuing law.
**S.B. 198**

**Sens.** Jones and Tavares, Bacon, Beagle, Burke, Lehner, Manning, Seitz, Uecker, Cafaro, Turner, Schiavoni, Smith, Brown, Kearney, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jordan, LaRose, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Skindell, Widener


**Effective date:** May 20, 2014

- Designates October as "Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month."

- Encourages coroners, deputy coroners, or any other individuals who have been designated to investigate the sudden death of a child one year of age or younger in apparent good health, to complete a reporting form developed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Requires that a copy of the reporting form, if completed, be sent to the Director of Health and used for collecting data to prevent future unexplained infant deaths.³

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**Am. S.B. 230**

**Sens.** Manning and Oelslager, Jones, Lehner, Patton, Cafaro, Brown, Tavares, Eklund, LaRose, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Turner

**Reps.** Antonio, Barnes, Bishop, Brown, Schuring, Sprague, Burkley, Grossman, Hackett, Lundy, Maag, Sears, Smith, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** September 17, 2014

- Prohibits pharmacists and pharmacy interns from dispensing certain non-self-injectable cancer drugs by delivering them or causing them to be delivered directly to the patient, the patient’s representative, or the patient’s private residence.

- Specifies that the dispensing prohibition does not apply when the patient’s private residence is an institutional or health care facility or, if certain notifications have been provided, when the patient is a hospice patient or home health agency client.

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³ This requirement was eliminated and replaced by a new requirement by S.B. 278, effective September 17, 2014.
• Eliminates the requirement that the executive director of the State Board of Pharmacy be a licensed pharmacist.

**Am. Sub. S.B. 276**

**Sens.**  Jones, Bacon, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Smith, Uecker, Widener


**Effective date:** Emergency - provisions addressing radiologic professionals and nursing facilities effective January 1, 2015; most other provisions effective March 19, 2015; certain provisions effective April 1, 2015, to maintain the act's provisions after that date

**Safe Sleep Education Program**

• Requires the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to establish the Safe Sleep Education Program, and specifies that it operate in a manner similar to the pre-existing Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Program.

• Requires facilities and locations that must participate in the Safe Sleep Education Program and that have infants regularly sleeping at them to adopt an internal infant safe sleep policy.

• Requires the ODH Director to adopt a model internal infant safe sleep policy that facilities may use when implementing their own policies.

**Infant safe sleep screening procedures**

• Requires freestanding birthing centers and certain hospitals ("facilities") to implement an infant safe sleep screening procedure to assess whether an infant will have a safe crib or other suitable place to sleep in once discharged to the infant’s residence following birth.

• Requires the Director to develop questions that a facility may use when implementing an infant safe sleep screening procedure.

• Subject to certain exceptions, requires a facility to make a good faith effort to arrange for an infant’s parent, guardian, or caregiver to obtain a safe crib or other suitable sleeping place at no charge if the facility determines through screening that the infant is unlikely to have a suitable place to sleep.

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4 Many provisions of S.B. 276 were also simultaneously enacted by H.B. 394.
• Specifies the means by which a facility may comply with the safe crib requirement described above.

• Requires facilities to report to ODH information concerning their compliance with the safe crib requirement.

• Annually beginning July 1, 2015, requires the Director to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly summarizing the information that has been reported by facilities in the preceding 12 months.

**Immunity**

• Grants qualified civil immunity to an entity, person, or facility (or any facility employee, contractor, or volunteer), and specifies that none of them are subject to criminal prosecution or professional disciplinary action for an act or omission associated with complying with the act's provisions on the Safe Sleep Education Program and infant safe sleep screening procedures.

• Grants absolute immunity from civil liability, as well as immunity from criminal prosecution, to a facility and any facility employee, contractor, or volunteer for injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly arises from a crib or other suitable sleeping place obtained by a parent as a result of any action taken to comply with the act.

• Associated with the absolute immunity, specifies that a continuing law granting only qualified immunity to agencies that distribute consumer goods does not apply.

**Commission on Infant Mortality**

• Creates the 15-member Commission on Infant Mortality and specifies its duties.

**Shaken baby syndrome education**

• Makes technical and conforming changes to the statutes governing the Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Program, collectively known as "Claire's Law."

**Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System**

• Modifies the law governing prescriber review of patient information from the State Board of Pharmacy’s Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System (OARRS).

• Eliminates the requirement that an optometrist request patient information from OARRS before prescribing an opioid analgesic.

• Specifies that a prescriber who does not practice in Ohio or a pharmacist who does not dispense controlled substances in Ohio is not required to certify to a licensing board that he or she has been granted access to OARRS.
Opioid prescriptions for minors

- Specifies that an emergency facility, when treating a minor patient, is not required to obtain written parental consent for an opioid prescription.

Semiannual opioid prescription report

- Requires the State Board of Pharmacy to prepare a semiannual report regarding opioid prescriptions and to submit the report to the Governor, certain members of the General Assembly, and specified agencies.

Criminal offense - corrupting another with drugs

- Expands the offense of corrupting another with drugs to prohibit furnishing or administering a controlled substance to a pregnant woman, or inducing or causing a pregnant woman to use a controlled substance, when the offender knows that the woman is pregnant or is reckless in that regard.
- Increases the penalty for corrupting another with drugs if a pregnant woman is involved, as described above.

Radiologic professionals

- Authorizes ODH to reinstate an inactive or lapsed license to practice as a general x-ray machine operator, radiographer, radiation therapy technologist, or nuclear medicine technologist.

Lyme disease testing

- Repeals the 2014 law, enacted by H.B. 483, that required a dentist, advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant, or physician, when ordering a test for Lyme disease, to provide the patient or patient’s representative with information regarding the limits of current Lyme disease testing.

Nursing facilities

- Allows a nursing facility to continue, on and after January 1, 2015, to exclude one or more parts from its Medicaid provider agreement if certain conditions are met.
- Allows a nursing facility to continue, on and after January 1, 2015, to refuse to admit an individual who is or may become a Medicaid recipient if at least 25% (rather than 80%) of its Medicaid-certified beds are occupied by Medicaid recipients at the time the individual would otherwise be admitted.
Sub. S.B. 278

Sens.  Jones and Tavares, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jordan, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Smith, Turner, Uecker, Widener


Effective date:  September 17, 2014

- Requires coroners, deputy coroners, or any other individuals who have been designated to investigate the sudden, unexpected death of a child one year of age or younger to complete a reporting form developed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or an alternative form that the Director of Health may develop.

- Eliminates the requirement, enacted earlier by S.B. 198, that a copy of the form, if completed, be sent to the Director of Health, and instead requires the person who completes the form to retain it and send a copy to the appropriate child fatality review board or regional child fatality board.

- Specifies that a completed reporting form and its copies are not public records.
Highways and Transportation

Am. Sub. H.B. 19


Sens. Manning, Gardner, LaRose, Cafaro, Gentile, Turner, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: June 3, 2014

- Designates 11 new memorial highways and revises the name of a portion of Interstate 77 in Tuscarawas County.

Sub. H.B. 36


Sens. LaRose, Gentile, Manning, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Patmon, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Skindell, Tavares, Turner, Uecker

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Designates a portion of State Route 823 (scheduled to be completed not later than 2020) in Scioto County as the Southern Ohio Veterans Memorial Highway.

- Designates a portion of State Route 41 in Adams County as the Specialist 4 Samuel A. Johnson Memorial Highway.

- Designates the bridge that will span the Ohio River in Lawrence County and will replace the existing Ironton-Russell Bridge (scheduled to be completed in 2016), as the Oakley C. Collins Memorial Bridge.
**Am. H.B. 45**


**Sens.** LaRose, Manning, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Creates the "Military Sacrifice" license plate.
- Specifies that "Military Sacrifice" license plates may only be issued to a member of the immediate family of a person who died outside a combat zone while serving honorably and not of willful misconduct as a member of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the Coast Guard.

**Sub. H.B. 206**


**Sens.** Manning, LaRose, Gentile, Cafaro, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Lehrner, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

- Creates the "Ohio Statehouse" license plate, and requires the $25 contribution for the plate to be credited to the Capitol Square Renovation Gift Fund.
- Creates the "Disabled American Veteran" license plate, and requires the $25 contribution for the plate to be paid to the private organization Disabled American Veterans Department of Ohio.
- Creates the "POW/MIA Awareness" license plate, and requires the $25 contribution for the plate to be credited to the Military Injury Relief Fund.
Am. Sub. H.B. 318


Sens. Kearney, Eklund, Brown, Bacon, Balderson, Burke, Coley, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Lehner, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Seitz, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: March 23, 2015

• Allows a licensed new motor vehicle dealer that satisfies prescribed requirements to display new motor vehicles at a location other than the dealer’s established place of business to promote or benefit a charitable or civic purpose.

• Changes the penalty for a violation of the Motor Vehicle Show Law from a fourth degree misdemeanor to a monetary penalty of no more than $1,000, as specified in rules adopted by the Motor Vehicle Dealers’ Board.

• Allows a new motor vehicle dealer to display motor vehicles at the annual fair of a county or independent agricultural society even if no other new motor vehicle dealer displays competitive models, as long as the sponsoring society has permission to conduct the show and has obtained a waiver from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

• Allows a new motor vehicle dealer to execute purchase or lease documentation at a location other than the dealer's established place of business.

• Allows a new motor vehicle dealer, in a commercial transaction involving the sale or lease of a new heavy duty vehicle, to transact business at a customer’s business location.

• Allows a retail seller of certain trailers to apply to the Registrar for registration for each place in Ohio where the retail seller carries on the business of selling the trailers, thus allowing the trailers to be operated on a public highway.

Sub. H.B. 440

Sens. LaRose, Cafaro, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Designates the following 22 memorial highways and two memorial bridges:
  - Captain Everett 'Butch' Keaton, Vietnam, SSM and BSM with OLC PH, Memorial Highway;
  - Staff Sergeant Wesley Williams Memorial Highway;
  - Captain Dennis Pintor Memorial Highway;
  - U.S.M.C. LCpl. Daniel G. Zegarac Memorial Highway;
  - Chief Petty Officer Raymond Border Memorial Highway;
  - Staff Sergeant Bradley C. Hart Memorial Roadway;
  - Trooper Charles V. Vogel, Jr. Memorial Highway;
  - Persian Gulf Veterans Bridge;
  - Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Bridge;
  - World War I Veterans Highway;
  - Veterans Memorial Highway;
  - U.S. Army Specialist Justin Helton Memorial Highway;
  - Marine Sergeant James Prommersberger and Army Second Lieutenant Charles W. Brown Memorial Highway;
  - LCpl. Josh McDaniels Memorial Highway;
  - Specialist Angel L. Lopez Memorial Highway;
  - Navy Diver 1st Class James E. Reyher Memorial Highway;
  - Cpl. James E. Blevins Memorial Highway;
  - Army Cpl. Nathan B. Carse Memorial Highway;
  - U.S.M.C. Lance Corporal Dustin R. Fitzgerald 'Dusty' Memorial Highway;
  - U.S. Army Private First Class James P. White, Jr. 'J.P.' Memorial Highway;
  - Army Spc. Joseph 'Joey' Riley Memorial Highway;
  - Patrolman Carl 'Shorty' Thrush Memorial Highway;
  - Officer Justin Winebrenner Memorial Highway; and
OSHP Sgt. John F. Best Memorial Highway.

- Relocates the Sgt. 1st Class Daniel B. Crabtree Memorial Road.

**Am. H.B. 474**


**Sens.** LaRose, Gentile, Balderson, Brown, Cafaro, Coley, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Kearney, Manning, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Turner, Uecker

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Creates the Ohio State Beekeepers Association license plate, and requires the $15 contributions for the license plate to be paid to the Ohio State Beekeepers Association.

- Requires the Association to use the contributions to promote beekeeping, provide educational information about beekeeping, and support other state and local beekeeping programs.

- Requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to resume issuing the Pediatric Brain Tumor Awareness license plate, notwithstanding the statutory requirements governing the reestablishment of nonstandard license plates that are no longer issued.

- Designates a portion of Interstate 75 in Hamilton County as the William L. Mallory, Sr. Memorial Highway.

**Am. Sub. H.B. 494**


**Sens.** Beagle, Burke, Cafaro, Eklund, Lehner, Patton, Peterson, Schiavoni, Seitz

**Effective date:** March 20, 2015; appropriation effective December 19, 2014; one item vetoed
Regional Transportation Improvement Projects

• Authorizes the boards of county commissioners of two or more counties, upon approval of the Director of Transportation, to enter into a cooperative agreement that creates a regional transportation improvement project (RTIP) for the purpose of funding and completing transportation improvements.

• Requires that the cooperative agreement include a description or analysis of the deficiencies of the transportation system in the cooperating counties, a list of the transportation improvements to be undertaken in the project, the number of years the RTIP is effective, and directives on the operations and reporting requirements of the governing board.

• Requires the boards of county commissioners to hold public hearings on the cooperative agreement before adopting it.

• Requires that the RTIP and the cooperative agreement be administered by a governing board consisting of one county commissioner and the county engineer of each participating county.

• Specifies that the board and its members are subject to state sunshine laws.

• Authorizes the RTIP governing board to issue securities and to solicit and receive pledges of revenue from the state, participating counties, and political subdivisions and taxing districts located within the participating counties.

• Authorizes the RTIP governing board to request that the participating counties levy a motor vehicle license tax, subject to voter approval, to fund the transportation improvements specified in the cooperative agreement and other supplemental transportation improvements.

• Stipulates that a license tax levied on request of an RTIP governing board cannot apply to commercial trailers and semitrailers.

• Requires the RTIP governing board to appoint and obtain the approval of a transportation advisory council before requesting a license tax that applies to commercial trucks.

• Requires that the license tax be levied at a uniform rate of up to $25 per vehicle across all counties participating in the RTIP.

• Authorizes the Department of Transportation (ODOT) to make its resources available to the governing board of an RTIP upon the board’s request so long as the board reimburses ODOT for the board’s agreed-upon share of the expenses.
• Stipulates that the RTIP and its governing board dissolve by operation of law upon completion of the transportation improvements listed in the cooperative agreement, fulfillment of all contractual duties, and repayment of all bonds.

Tax provisions
• Increases, by 30 days, the maximum time a person may spend in Ohio before being presumed to be a resident for Ohio income tax purposes.
• Allows businesses entitled to a commercial activity tax credit for repaying state research and development loans to apply the credit instead against the income tax, including retroactively to closed tax periods.

Liquor law designation of JEDD-related entertainment districts
• Authorizes municipal corporations and townships to create a community entertainment district – a special designation under the liquor control law – as part of a joint economic development district (JEDD) contract.
• Exempts such a JEDD-related community entertainment district from the population and investment requirements that generally apply to issuance of entertainment district designations.

Payments related to racino locations (VETOED)
• Would have removed the requirement that the Governor, State Racing Commission, and necessary parties discuss, negotiate, and reach an agreement for providing annual payments to certain entities in which a racetrack is located, and instead would have required the payments to be made for three years.
• Would have decreased the number of entities eligible to receive the payments.
• Would have required one-half of each annual payment to be paid by the racetrack permit holder and the other half to be paid from the Casino Operator Settlement Fund.
• Would have required the State Lottery Commission, if a permit holder failed to make the annual payments, after affording the permit holder an opportunity for an adjudication, to revoke the permit holder’s license to operate video lottery terminal games.

Appropriation
• Appropriates $700,000 for fiscal year 2015 for the operations of the Federal-Military Jobs Commission.
Am. Sub. H.B. 533

Reps. McGregor and Mallory, Rosenberger, Stautberg, Terhar, Wachtmann, Pillich, R. Adams, Becker, Beck, Reece, Driehaus, Derickson, Barnes, Buchy, Maag, Conditt, Green, Hackett, Retherford, Schuring, Sears, Stebelton, Batchelder

Sens. Cafaro, Eklund, Hite, Jones, Kearney, Manning, Seitz, Uecker

Effective date: September 11, 2014

Agreements to fund bridge-related projects

- Authorizes the Director of Transportation to enter into an agreement with another state for the replacement, improvement, rehabilitation, operation, and maintenance of both:
  - A bridge or system of bridges at one location that carries two interstate highways over the Ohio River; and
  - Roadways providing ingress to and egress from the bridge or system of bridges.

- Prohibits the agreement from obligating the state to spend more than 50% of the total project costs, but exempts the agreement from general funding restrictions under continuing law.

Public-private partnership (P3) agreements

- Allows the Department of Transportation (ODOT) to reimburse private entities for a portion of the actual costs each private entity incurred in submitting a proposal for a public-private initiative if the proposal was solicited by ODOT, and establishes requirements governing the reimbursement.

- Requires a P3 to provide all of the following, in addition to the requirements under continuing law:
  - Whether administrative fees or other charges will be collected for use of a transportation facility and the basis by which those fees will be determined and modified;
  - A contract performance bond in an amount specified by the Director, in conformance with terms and conditions specified by the Director; and
  - A payment bond in an amount specified by the Director, conditioned upon specified terms and conditions.

- Requires that if a P3 is related to a toll project, money collected by ODOT must be deposited as provided in the agreement.
• Provides that a P3 is not subject to the law that governs construction contracts entered into by the Director.

• Clarifies that building and construction materials that will be incorporated into a transportation facility pursuant to a P3 are exempt from the sales tax and the use tax.

**Toll projects**

• Makes an exception to the general prohibition against establishing tolls on an existing nontoll public road by authorizing tolls on certain projects involving a bridge or system of bridges at one location over the Ohio River.

• Amends the term "toll project" in the ODOT Toll Project Law to include:
  --The replacement, improvement, rehabilitation, operation, and maintenance of a bridge or system of bridges at one location that carries two interstate highways over the Ohio River; and
  --The replacement, improvement, rehabilitation, operation, and maintenance of the roadways that provide ingress to and egress from the bridge or system of bridges, generally following the route of those interstate highways.

• Provides for a "toll project operator" in the ODOT Toll Project Law, and defines it to mean ODOT or any agency, political subdivision, authority, or other entity that operates a toll project, including a private entity that operates a toll project pursuant to a P3.

• Requires a toll project operator to display signs that identify the user fees that apply to the toll project, and requires the signs to be displayed in advance of the toll project at specified locations.

**Use of a toll project by a motor vehicle**

• Provides that the registered owner of a motor vehicle that utilizes a toll project is liable for payment of the applicable user fee.

• Defines "registered owner" to be:
  --Any person or entity identified by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) or any other state's motor vehicle office as the owner of a motor vehicle;
  --The lessee of a motor vehicle pursuant to a lease of six months or longer; and
  --The renter of a motor vehicle pursuant to a written rental agreement with a motor vehicle renting dealer.

• Provides that all of the following persons must be afforded ready access, while in the performance of their official duties, to all property under ODOT jurisdiction and without payment of any user fee:
--Public police officers;
--Operators of municipal, township, county, and state maintenance vehicles;
--Operators of U.S. military vehicles traveling in a convoy; and
--Operators of official emergency response vehicles.

**User fees for toll projects**

- Changes the term "tolls" to "user fee," and defines it to be a rate, toll, fee, or other charge imposed by a toll project operator for use of all or part of a transportation facility, including a toll project.
- Specifies that "user fee" also includes any such rate, toll, fee, or other charge imposed by a toll project operator pursuant to a P3.
- Permits ODOT to collect a user fee by utilizing an electronic toll collection device on a motor vehicle, and, for any motor vehicle that does not use such a device, by utilizing an electronic-monitoring system for user fee collection.

**Collection of user fees by a toll project operator**

- Establishes procedures that govern the collection of user fees by a toll project operator, and provides that some procedures are mandatory, such as those that guarantee a registered owner due process of law, while others are discretionary.
- Provides that if a motor vehicle utilizes a toll project and the user fee is not paid through an electronic toll collection device or otherwise, the toll project operator may send the registered owner an invoice for the unpaid fee, and establishes requirements governing the content of the invoice.
- Provides that if a registered owner who receives an invoice does not pay the fees due and does not request a hearing in a timely manner, the toll project operator may send the registered owner a late notice.
- Permits a registered owner who receives an invoice or a late notice for an unpaid user fee or an administrative fee to appeal the invoice or late notice and request a hearing conducted by a hearing officer of the toll project operator.
- Requires that if the hearing officer finds the registered owner liable for payment of the fees at issue, and the registered owner does not make payment in full at the completion of the hearing, the hearing officer must issue a motor vehicle certificate of registration issuance prevention order.
- Specifies that a "motor vehicle certificate of registration issuance prevention order" generally is an order prohibiting the registration of a motor vehicle registered to a
person who failed to pay a user fee and prohibiting the registration of a motor vehicle for which user fees were not paid.

- Permits a registered owner who is found by a hearing officer to be liable for payment of the fees at issue to appeal the decision to the municipal or county court that has jurisdiction over the location of the toll project, and requires the court to determine liability for payment of the fees at the appeal hearing.

- Provides that if a registered owner to whom a late notice is sent does not pay the fees due and does not request a hearing in a timely manner, the toll project operator may either issue a registration issuance prevention order or file a civil suit against the registered owner.

- Provides that if a registered owner is found in an appeal hearing before a municipal or county court to be liable for payment of the fees at issue, and the registered owner does not make full payment within 35 days of the hearing, the toll project operator may file a civil suit against the registered owner.

- Requires the court overseeing a civil suit that finds a registered owner liable for payment of user fees and administrative fees also to impose specified civil penalties on the registered owner.

- Provides that in an appeal hearing or a civil trial before a municipal or county court, if the court finds that the registered owner is liable for payment of the fees at issue, and the registered owner does not make full payment at the completion of the hearing or trial, the toll project operator or court must:
  --Notify the BMV or equivalent office of another state or jurisdiction; and
  --Issue a motor vehicle certificate of registration issuance prevention order in relation to the registered owner and the motor vehicle that utilized the toll project.

**Information related to electronic toll collection and electronic monitoring**

- Permits a toll project operator to enter into an agreement with ODOT and the BMV, or a unit of government of any other state or jurisdiction that is functionally equivalent to the BMV, to obtain motor vehicle owner and registration information necessary to conduct electronic toll collection and electronic monitoring.

- Places limitations on the use of information collected by a toll project operator from an electronic toll collection device or an electronic monitoring system, or obtained from ODOT, the BMV, or another state or jurisdiction.

- Requires a toll project operator to ensure that all images and other data collected are maintained in a protected database with security that is at least comparable to the
security used for databases operated by ODOT, and are used solely for the collection of unpaid user fees and administrative fees.

- Requires a toll project operator to purge, write over, or otherwise eliminate from existence the images or other data not later than 180 days after the collection of any unpaid user fees or administrative fees.

**User fee collection agreements**

- Authorizes the Director to enter into an agreement with an equivalent agency in any other state or jurisdiction to enforce user fee collection with respect to out-of-state motor vehicles.

- Permits the agreement to provide that the other state or jurisdiction will give effect to a motor vehicle certificate of registration issuance prevention order issued in Ohio.

**Am. S.B. 106**

**Sens.**  Schaffer, Manning, Jones, LaRose, Lehner

**Reps.**  Damschroder, Ruhl, Redfern, Batchelder

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Prohibits operating a motor vehicle on a public street or highway covered by a rise in water level if the street or highway is clearly marked by a sign stating that:
  
  --The road is closed due to the rise in water level; and

  --Any person who uses the closed portion of the street or highway may be fined up to $2,000.

- Specifies that a violation is a minor misdemeanor (up to $150 fine).

- Requires a court to impose on an offender a financial sanction of up to $2,000 for the cost of the offender's rescue.

- Requires the financial sanction to be proportionately payable to a state agency, political subdivision, firefighting agency, private fire company, or emergency medical service agency that rescued the person or that participated in the rescue.

- Designates the act as the "Allan H. Anderson, Jr. Act."
**S.B. 148**

**Sens.** Turner and Patton, Obhof, Brown, Lehner, Uecker, Seitz, Kearney, LaRose, Hughes, Sawyer, Cafaro, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Jones, Jordan, Manning, Oelslager, Peterson, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Widener


**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Designates a portion of Interstate 271 in Bedford Heights, in Cuyahoga County, as the Army Pvt. Brandon Sloan Memorial Highway.

**Am. S.B. 161**

**Sens.** Hughes, Obhof, Patton

**Reps.** Damschroder, Ruhl, Mallory, Green, Ashford, Pillich, Rogers, Sheehy, Batchelder

**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

- Requires that motor vehicle headlights comply with federal headlamp color requirements (a white light), and specifies that failure to comply is a minor misdemeanor.

**S.B. 185**

**Sens.** Faber, Bacon, Balderson, Brown, Cafaro, Eklund, Hite, Jones, Kearney, Patton, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Turner, Uecker, Manning, LaRose, Gentile, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Gardner, Hughes, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Schaffer, Smith, Tavares, Widener


**Effective date:** July 10, 2014
• Designates a portion of State Route 67 in Auglaize County as the Staff Sgt. Sonny Zimmerman Memorial Highway.

Am. S.B. 186

Sens. Hughes, Beagle, Burke, Bacon, Lehner, Patton, Schaffer, Seitz, Brown, Balderson, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentle, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, LaRose, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Schiavoni, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener


Effective date: June 10, 2014

• Creates the "Knights of Columbus" license plate, and requires the $10 contribution for the plate to be paid to the Ohio State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Am. S.B. 194

Sens. Seitz, Eklund, Uecker, Manning, Bacon, Brown, Burke, Coley, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Tavares

Reps. Damschroder, Ruhl, Amstutz, Antonio, Beck, Blessing, Brenner, Brown, Budish, Derickson, DeVitis, Duffey, Green, Letson, Maag, Mallory, McClain, Milkovich, Patterson, Ramos, Retherford, Rogers, Sears, Sheehy, Strahorn, Terhar, Wachtmann, Young

Effective date: June 2, 2014

• Allows certain motor-driven cycles and motor scooters to be parked on a sidewalk so long as they do not impede the normal flow of pedestrian traffic.

• Permits a historical motor vehicle to be operated on public roads and highways to and from a location where maintenance is performed on the vehicle.

Am. S.B. 209

Sens. Manning, Gentle, Turner, LaRose, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Tavares, Uecker, Widener

Reps. Damschroder, Ruhl, Celebrezze, Green, Milkovich, R. Adams, Amstutz, Anielski, Antonio, Ashford, Barborak, Barns, Beck, Bishop, Blair, Blessing, Boose, Boyce, Brenner, Buchy, Budish, Burkley, Carney, Cera, Clyde, Curtin, DeVitis, Dovilla, Driehaus, Duffey, Fedor, Foley,

**Effective date:** June 10, 2014

- Designates the Sgt. Louis Torres Memorial Highway and the Army Specialist Nicholaus E. Zimmer Memorial Highway.

### S.B. 222

**Sens.** LaRose, Manning, Cafaro, Gentile, Turner, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Uecker, Widener


**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

- Designates a portion of State Route 8 in Stow as the Second Lieutenant David E. Rylander Memorial Highway.

### S.B. 226

**Sens.** Beagle, Manning, Gardner, LaRose, Gentile, Bacon, Balderson, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener


**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

- Designates a portion of State Route 41 in Miami County as the Sheriff’s Sgt. Robert "Bobby" Elliott Memorial Highway.
Am. Sub. S.B. 245

Sens. Coley and Seitz, Turner, Schiavoni, Hughes, Patton, Widener, Manning, LaRose, Cafaro, Gentile, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Jones, Jordan, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Schaffer, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Uecker


Effective date: September 4, 2014

- Designates a portion of State Route 122 in Middletown within Warren County only, as the Capt. Bartt D. Owens Memorial Highway.

- Designates a portion of Interstate 71 within Hamilton County as the Spc. Donald S. "Scott" Morrison Memorial Highway.

- Designates a portion of Tylersville Road within Butler County as the Spc. Michael B. Cook, Jr. Memorial Highway.

- Designates a portion of South Fair Avenue south of State Route 129 and North Fair Avenue north of that state route within Hamilton in Butler County as the Sgt. Charles J. Webb Memorial Highway.

- Revises the portion of U.S. Route 42 within Warren County that is designated as the SFC William B. Woods, Jr. Memorial Highway.

- Designates a portion of State Route 264 within Cincinnati, also known as Glenway Avenue, as the Elder High School Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway.

- Permits Elder High School, subject to approval by the Director of Transportation, to erect auxiliary markers in conjunction with the main markers, with each marker bearing the name of one of eleven of its graduates who died in Vietnam while serving in the U.S. military during the Vietnam War.

- Permits Elder High School to alternate the auxiliary markers periodically.
**Am. S.B. 255**

**Sens.** Brown, Skindell, Seitz, Kearney, Smith, Turner, Manning, Gardner, Gentile, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, LaRose, Obhof, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Tavares, Uecker


**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

- Authorizes a motor vehicle liability insurer to provide its policy holders with the ability to use an electronic wireless communications device to present proof of financial responsibility.

- Permits a person to present proof of financial responsibility to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, a peace officer, a traffic violations bureau, or a court through an electronic wireless communications device.

- Prohibits the use of an electronic wireless communications device to provide proof of financial responsibility when the proof is required to be filed and maintained with the Registrar during a period of suspension.

**Am. Sub. S.B. 274**

**Sens.** Hughes, Patton, Bacon, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Kearney, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz

**Reps.** Antonio, Bishoff, Burkley, Carney, Conditt, DeVitis, Duffey, Green, Grossman, Hackett, Kunze, Milkovich, Perales, Sheehy, Stinziano, Terhar, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

**Title to vehicles towed from a private tow-away zone**

- Authorizes the owner of a towing service or storage facility in possession of a vehicle to obtain title to it if:
  
  --The vehicle was towed from a private tow-away zone;

  --The vehicle has a value of less than $3,500;

  --The owner of the towing service or storage facility complies with certain notice requirements;

  --The vehicle has been left unclaimed for 60 days after initial notice is provided; and

  --The owner of the towing service or storage facility submits a properly executed affidavit to the clerk of courts.
• Establishes the requirements for what must be included in an affidavit submitted to a clerk of courts in order for a towing service or storage facility to obtain title to a motor vehicle, and authorizes the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to establish the form by rule.

• Authorizes the owner of a towing service or storage facility to obtain title to certain motor vehicles towed from a private tow-away zone prior to the act's March 23, 2015, effective date.

Title to vehicles left at a repair garage or place of storage

• Specifies that the owner of a repair garage or place of storage may obtain the title to a motor vehicle under specified circumstances if the vehicle has a value of less than $3,500 rather than a value of less than $2,500 as under prior law.

• Authorizes the owner of a repair garage or place of storage to obtain title to certain motor vehicles left at the repair garage or place of storage prior to the act's March 23, 2015, effective date.

Removal from private property not designated as private tow-away zone

• Makes the following four changes regarding vehicles towed from private property not designated as a private tow-away zone:

  --A towing service must deliver the towed motor vehicle to the designated storage location within two hours of removal.

  --If the owner of the vehicle arrives after the vehicle has been prepared for removal, but prior to the actual removal, the towing service must give that person notice that the person may pay a drop fee equal to half of the removal fee for immediate release of the vehicle.

  --The owner of a motor vehicle may retrieve any personal items under specified circumstances.

  --A lienholder may recover a motor vehicle towed upon presentation of proof of ownership.

Removal from private tow-away zone

• Modifies the requirements governing private tow-away zone signs, but allows a property owner that does not have a contract with a towing service to retain existing signs for a period of six months.

• If the owner of a vehicle arrives after the vehicle has been prepared for removal, but prior to the actual removal, requires the towing service to give the person notice that the person may pay a drop fee equal to half of the removal fee for immediate release of the vehicle.
• Requires a towing service to take photographs indicating a violation of a private tow-away zone, and establishes requirements governing the taking of photographs.

• Generally requires a towing service to deliver a towed vehicle to a location within 20 linear miles of the private tow-away zone within two hours of the removal.

• Establishes expanded requirements governing notice to owners and lienholders of vehicles towed from a private tow-away zone.

• Requires a storage facility to allow a person to retrieve personal items from a vehicle without charge and under specified circumstances.

Civil action
• Authorizes a vehicle owner to bring a civil action against a towing service or storage facility that violates the laws governing the removal of vehicles from private property or a private tow-away zone or the act's accident scene estimate requirement.

Removal from street or after coming into law enforcement possession
• Requires law enforcement to allow the operator of a commercial motor vehicle to arrange for the removal of a vehicle from a roadway by a towing service unless the vehicle cannot be removed within a specified period.

• Requires vehicles ordered towed by law enforcement to be delivered to a place of storage not more than two hours after removal.

• Allows vehicle owners to retrieve personal items upon presentation of proof of ownership without retrieving the motor vehicle and without paying a fee unless the vehicle is the subject of a criminal investigation.

Other towing provisions
• Requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUCO) to do all of the following:
  --Establish the acceptable scope of public safety regulations applicable to a for-hire motor carrier engaged in the towing of motor vehicles that a county or township may adopt;

  --Establish safety standards for the type of equipment necessary to safely remove and tow vehicles based on the type of vehicle being removed or towed;

  --Establish standards for the removal of a vehicle from a private tow-away zone by a for-hire motor carrier engaged in the towing of motor vehicles;

  --Establish an after-hours retrieval fee for the recovery of a vehicle during any time a storage facility is not required to be open;

  --Adopt any other necessary rules.
• Prohibits the operation of a towing vehicle unless the towing service that owns the vehicle holds a valid certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by PUCO and the certificate number and business telephone number are visibly displayed on both front doors of the vehicle.

• Prohibits a towing service from failing to make its current certificate of public convenience and necessity available for public inspection during normal business hours, and from failing to include its certificate number on all advertising, written estimates, contracts, and invoices.

• Generally requires a towing service to provide an estimate to the operator of a vehicle prior to removing the vehicle from an accident scene.

• Authorizes law enforcement to allow the owner or operator of a commercial motor vehicle involved in an accident to arrange for the removal of the vehicle under certain circumstances.

• Alters one exception to the immunity from civil liability granted to a private towing service that caused damage during the removal of a vehicle, cargo, or personal property from an accident scene.

• Establishes requirements governing hours of operation and the posting of appropriate telephone contact numbers that are applicable to facilities that store vehicles towed from private property, from private tow-away zones, and by order of law enforcement.

• Makes other changes to the law governing the towing of motor vehicles.

**Title to motor vehicle in favor of licensed scrap metal dealer**

• Provides that a licensed scrap metal dealer is deemed to have valid title to a motor vehicle if the scrap metal dealer: (1) purchased the motor vehicle in the ordinary course of business, and (2) received an endorsed and notarized certificate of title to the motor vehicle from a seller.

• Provides that any such certificate of title cannot be canceled as having been improperly issued, including having been improperly issued due to the prior theft or conversion of the motor vehicle.

• Provides that if a certificate of title was improperly issued, unlawfully obtained, or falsified prior to the transfer of the certificate to a scrap metal dealer who is deemed to have such valid title, both of the following apply:

  --Any other person with a valid certificate of title for the motor vehicle may seek legal recourse from the person who sold the motor vehicle to the scrap metal dealer; and
--The person does not have a claim for relief against, and may not recover damages in a civil action against, the scrap metal dealer.

**Application for motor vehicle salvage certificate of title**

- Modifies the documents an insurance company must submit with an application for a salvage certificate of title to a damaged motor vehicle.

**Home solicitation sales**

- Enables cancellation of a home solicitation sale to be made by fax or email in addition to physical mail.
- Authorizes the seller of a home security system to provide related services during the home solicitation cancellation period if certain conditions are met.

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**Am. Sub. S.B. 342**

**Sens.** Seitz, Eklund, Faber, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, Patton, Schaffer, Tavares, Uecker

**Reps.** Blessing, Barnes, Buchy, Burkley, Conditt, Dovilla, Green, Hottinger, Johnson, Letson, Maag, Mallory, Milkovich, Ramos, Retherford, Sprague, Stautberg, Terhar, Wachtman, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** March 23, 2015

**Authorization to use a traffic law photo-monitoring device**

- Establishes procedures by which municipal corporations, counties, and townships (local authorities) may deploy traffic law photo-monitoring devices and issue tickets for traffic law violations detected by those devices.
- Defines "traffic law photo-monitoring device" to mean an electronic system consisting of a photographic, video, or electronic camera and a means of sensing the presence of a motor vehicle that automatically produces recorded images.
- Defines a "traffic law violation" addressed by the act to mean a speeding or red light violation.
- Requires a law enforcement officer to be present at the location of a traffic law photo-monitoring device at all times during its operation.
- Authorizes the issuance of a ticket for a traffic law violation at a location where a photo-monitoring device is present as follows:

  --A law enforcement officer who is present at the device's location may issue a ticket for a criminal violation if the officer personally witnesses the violation; or
--A local authority may issue a ticket for a civil violation if the violation was recorded by the photo-monitoring device and the law enforcement officer present did not issue a ticket.

**Signage requirements**

- Requires a local authority that uses traffic law photo-monitoring devices to erect signs at each fixed device location to inform motorists that a traffic law photo-monitoring device is present at the location.
- Requires the signs to be erected within 300 feet of the fixed system or, if the signs cannot be so erected, as close to that distance as possible.
- Provides that a ticket that is based on evidence produced by a traffic law photo-monitoring device at a fixed location generally is invalid if the ticket is issued before the required signs have been erected.
- Requires mobile traffic law photo-monitoring devices to be housed in a trailer or vehicle that is conspicuously marked.

**Procedural requirements for new devices**

- Requires a local authority to take all of the following actions prior to deploying a traffic law photo-monitoring device that was not being used prior to the act’s effective date (March 23, 2015):
  --Conduct a safety study of each location that is being considered for a traffic law photo-monitoring device;
  --Conduct a public information campaign;
  --Publish notice of the intent to utilize a traffic law photo-monitoring device, the locations at which the devices will be utilized, and the date on which they will become operational;
  --Refrain from imposing fines for violations detected by a traffic law photo-monitoring device for at least 30 days after deploying the device and send warning notices instead.

**Procedures for civil traffic law violations**

**Requirements governing tickets for civil violations**

- Specifies that any traffic law violation for which a ticket is issued by a local authority is a civil violation if the violation was recorded by a traffic law photo-monitoring device and the law enforcement officer who was present at the device's location did not issue a ticket for a criminal violation.
- Specifies that the fine for a civil violation cannot exceed the amount that may be imposed for a substantially equivalent criminal traffic violation.

- Specifies that all of the following apply to civil traffic law violations:
  -- The violation is not a moving violation and no points may be assessed against the violator's driver's license or recorded on the violator's driving record;
  -- The violation cannot be reported to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or a similar agency of another state;
  -- Insurers are prohibited from considering the violation as a basis for refusing to issue an insurance policy, increasing the premium rate of a policy, or canceling or failing to renew a policy; and
  -- A written decision of liability by a hearing officer, or an admission of liability by a person who has been issued a ticket, for a civil violation is not admissible as evidence in any other judicial proceeding in Ohio.

- Requires a law enforcement officer employed by a local authority to examine evidence of an alleged traffic law violation produced by a traffic law photo-monitoring device for purposes of issuing tickets for civil violations.

- Specifies that the registered owner of a motor vehicle is prima facie liable for a traffic law violation detected by a traffic law photo-monitoring device.

- Authorizes a law enforcement officer to use any lawful means to identify the owner of a vehicle if the officer determines that evidence produced by the traffic law photo-monitoring device shows a violation.

- Prohibits the issuance of a ticket for a civil traffic law violation under any of the following circumstances:
  -- The device was used to detect speeding violations in a school zone or within a state or local park or recreation area and the vehicle exceeded the posted speed limit by less than six miles per hour;
  -- The device was used to detect speeding violations at any other location and the vehicle that exceeded the posted speed limit by less than ten miles per hour; or
  -- The device was used to detect red-light violations and the vehicle made a legal right or left turn during a red light, made the turn safely, came to a complete stop at any point prior to completing the turn, and no pedestrians were in or about to enter the crosswalk.

- Imposes requirements for the content of a ticket for a civil traffic law violation based on evidence produced by a traffic law photo-monitoring device, including that the
ticket must provide information on how to initiate an administrative appeal and the procedure for disclaiming liability.

- Requires a law enforcement officer to send a ticket not later than 30 days after the alleged violation, and allows the officer to send a notice of violation in lieu of a ticket.

**Options available to a person who receives a ticket**

- Specifies that a person who receives a ticket for a civil traffic law violation detected by a traffic law photo-monitoring device under the act may do any of the following:
  --Pay a civil penalty, thereby waiving the opportunity to contest the violation;
  --Contest the ticket by filing a written request for an administrative hearing to review the ticket;
  --Provide the local authority with an affidavit stating that the person was not driving the vehicle at the time of the violation and identifying the person who was driving the vehicle at the time of the violation;
  --Provide the local authority with an affidavit stating that the vehicle involved in the violation was stolen;
  --If the registered owner of the vehicle involved in the violation is a motor vehicle leasing dealer, notify the local authority of the name and address of the lessee or renter of the vehicle; or
  --If the vehicle involved in the violation is a commercial vehicle, provide the local authority with an affidavit that provides the name and address of the employee who was operating the vehicle at the time of the violation.

**Administrative hearings regarding contested tickets**

**Jurisdiction over civil traffic law violations**

- Revokes the jurisdiction of municipal courts over civil traffic law violations that are based on evidence produced by a traffic law photo-monitoring device and issued by a local authority pursuant to the civil violation ticketing process.
- Requires a hearing officer appointed by a local authority to hear appeals of civil traffic law violations, and establishes procedures for conducting such a hearing.
- Establishes the jurisdiction of municipal and county courts over appeals of written decisions rendered by a hearing officer for a civil traffic law violation.
General hearing provisions

- Requires an administrative hearing to take place not sooner than 21 but not later than 45 days after the request for the hearing, and requires the hearing to be open to the public.

- Requires the person requesting the hearing to appear at the hearing, and authorizes the person to present evidence at the hearing.

- Requires a hearing officer to determine, by a preponderance of the evidence, if an alleged traffic law violation occurred and if the person named in a ticket is the person who was operating the vehicle at the time of the violation and is liable for the violation.

- Allows a person to assert the spousal testimonial privilege at a hearing.

- Authorizes a hearing officer to consider as an affirmative defense that the vehicle was yielding the right-of-way to a public safety vehicle, coroner’s vehicle, or funeral procession; that the motor vehicle was stolen; that the person named in the ticket was not operating the vehicle at the time of the violation; or that the traffic control signal or traffic law photo-monitoring device was not operating properly.

- Authorizes the hearing officer also to consider the totality of the circumstances surrounding the alleged traffic law violation.

- Requires a hearing officer to issue a written decision regarding a ticket and to inform the local authority of the decision.

- Provides that if a hearing officer cannot determine the identity of the operator of the vehicle at the time of the violation, the hearing officer must issue a written decision imposing liability for the violation on the registered owner of the vehicle.

- When a hearing officer determines that the person named in the ticket was not operating the vehicle at the time of the violation, establishes procedures for submitting a ticket to the person who was allegedly operating the vehicle at the time of the violation.

Maintenance of traffic law photo-monitoring devices

- Requires each manufacturer of a traffic law photo-monitoring device to provide to the applicable local authority the maintenance record of each device used in that local authority and, annually, a certificate of proper operation for each device.

- Establishes testing protocols for mobile traffic law photo-monitoring devices.
Effect of the act on local bans

- Provides that the act's provisions do not affect in any manner any existing or future ban on the use by a local authority of traffic law photo-monitoring devices to detect traffic law violations.

Report on state texting while driving citations

- Requires the Department of Public Safety, on January 31 of each year, to issue a report to the General Assembly that specifies the number of citations that were issued the previous calendar year for the state offense of texting while driving.
Housing and Real Property

Sub. S.B. 172

Sens. Patton, Seitz, Hughes, Schiavoni, Skindell, LaRose, Bacon, Beagle, Eklund, Lehner, Manning, Tavares


Effective date: September 4, 2014

County land reutilization programs

• Expressly extends political subdivision sovereign immunity to county land reutilization corporations (CLRCs).

• Provides that, in addition to preexisting criteria, land may be considered to be nonproductive, and therefore eligible for acquisition by a land bank, if the land is abandoned.

• Modifies the threshold occupation limit that prevents a CLRC from acquiring an interest in real property.

• Allows a land bank to acquire nonproductive land if the property has been offered for sale once, instead of twice, and has not been sold for a specified minimum price.

• Specifies that the property tax exemption for CLRC-owned property also extends to property held by a wholly owned subsidiary of a CLRC if identified as such in the deed transferring conveyance.

• Specifies that the conveyance fee exemption for CLRC-owned property extends to a wholly owned subsidiary of the CLRC.

• Exempts a CLRC and its wholly owned subsidiaries, and a political subdivision, from paying transfer and recording fees for nonproductive land.

• Specifies that, like a CLRC, a political subdivision is not required to apply to any county or state agency for property tax exemption for its land bank property.

• Allows a land bank to move to vacate an order transferring foreclosed property to the land bank if the land bank previously requested the transfer but no longer wishes to acquire the property.

• Requires, instead of allows, the county auditor to approve a conveyance of property in lieu of foreclosure if the land bank has certified in writing that the property is abandoned.
- Allows a political subdivision to sell property in its land bank program to a CLRC for less than fair market value.

- Provides that, when a CLRC purchases property sold pursuant to a nontax foreclosure proceeding, any taxes, penalties, and interest due on the property are automatically extinguished if the CLRC is also the judgment creditor in the proceeding.

- Allows county treasurers and prosecuting attorneys to allocate surplus money in each officer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund to pay for nuisance abatement actions taken by CLRCs.

- Increases the total amount that the officers in certain counties may allocate from the officer's delinquent tax and assessment collection fund for nuisance abatement.

- Allows a municipal corporation or CLRC to file a lien to recoup nuisance abatement costs and file a foreclosure action to enforce the lien, in addition to the remedies available in ongoing law to recoup such costs.

- Provides political subdivisions and CLRCs a right of entry to conduct assessments, appraisals, and other health and safety inspections for lands that have been forfeited to the state for nonpayment of taxes, and protection from liability for such entrances.

**Expedit ed, nonjudicial tax foreclosure procedures**

- Specifies that land is considered to be abandoned, and therefore eligible for expedited foreclosure, if the land is insecure, vacant, or vandalized upon visible inspection and meets other statutory criteria.

- Allows for the transfer of foreclosure cases between county boards of revision and courts of common pleas or municipal courts.

- Allows a property owner to move to transfer an expedited foreclosure complaint within 14 days after service of the complaint, instead of an owner moving to dismiss the complaint within 20 days after service of the complaint.

- Allows a county board of revision to issue subpoenas to compel witness testimony or the production of papers, books, and accounts with respect to an expedited foreclosure case.

**General tax foreclosure procedures**

- Allows a CLRC or political subdivision to repurchase a delinquent tax certificate at its original purchase price from the certificate holder under certain circumstances.

- Shortens the alternative redemption period that may be invoked in a foreclosure action involving abandoned property, from 45 days after the adjudication of foreclosure is journalized to 28 days thereafter.
• Provides that tax foreclosure actions may be started before the list of tax-delinquent property is published if the publication is not made as otherwise required by ongoing law.

• Changes the notice that is printed on property tax bills to reflect law unchanged by the act, which provides that property owners may face foreclosure if the billed taxes are not paid within 60 days after they are certified delinquent.

Review of real property conveyances

• Eliminates certain standards applied to real property conveyances when the county auditor, pursuant to continuing law, reviews the conveyances before transferring the property.
H.B. 286


Sens.  Uecker, LaRose, Coley, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Schaffer, Seitz, Tavares, Turner

Effective date:  September 17, 2014

- Authorizes the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council to meet by interactive video conference or teleconference under certain conditions.
Sub. H.B. 117

Sens. Kearney, Bacon, Faber, Hughes, Peterson, Schaffer
Effective date: September 17, 2014

- Provides for the operation of captive insurance companies (CIC), including protected cell captive insurance companies (PCIC) and special purpose financial captive insurance companies (SPFC).

**Captive insurance companies**

- Prescribes what types of insurance a CIC may offer.
- Prescribes the license and application requirements for a CIC, and stipulates that documents submitted in relation to these processes are confidential, subject to limited exceptions.
- Requires CICs to pay an application fee and annual renewal fee of $500.
- Requires CICs to pay fees on premiums collected: 0.35% of net-direct premiums and 0.15% of assumed reinsurance premiums, with an annual minimum aggregate fee of $7,500, and an annual maximum fee of $250,000.
- Authorizes the Superintendent of Insurance to charge CICs for other costs related to carrying out the Superintendent’s CIC regulatory duties.
- Prescribes the factors that the Superintendent must consider when reviewing CIC license applications.
- Establishes minimum levels of assets in excess of liabilities that CICs must maintain: $250,000 for a CIC and $500,000 for a PCIC.
- Requires CICs to follow certain conventions in naming.
- Prescribes when a CIC can pay a dividend to shareholders and the notification procedures that the CIC must follow prior to doing so.
- Requires a CIC to make an annual financial statement to the Superintendent.
- Requires a CIC to be audited annually by an independent certified public accountant, and provide a financial report as a supplement to the annual financial statement.
• Submits CICs to financial examination, evaluation, and monitoring by the Superintendent.

• Authorizes the Superintendent to suspend or revoke the license of a CIC under certain circumstances.

• Requires CICs to invest capital according to a prudent person standard.

• Specifies when and how a CIC can make a loan to, or invest in, a parent or affiliated company.

• Prohibits a CIC from being required to join a rating organization.

• Prohibits a CIC from joining or contributing financially to a guaranty fund and from receiving a benefit from such a fund.

• Creates the Captive Insurance Regulation and Supervision Fund, and specifies that revenues collected in relation to CICs are to be deposited to the credit of the Fund.

• Requires a self-insuring employer identified by a CIC to pay a contribution to the Self-Insuring Employers’ Guaranty Fund.

Protected cell captive insurance companies

• Requires PCICs to pay a fee, in an amount to be specified by the Superintendent, in addition to the annual premium fee required of all CICs.

• Requires PCICs to follow certain naming conventions.

• Specifies the manner in which the assets and liabilities of protected cells, are to be accounted.

• Specifies the duties of the officers or managers of a PCIC.

• Authorizes PCICs to securitize interest in their protected cells, and specifies when and how dividends on these securities can be paid.

• Prescribes when and how assets may be transferred from one cell of a PCIC to another.

• Prescribes how the assets of one protected cell can be used to satisfy a liability of another cell or the parent company.

• Specifies when and how the assets of a parent company can be used to satisfy a liability of a protected cell.

• Specifies that penalties related to a specific protected cell may be paid only from the assets of that protected cell.
• Requires PCICs to adopt procedures to ensure that the assets and liabilities of protected cells are accounted for separately and to account for any transfer of assets or liabilities between cells.

• Requires a PCIC and its directors to follow certain procedures when entering into contracts, and prescribes how liability is to be assigned and dealt with in relation to such contracts.

• Allows a CIC to become a PCIC, allows a PCIC to cease being a PCIC, and prescribes the procedure for accomplishing either.

• Allows a protected cell to be transferred from one PCIC to another, and prescribes the method for these transfers.

• Enables a PCIC to become a protected cell of another PCIC.

• Enables a protected cell of a PCIC to become an independent organization.

• Prescribes requirements in relation to the liquidation of PCICs and individual protected cells.

Special purpose financial captive insurance companies

• Provides for the general operation of special purpose financial captive insurance companies, which provide reinsurance of life insurance risks of a domestic parent or affiliated company.

• Enables an SPFC to adopt an alternative reserve basis with the approval of the Superintendent.

• Requires the Superintendent to establish a total capital and surplus requirement for SPFCs that are permitted to use an alternative reserve basis.

• Enables an SPFC to enter into an SPFC contract with a counterparty for the provision of insurance or reinsurance of risk.

• Enables an SPFC to issue securities.

• Enables an SPFC and a counterparty to enter into a secondary SPFC contract under which the counterparty is liable for the losses or other obligations that were securitized.

• Provides for the rehabilitation and liquidation of an SPFC.

• Specifies that documents submitted to the Superintendent pursuant to SPFC law are confidential.

• Enables a counterparty to take credit for reinsurance ceded to an SPFC.
Rules

• Authorizes the Superintendent to adopt rules in relation to the regulation of CICs.

Sub. H.B. 430

Reps. Kunze and Stinziano, Hackett, Bishoff, Sears, Brown, Henne, Ruhl, Sprague, Batchelder
Sens. Bacon, Hughes, Patton, Sawyer
Effective date: March 23, 2015

• Requires self-service storage facilities to hold a limited lines license in order to offer, sell, or solicit coverage under a policy of self-service storage insurance, and requires the offer, sale, solicitation, or placement to be incidental to the lease of self-service storage.

• Requires the Superintendent of Insurance to issue a license to a self-service storage facility that meets the continuing law requirements for resident or nonresident insurance agents, as applicable, and certain additional requirements.

• Allows the Superintendent to collect a licensure fee from each licensed self-service storage facility and each applicant for a self-service storage insurance limited lines license.

• Requires each insurer providing self-service storage insurance to supervise, or to appoint a business entity licensed as an insurance agent to supervise, the administration of a self-service storage insurance program.

• Requires each self-service storage facility or the supervising entity to provide a training and education program for all endorsees who sell self-service storage insurance.

• Requires self-service storage facilities to provide to customers specified information and disclosures.

• Regulates the handling of proceeds from the sale of self-service storage insurance.

• Authorizes a self-service storage facility to offer and disseminate self-service storage insurance if certain criteria are met.

• Requires notice for changing the terms of or terminating a contract for self-service storage insurance, except when the contract is terminated by the customer.

• Allows the Superintendent to adopt rules to implement the act’s provisions.
• Authorizes the Superintendent to take administrative or other action as provided in the act and continuing law, including a hearing process, with regard to any violation and prescribes penalties for violations.

**Am. S.B. 99**

**Sens.** Oelslager and Tavares, Brown, Cafaro, Gardner, Hite, Kearney, Lehner, Schiavoni, Smith, Turner, LaRose, Manning, Skindell, Gentile, Burke, Eklund, Hughes, Jones, Obhof, Sawyer, Uecker


**Effective date:** September 17, 2014; insurance coverage requirements apply, and Medicaid provisions effective January 1, 2015

• Prohibits health insurance provided by certain insurers from providing less favorable coverage for orally administered cancer medication than for intravenously administered or injected cancer medications.

• Prohibits an insurer from complying by increasing cost sharing for orally administered, intravenously administered, or injected cancer medications.

• Provides that an insurer is deemed in compliance if the cost sharing imposed for orally administered cancer treatments does not exceed $100 per prescription fill.

• Exempts an insurer from complying if it can be shown that compliance, over a period of at least six months, would justify an increase of more than 1% in premiums for basic health care services.

• Applies similar cancer medication coverage requirements to the Medicaid program, effective January 1, 2015.

• Names the act the "Robert L. Schuler Act."

**Sub. S.B. 140**

**Sens.** Bacon, Kearney, Eklund, Hite, Lehner, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Seitz, Turner

**Reps.** Hackett, Henne, Carney, Bishoff, McGregor, O'Brien, Retherford, Sears, Slaby, Sprague, Anielski, Beck, Buchy, Celebrezze, Grossman, Hottinger, Mallory, McClain, Milkovich, Pillich, Sönziano, Wachtmann, Young, Batchelder

**Effective date:** September 4, 2014; Own Risk and Solvency Assessment provisions effective January 1, 2015
Alternative Investment Law

- Enacts an Alternative Investment Law that enables certain insurers to make investments according to a set of requirements different from those set out specifically for each insurer under continuing law.

- Requires insurers to apply to the Superintendent of Insurance to be allowed to invest under the Alternative Investment Law, and specifies the criteria the Superintendent must consider when considering such applications.

- Imposes restrictions on insurers investing under the Alternative Investment Law, including financial security benchmarks, a written investment policy, minimum asset requirements, and investment allocation limitations.

- Prohibits insurers investing under the Alternative Investment Law from investing in a partnership as a general partner or investments that insurers are prohibited from making.

- Enables insurers to invest in derivative investments, and prescribes the criteria for doing so.

- Authorizes the Superintendent to take certain discretionary actions to regulate insurers investing under the Alternative Investment Law.

- Authorizes the Superintendent to adopt rules related to the Alternative Investment Law.

Holding Company Systems Law

- Prescribes certain filing requirements for any controlling person of a domestic insurer seeking to divest its controlling interest in a domestic insurer.

- Adds to the list of registration statement requirements that, if requested by the Superintendent, the insurer must provide financial statements of an insurance holding company system, including all affiliates, statements that the insurer continues to maintain and monitor corporate governance and internal control procedures, and any other information required by the Superintendent by rule or regulation.

- Requires the ultimate controlling person of every insurer subject to registration to also file an annual enterprise risk report.

- Makes certain changes to the requirements for a registered insurer entering into certain transactions with any person in its insurance holding company system.

- Expands the Superintendent's authority to review proposed transactions.
• Authorizes the Superintendent to examine any registered insurer and its affiliates to ascertain the financial condition of the insurer, including the enterprise risk.

• Makes other changes to the authorization of the Superintendent to order the production of records, books, or other information papers.

• Authorizes the Superintendent to participate in a supervisory college for any domestic insurer that is part of an insurance holding company system with international operations, and regulates that participation.

• Requires the Superintendent to enter into written agreements with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners governing sharing and use of confidential and privileged information.

• Makes certain other changes to the law regarding confidential and privileged treatment of documents, materials, or the information.

**Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Law**

• Prescribes the requirements for maintaining a risk management framework and completing an own risk and solvency assessment.

• Requires insurers to maintain a risk management framework.

• Requires an insurer to periodically conduct an own risk and solvency assessment and to submit to the Superintendent an own risk and solvency assessment summary report upon request.

• Prescribes report requirements.

• Makes exemptions to the Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Law.

• Prescribes requirements for the use of proprietary information.

**Automated insurance transactions**

• Provides generally for the regulation and use of automated transactions in the business of insurance.

• Applies the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act to the provisions relating to the use of automated transactions in the business of insurance.

• Requires an insurer to meet certain requirements in order to conduct the business of insurance via an automated transaction.

• Requires the details of an automated transaction to include certain statements and notices to the insured.
• Requires an insurer to allow an insured who agrees to participate in an automated transaction the option to transact business with the insurer in a nonautomated transaction.

• Requires notices of cancellation, nonrenewal, termination, or changes in the terms or conditions of a policy, certificate, or contract of insurance to be sent to the last known contact point supplied by the insured, and if the contact point is unknown, via regular mail to the last known address of the insured.

• Authorizes an insurer to post any policy, certificate, or contract of insurance, including any endorsements or amendments, to the insurer's website in lieu of any other method of delivery as long as they do not contain personally identifiable information and meet certain requirements.

• Authorizes the Superintendent to adopt rules relating to the use of automated transactions in the business of insurance.

**Reinsurance Law**

• Imposes additional regulation on insurers looking to cede certain risks via reinsurance and on the reinsurers assuming those risks.

• Expands the types of assuming reinsurers that enable a ceding insurer to take credit (as an asset or reduction in liability) for reinsurance ceded to include a reinsurer that is accredited by the Superintendent and a reinsurer that is certified by the Superintendent and secures its obligations.

• Enables the Superintendent to permit a reinsurer to defer the posting of security for catastrophe recoverables, and specifies which lines of insurance an insurer may defer recoverables for.

• Provides for the suspension of an accredited reinsurer's accreditation and a certified insurer's certification.

• Modifies the requirements related to assets held in trust under a reinsurance contract.

• Adds provisions relating to the management of reinsurance recoverables.

• Imposes additional requirements for reinsurance contracts.

**Repeal of insurance company merger process**

• Repeals certain provisions related to the merger or consolidation of certain insurance companies with any other company, but retains unchanged the default merger and consolidation process for domestic insurers.
Valuation of life insurance policies

- Prescribes a new method of valuing life insurance policies, using the valuation manual produced by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.
- Clarifies language related to the valuation of life insurance policies issued on or after January 1, 1989, but prior to the operative date of the valuation manual.
- Specifies that, for policies issued on or after the operative date of the valuation manual, the valuation manual is to be used to determine the minimum valuation standard for such a policy.
- Prescribes confidentiality requirements for documents submitted to the Superintendent in relation to the valuation of policies.

Personal property lines

- Enables an insurer to provide to a customer a summary of a personal property line of insurance.

Am. Sub. S.B. 258

Sens. Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Coley, Gentle, Hite, LaRose, Lehner, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Uecker
Reps. Brown, Bishoff, Wachtman, Antonio, Barnes, Burkley, Cera, Green, Hackett, Hayes, Hill, Maag, McClain, Milkovich, Ruhl, Sears, Smith

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Pharmacy audits

- Requires notice to be given if a pharmacy audit is to be conducted on the premises of a pharmacy.
- Prohibits claims for payment for the provision of dangerous drugs or pharmacy services from being included in a pharmacy audit if the claim is more than two years old.
- Prohibits an auditing entity or payer from seeking to recoup amounts from a pharmacy when the audit identifies a clerical or record-keeping error that caused no financial harm, absent an indication that there was an error in dispensing a drug.
- Prohibits, generally, auditing entities from using the accounting practice of extrapolation when calculating monetary penalties or amounts to be recouped.
- Specifies how a pharmacy may validate a pharmacy record or claim for payment.
- Permits a pharmacy to resubmit a disputed or denied claim for payment if the time period for resubmission has not expired.
- Requires auditing entities to submit a preliminary report to pharmacies prior to completing the final report.
- Authorizes a pharmacy to appeal findings in the preliminary report.
- Requires auditing entities to submit a final report to audited pharmacies.
- Excludes Medicaid managed care organizations from the provisions governing pharmacy auditing procedures if applying the provisions would violate federal law.

**Analgesic controlled substances in optometry**
- Allows optometrists to continue to administer and prescribe certain analgesic controlled substances that prior to the act could be used in the practice of optometry.
Am. Sub. H.B. 213


Sens.  Coley, Kearney, Brown, Beagle, Burke, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Manning, Oelslager, Patton, Schaffer, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: September 17, 2014

Appointment of guardian ad litem

- Modifies the requirement that a juvenile court appoint a guardian ad litem to protect the interest of a child in a proceeding concerning an alleged dependent child under certain circumstances by providing that the appointment is subject to the rules adopted by the Supreme Court.

- Permits the court to appoint a guardian ad litem, subject to rules adopted by the Supreme Court, in any other proceeding concerning an alleged dependent child.

- Prohibits the appointment of a guardian ad litem for a child under six months of age in any proceeding in which a private child placing agency is seeking permanent custody of the child or seeking approval of a voluntary permanent custody surrender agreement for the sole purpose of the child’s adoption.

- Requires that motions and court papers that a guardian ad litem files for an alleged or adjudicated abused, neglected, or dependent child be filed in accordance with rules adopted by the Supreme Court.

Failing to report child abuse or neglect

- Prohibits a court appointed special advocate or guardian ad litem from failing to report knowledge of or reasonable cause to suspect a condition reasonably indicating abuse or neglect of a child under 18 or a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically impaired child under 21.

Order of disposition – planned permanent living arrangement

- Modifies the circumstances under which a child who is adjudicated an abused, neglected, or dependent child may be placed in a planned permanent living arrangement.
Requires that a child who is placed in a planned permanent living arrangement be placed in an independent living setting or a family setting in which the caregiver has been provided, by the agency that has custody of the child, with a notice that addresses specified matters regarding the caregiver's responsibility for the child, and requires the Department of Job and Family Services to develop a model notice.

Requires a needs assessment and continuing training plan developed and implemented for a foster caregiver to include training that relates to providing independent living services to a child placed in a planned permanent living arrangement.

**Motion requesting permanent custody**

Permits a juvenile court to grant a motion for permanent custody of a child to a movant if the court determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that the child or another child in the custody of the parent from whose custody the child has been removed has been adjudicated an abused, neglected, or dependent child on three separate occasions.

**Allowing children to participate in certain activities**

Provides that a child subject to out-of-home care for alleged or adjudicated abused, neglected, or dependent children is entitled to participate in "age-appropriate" extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities.

Specifies the factors that a person or facility providing the out-of-home care must consider in determining whether to permit the child to participate in those activities.

Grants civil immunity to a person or facility providing the out-of-home care for injury, death, or loss to person or property caused to the child who participates in an activity approved by the person or facility, provided the person or facility considered the specified factors.

Requires a foster caregiver to use a "reasonable and prudent parent standard" when considering whether to authorize a foster child to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, or social activities.

**Qualified immunity**

Grants to a public children services agency, private child placing agency, or private noncustodial agency serving as the child’s custodian or as the supervising agency for a foster caregiver civil immunity for injury, death, or loss to person or property resulting from a foster caregiver’s or agency’s decisions using a reasonable and prudent parent standard.
Kinship permanency incentive program

- Raises the maximum total period in which the kinship permanency incentive program may provide additional permanency incentive payments for a minor child at six-month intervals from 36 months to 48 months, based on the availability of funds.

Sub. S.B. 207

Sens. Patton, Manning, Turner, and Tavares, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Uecker, Widener


Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Authorizes a person who is the victim of rape or sexual battery by which a child was conceived to bring an action to declare the person who was convicted of the offense to be the parent of the child conceived as a result of rape or sexual battery committed by the other person.

- Requires that the action be filed in a court with jurisdiction over juvenile matters if the parents of the child are not married, and in a court with jurisdiction over domestic relations matters, pursuant to a proceeding for divorce, dissolution, legal separation, or annulment, if the parents are married.

- Requires a person who brings the action to notify the court of any order previously issued by any court that grants the other person parental rights with respect to that child.

- Authorizes the court to issue an order declaring that the other person is the parent of a child conceived as a result of rape or sexual battery committed by the other person.

- Requires a court that issues order to notify any court that has issued an order granting the person parental rights with respect to that child and that was identified by the person who brought the action, and requires the recipient court to terminate the order on receipt of the notice.

- Regarding these provisions:
(1) Prohibits a court from issuing an order granting parental rights with respect to a child to a person who has been convicted of rape or sexual battery and has been declared in an action or proceeding under these provisions regarding that child to be the child’s parent;

(2) Specifies that a relative of a person whose parental rights with that person’s child have been terminated, denied, or limited under these provisions may be granted only those rights consented to by the child’s other parent;

(3) Specifies that, if a court issues an order declaring a person to be the parent of a child conceived as a result of rape or sexual battery committed by the person, no court may revoke or modify the order or the resulting denial, termination, or limitation of the person’s parental rights and the person’s relatives’ rights, except upon motion of the victim of the rape or sexual battery requesting the revocation or modification made in the court that issued the order; and

(4) Specifies that the denial, termination, or limitation of parental rights under these provisions does not relieve the person of any debts owed to the other parent or the child prior to the denial, termination, or limitation.

- Bars a man alleged or alleging himself to be the child’s father from filing a paternity action if the man was convicted of rape or sexual battery, the victim of the rape or sexual battery was the child’s mother, and the child was conceived as a result of the rape or sexual battery.

- Specifies that the parent, or a relative of the parent, of a child who was conceived as the result of the parent’s commission of rape or sexual battery may not inherit the real or personal property or inheritance of the child or the child’s lineal descendants as provided under the Statute of Descent and Distribution.

- Expands continuing law by providing that consent to the adoption of a minor born on or after January 1, 1997, is not required of the father, putative father, or mother of the minor if the minor is conceived as a result of rape or sexual battery by the father, putative father, or mother and the father, putative father, or mother is convicted of that offense.

- Requires a court or magistrate to notify a person accused of rape or sexual battery of the possible consequences faced under the act’s provisions.

- Provides that an unmarried female who has been convicted of rape or sexual battery and has been declared under the act’s provisions to be the parent of a child born as a result of the rape or sexual battery may not be that child’s residential parent and legal custodian.
Sub. S.B. 250

Sens. Jones and LaRose, Beagle, Burke, Lehner, Coley, Kearney, Bacon, Balderson, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jordon, Obhof, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Seitz, Uecker, Widener


Effective date: March 23, 2015

Shortened Putative Father Registry registration period

- Shortens, from 30 to 15 days, the period after a child’s birth by which a putative father must register with the Putative Father Registry in order to be able to consent to the minor’s adoption, and changes the latest date acceptable by the court for documentation from the Registry prior to the court finalizing an adoption.

Shortened expiration period for questioning an adoption decree

- Reduces, from one year to six months, the period after which an adoption decree generally cannot be questioned.

Pre-birth notice to a putative father regarding possible adoption

- Permits an agency, attorney representing a person seeking to adopt a child, or attorney representing the birth mother, with the birth mother’s written consent, to notify a putative father by actual notice that the birth mother is considering placing the child for adoption (referred to as a pre-birth notice).

- Provides that a child’s mother is not obligated to place the child for adoption even if a pre-birth notice is served to a putative father of the child.

- Requires the use of a pre-birth notice in substantially the same form as provided by the act.

- Requires that an affidavit setting forth the circumstances surrounding the service of a pre-birth notice be submitted to the court as part of the adoption process.

- Describes the circumstances under which the service of a pre-birth notice to Ohio residents and non-Ohio residents is valid.

- Allows a putative father who receives a pre-birth notice to file an action to determine his parentage of the child.

- Requires the putative father, not later than 30 days after receiving a pre-birth notice, to notify the agency or attorney who served or caused to be served the notice that he has filed the parentage action.

- Provides that if a pre-birth notice is served to a putative father, a court must not accept a certified document from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
regarding a putative father's registration status with the Putative Father Registry unless the date on the document is 16 days or more after the date the pre-birth notice was served.

**Living expenses**

- Specifies that the following are "living expenses" that may be paid to a birth mother on behalf of a petitioner by an attorney or agency arranging a minor's adoption:
  -- Rental or mortgage payments;
  -- Utility payments;
  -- Payments for products or services required for the birth mother's or minor's sustenance or safety, including food, household goods, personal care items, and the costs of transportation to work or school.
- Requires an attorney or agency paying living expenses incurred by the birth mother to make a reasonable and good faith effort to make the payments directly to the entity providing the service or item.

**Adoption-related activities**

- Permits the biological parent of a child to advertise about the availability for placement of the parent's child for adoption to a qualified adoptive parent (QAP).
- Permits a QAP to advertise that the QAP is available for placement of a child into the QAP's care for the purpose of adopting the child.
- Permits a government entity to advertise about its role in the placement of children for adoption or other information that would be relevant to QAPs.
- Prohibits the following, unless otherwise permitted by law:
  -- A person from offering money or anything of value in exchange for the placement of a child for adoption;
  -- A biological parent from requesting money or anything of value in exchange for placement of the parent's child with a QAP.

**Adoption tax credit**

- Modifies the tax credit against the state income tax for a taxpayer's legal adoption of a minor child to be the greater of $1,500 or the amount of expenses incurred for the adoption (not exceeding $10,000).
- Changes the order in which the credit may be claimed.
- Extends, from the ensuing two taxable years to the ensuing five taxable years, the time period in which excess from the adoption tax credit may be credited against a
taxpayer's income tax if, in the taxable year in which the adoption occurred, the adoption tax credit amount is greater than the income tax due.

- Applies the adoption tax credit to taxable years ending on or after March 23, 2015.
Liquor Control

Sub. S.B. 173

Sens. Hughes, Seitz, Uecker, Schiavoni, Balderson, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Jordan, Kearney, Oelslager
Reps. Dovilla, Buchy, Gerberry, Amstutz, Barnes, Beck, Blessing, Boyd, Brenner, Brown, Burkley, Cera, Conditt, DeVitis, Duffey, Hackett, McClain, Milkovich, Pelanda, Ramos, Retherford, Rogers, Ruhl, Stebelton, Young

Effective date: July 10, 2014

Sample servings of beer, wine, and mixed beverages

- Expands the locations that qualify for a D-8 liquor permit (authorizing the sale of tasting samples of specified alcoholic beverages) to include a retail store to which all of the following apply:
  - It has been issued a liquor permit authorizing retail sale of beer, wine, and mixed beverages for off-premises consumption (a C-1, C-2, or C-2x permit);
  - It has at least 4,500 square feet of floor area;
  - It is located in a municipal corporation or township with a population of 5,000 or less; and
  - It generates 60% of its sales in nonalcohol related items.

- Generally authorizes specified persons to conduct consumer product instruction and provide serving samples of beer, wine, and mixed beverages, without obtaining a retail liquor permit, on a D-8 permit premises where beer, wine, or mixed beverages may be sold for off-premises consumption.

- Requires the Liquor Control Commission to adopt rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the act’s provisions governing consumer instruction and serving samples of beer, wine, or mixed beverages.

Spirituous liquor tasting samples

- Revises the law governing sales of spirituous liquor tasting samples at agency stores in the following ways:
  - Requires specified individuals who offer tasting samples to purchase the spirituous liquor from the agency store at which the samples are offered, rather than requiring the agency store to purchase the liquor and the individuals to reimburse the store;
--Requires specified individuals who offer tasting samples to provide notice to the Division of Liquor Control regarding the tasting event ten business days, rather than five days, prior to the event; and

-- Allows up to ten spirituous liquor tasting sample events in a calendar month, provided that specified criteria are met, rather than up to five in a calendar month.

**F-6 liquor permit**

- Allows an F-6 liquor permit (authorizing the auction of wine at a special event for the benefit of a nonprofit corporation) to be issued for the same location as an F-8 liquor permit (allowing alcohol sales at special events held on public property).

- Prohibits an F-6 and F-8 permit from being exercised concurrently at the same location.
Am. S.B. 82

**Sens.** Balderson and Gentile, Sawyer, Burke, Cafaro, Hite, Kearney, Oelslager, Patton, Smith, Uecker

**Reps.** Amstutz, Anielski, Baker, Barborak, Brown, Burkley, Butler, Carney, Celebrezze, Cera, Green, Letson, Milkovich, O’Brien, Phillips, Pillich, Ruhl, Sears, Thompson, Winburn, Batchelder

**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

- Authorizes a corrections commission of a multicounty, municipal-county, or multicounty-municipal correctional center to issue securities of the commission to pay the costs associated with certain improvements of the center.

- Provides that membership on the board of the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation by a member of the General Assembly does not constitute holding another public office or require resignation from the General Assembly.

Am. S.B. 155

**Sens.** Burke, LaRose, Bacon, Brown, Eklund, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Manning, Peterson, Seitz, Uecker, Widener


**Effective date:** July 10, 2014

- Authorizes a joint board of county commissioners to conduct hearings regarding existing joint county ditch improvements by teleconference or video conference.
Military and Veterans

Sub. H.B. 449


Sens. LaRose, Coley, Brown, Turner, Burke, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Manning, Oelslager, Seitz, Skindell, Tavares

Effective date: Section 1 veterans' provisions effective March 9, 2015; Section 2 land conveyance, emergency, effective December 8, 2014

- Prohibits state institutions of higher education from applying residency-related admissions limits to a veteran or the veteran's spouse or dependent if certain conditions are met.
- Authorizes the Governor to convey certain parcels of real estate held for the use and benefit of the Ohio State University.

Am. Sub. H.B. 488


Sens. Tavares, Brown, LaRose, Schaffer, Uecker, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Turner, Widener

Effective date: September 16, 2014

Veterans' access to higher education

- Requires the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, not later than December 31, 2014, to make specified efforts with regard to awarding college credit for military experience.
• Requires all state institutions of higher education to comply with the Chancellor's standards for awarding college credit for military experience not later than July 1, 2015.

• Prohibits a state institution of higher education, on or after December 31, 2014, from charging a fee to a student who is a veteran or service member for the evaluation of, transcription of, or application for college credit for military experience.

• Requires each state institution of higher education, not later than December 31, 2014, to establish an appeals procedure for resolving disputes regarding college credit for military experience.

• Requires each state institution of higher education, not later than December 31, 2014, to designate at least one person to serve as the contact person for veterans and service member affairs and to make other specified efforts regarding the support and assistance the institution will provide to veterans and service members.

• Requires the Chancellor to provide guidance to state institutions on designating a veterans affairs contact person and adopting a veteran support policy.

• Requires the Chancellor to prepare a report describing the progress made toward implementation of the act by the Chancellor and by state institutions of higher education and, within six months, to deliver the report to the General Assembly.

• Authorizes the Chancellor to defer or forgive all or a portion of the principal and interest on a loan made under the Nurse Education Assistance Program for certain individuals on active duty.

• Requires all state institutions of higher education, not later than December 31, 2014, to provide priority course registration for students who are veterans or service members.

**Veterans' rights/veterans' law**

• Defines terms – "armed forces," "member," "veteran," "merchant marine," "license," "licensing agency," "licensee," and "military program of training" – that are used in the laws providing veterans' rights.

• Requires each licensing agency to develop processes leading to the prioritizing and expediting of certification or licensing for each applicant who is a service member or veteran, and requires the processes to include special accommodations for applicants facing imminent deployment.

• Requires a licensing agency to apply for approval to the state approving agency at the Ohio Department of Veterans Services so that veterans and other eligible persons will be able to receive education benefits, including compensation for the cost of licensing examinations, through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
Assigns additional duties to the Director of Veterans Services to assist veterans in obtaining education, jobs, and occupational and professional licenses.

 Defines "armed forces of the United States" in the laws pertaining to veterans' homes and in the laws providing for the licensing of physicians and limited medical practitioners.

**Identity fraud and theft**

- Expressly provides for a civil cause of action based on most types of criminal identity fraud and for injunctive relief in such a case.
- Requires that a civil action based on most types of identity fraud be brought within five years from the date on which the identity of the offender was discovered or reasonably should have been discovered.
- Provides that in a civil action based on most types of identity fraud, the plaintiff may recover damages up to $5,000 for each violation or three times the amount of actual damages, whichever is greater, and reasonable attorney's fees.
- Raises the level of the offenses of identity fraud, theft, and securing writings by deception one degree if the victim is an active duty member of the armed forces or the spouse of an active duty member.
- Requires the consolidation of criminal theft or identity fraud cases involving a victim who is an active duty service member or spouse of an active duty service member when the offender commits the offense in the offender's same employment, capacity, or relationship to another.
- Permits the consolidation of criminal theft or identity fraud cases involving a victim who is an active duty service member or spouse of an active duty service member pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct.
- Modifies the dollar-value categories on which findings made by the trier of fact must be based in certain theft, identity fraud, and other criminal cases.

**Board of Pharmacy licensing fees**

- Waives the fees associated with the issuance and renewal of a license to practice pharmacy for veterans and active members of the armed forces.

**State Teachers Retirement System**

- Clarifies membership in the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) for certain individuals performing state-funded auxiliary services for nonpublic school students.
Sub. H.B. 477


Sens. Burke, Coley, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Patton

Effective date: July 16, 2014; Section 2, emergency, effective April 16, 2014

• Authorizes 19 conveyances of state-owned real estate to various persons, by various methods, including by direct sale, sealed bid auction, or public auction.
Public Officials

Sub. H.B. 10

Reps. C. Hagan, Hackett, Anielski, Boose, Brenner, Burkley, Damschroder, DeVitis, Duffey, Huffman, Maag, Perales, Retherford, Ruhl, Terhar, Thompson, Young

Sens. LaRose, Schaffer, Balderson, Coley, Eklund, Hughes, Jones, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Skindell, Widener

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Removal procedures

- Establishes procedures for removing county auditors, county treasurers, township fiscal officers, and fiscal officers of municipal corporations (fiscal officers) from office for purposely, knowingly, or recklessly failing to perform a fiscal duty expressly imposed by law, or for purposely, knowingly, or recklessly committing any act expressly prohibited by law, with respect to the fiscal duties of the office.

- Authorizes specific individuals, as the first step in the removal process, to submit to the Auditor of State a sworn affidavit alleging a violation, along with supporting evidence, and precludes a removal action from being filed directly with the court.

- Requires the Auditor of State to review the allegations and weigh the evidence to determine whether clear and convincing evidence exists to support the allegations and, if the Auditor of State so finds, to submit the determination to the Attorney General for the same review.

- Requires the Attorney General to file a removal action against the fiscal officer if the Attorney General finds by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is supported by the evidence.

- Affords the fiscal officer a hearing in the court of common pleas.

- Declares that if a municipal corporation's charter establishes a procedure for removal of officers that conflicts with the act's removal procedures, the procedure in the charter prevails.

- Unless otherwise provided by law, prohibits any individual removed from office under the act's procedures from holding another public office for four years, and from holding any public office until repayment or restitution required by the court is satisfied.

- Increases from a first degree misdemeanor to a third degree felony the penalty for falsification for a person making a false statement in a sworn affidavit for purposes of a removal action.
• Provides for an automatic stay of removal proceedings during the pendency of a criminal action related to the conduct in office of the person charged.

**Fiscal officer education and continuing education**

• Establishes initial education programs, taken before assuming office or during the first year of a term, and continuing education requirements, taken after assuming office, for township fiscal officers, city auditors, city treasurers, village fiscal officers, village clerk-treasurers, village clerks, and similar fiscal officers designated by the charter of a chartered municipal corporation.

• Requires the Auditor of State, instead of the County Auditors Association of Ohio, to issue a certificate of completion or notice of failure to complete to county auditors regarding their continuing education courses.

**Fiscal accountability for public schools**

• Creates fiscal accountability requirements for school districts, community (charter) schools, STEM schools, and public college-preparatory boarding (CPB) schools (hereafter, "public schools") that have been declared unauditable by the Auditor of State, including requiring them to submit an audit completion plan.

• Requires the fiscal officer of a public school to be suspended when the public school is declared unauditable, until the Auditor of State or a public accountant has completed a financial audit.

• Requires the Department of Education to cease making payments to a public school that has been declared unauditable, if it fails to make progress to bring its accounts into auditable condition, until receiving notice that a financial audit was completed.

• Requires the sponsor of a community school to provide to the school's governing authority and fiscal officer a written report regarding the review of the school's financial and enrollment records not later than ten days after each monthly review.

• Prohibits a community school from opening for operation in any school year unless the school's governing authority has posted a surety bond or cash deposit as a cash guarantee in the amount of $50,000 with the Auditor of State.

• Requires that each public CPB school have a designated fiscal officer, who may be required by rule of the Auditor of State to execute a bond before beginning duties as a fiscal officer.

**Other "fiscal officer" matters**

• Except as otherwise provided by law, bars a public servant who is a fiscal officer, including a school fiscal officer, and who is convicted of or pleads guilty to dereliction of duty from holding any public office, employment, or position of trust
in Ohio for four years, and from holding any public office until repayment or restitution by the court is satisfied.

- Requires that whenever a county auditor or county treasurer fails to perform the duties of office for 30 consecutive days, instead of 90 days under prior law, the office must be deemed vacant, except in the case of sickness or injury confirmed by the filing of a physician's certificate.

**Acting officers and interim replacement officials**

- Authorizes the board of county commissioners to appoint an acting officer to perform the duties of a suspended elected county official between the time the judgment suspending the elected county official is entered and the time at which the interim replacement official is appointed and takes office.

- Requires the acting officer to give bond and take the oath of office.

- Revises the procedure for appointing, and the entity that makes the appointment of, an interim replacement official to perform the duties of a suspended elected county official for the duration of the suspension.

- Requires that an acting officer appointed under the act, or any interim replacement official appointed under continuing law, be certified to the county board of elections and the Secretary of State by the county central committee, probate judge of the court of common pleas, or board of county commissioners that made the appointment.

- Requires that a person appointed as an acting officer or interim replacement official for the office of prosecuting attorney, sheriff, coroner, or county engineer meet the requirements to hold that office.

**Other provisions**

- Reduces the required number of Board of Deposit meetings from 12 to at least one annually.

- Authorizes two Board members, at any time, to jointly request a meeting of the Board, and requires the chairperson to call a meeting within 30 days after receipt of a request.

- Requires the chairperson of the Board of Deposit to provide the Board with a monthly report of the notifications the Treasurer of State must provide the Board when the Treasurer classifies public moneys as interim moneys, and requires the chairperson to post that report monthly on the Treasurer of State's website.

- Expands the allowable subject matter for the continuing education required of a qualified project manager.
• Corrects errors and omissions in S.B. 3 of the 130th General Assembly (effective September 17, 2014) by clarifying provisions, improving the workability of provisions, removing obsolete and repetitive provisions, improving consistency between provisions, and adjusting cross references.
Public Retirement

Am. Sub. S.B. 42

Sens. Manning and Gardner, Seitz, Hite, Eklund, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Uecker

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Education

• Authorizes school districts with a safety and security property tax levy to report to the Department of Education how the district is using funding from that levy.

• Changes the deadline by which the Superintendent of Public Instruction must present updated academic standards or updated model curricula to the House and Senate education committees, from 45 days to 60 days before the State Board of Education adopts them.

• Stipulates that the Superintendent’s presentation must be in person at a public hearing.

Withdrawal of contributions

• Permits a member of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), or School Employees Retirement System (SERS) who has contributions on deposit with more than one of those systems to withdraw contributions from one without also withdrawing contributions from the others.

• Provides that the withdrawal can be made only from a system in which the member is no longer a contributing member and is not permitted if the current employer was the employer when service under the system from which the withdrawal would be made was terminated.

• Specifies that withdrawal of contributions from one of the three systems by a member who has contributions in more than one system does not affect the member’s membership in the other retirement systems or any right the member may have to a benefit or return of contributions under those systems.

• Requires a member who seeks to restore service credit cancelled as a result of withdrawal of contributions under the above provisions to have at least 18 months of service credit in one of the systems after withdrawal of the contributions.
**Coordination of benefits**

- Modifies PERS, SERS, and STRS "coordination of benefits" provisions under which a member who has service credit in more than one of those systems can have the credit and contributions combined and used in determining retirement and disability benefit eligibility and benefit amounts.

- Identifies the system that determines eligibility for benefits under coordination of benefit provisions as the "paying system" and the system that transfers service credit and contributions as the "transferring system."

- Reduces the amount of employer contributions the transferring system must transfer by a "retention percentage" established by the act.

- Specifies that the retention percentage is 5% of the employee's compensation unless the percentage is changed by agreement of the systems, and requires the systems to review the percentage at least once every five years.

- Requires the transferring system to certify certain information, including the transferring system's determination of the member's eligibility for a retirement or disability benefit and the employee's service credit.

- Permits the paying system to reduce the member's service credit if the credit certified by the transferring system is concurrent with any period of service credit earned from the paying system or the amount certified exceeds one year when added to the member's service credit in the paying system.

**Purchase or transfer of credit from OP&F or SHPRS**

- Permits a PERS member to purchase or transfer credit from the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) or State Highway Patrol Retirement System (SHPRS) only if the member's service credit in PERS is greater than the amount of credit to be transferred.

**Actuarial reviews**

- Requires all costs associated with required decennial actuarial reviews to be paid by the retirement system for which the review is prepared.

**Long-term care insurance**

- Provides that PERS, OP&F, SERS, and SHPRS are permitted, rather than required, to offer coverage for long-term care insurance.

**OP&F Board of Trustees**

- Staggers the terms of the active firefighter members of the OP&F Board.
Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)

Service credit

- Increases to $600 (from $500) per year the amount an election worker must receive to be a member of PERS or earn PERS service credit.
- Includes payments made for certain types of service credit as accumulated contributions of a PERS member.
- Limits eligibility to purchase service credit for periods during which the member was receiving workers' compensation, and limits to three years the total workers' compensation credit, combined with STRS or SERS workers' compensation credit, that may be used to determine retirement eligibility or benefits.

Disability

- Modifies the standard for an initial disability determination by requiring a member to be mentally or physically incapable of performing the duties of the member's most recent public position (rather than the member's duties at the time the disabling condition began or a position with similar duties).
- Requires the medical consultant, as defined by the act, to concur with the examining physician's determination that a member qualifies for a disability benefit, and also requires the PERS Board to concur with the determination.
- Permits a disability benefit to commence prior to the PERS Board's concurrence if the medical consultant concurs with the examining physician and the member agrees to obtain any recommended medical treatment.
- Revises the date by which a disability benefit recipient must apply for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments.
- Requires a disability benefit to be terminated if a disability benefit recipient fails to file within one year a copy or other evidence of application for SSDI with PERS.

Other PERS provisions

- Requires that if the PERS Board establishes a qualified excess benefit arrangement (QEBA), the amounts required to fund the QEBA are included in the employer contribution rate.
- Modifies the calculation of the reduction in a retirement allowance for early retirement for certain PERS members.
- Permits a PERS member receiving a disability retirement allowance to withdraw payments made under the PERS additional annuity program on the effective date of disability retirement if the member is not eligible for an age and service retirement allowance on that date.
• For a retirant receiving a retirement allowance under a single-life plan who marries or remarries, limits the retirant to electing only the joint-life plan as a new plan of payment.

• Authorizes the PERS Board to adopt rules to include a penalty or interest on the amount of an erroneous benefit or payment that is to be repaid to PERS.

• Authorizes the PERS Board to withhold a fixed dollar amount for withholding employee and employer contributions under a PERS defined contribution plan.

• Authorizes PERS to reimburse a benefit recipient who is 65 or older and is not eligible for Medicare Part A without paying premiums for payment by the recipient of those premiums.

• Makes other changes, including technical and conforming changes.

**State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

• Under certain circumstances, allows a superannuate or other system retirant to be re-employed as a volunteer teacher without penalty.

• Provides that STRS "qualifying service credit," the credit used to determine benefit eligibility, includes credit purchased or granted for military service that interrupted public service.

• Requires that an STRS member who applies for service retirement after termination of disability retirement or benefits have at least five years of total service credit, which does not include credit for a period while on disability.

• Includes credit for a period on disability and credit transferred from OP&F or SHPRS in credit used to determine whether certain members have 30 or more years of specified types of service credit and qualify for an enhanced retirement benefit.

• Includes certain service credit purchased for leaves of absence in determining the amount of additional payments to certain members who withdraw their STRS contributions.

• Under provisions for coordination of benefits with PERS and SERS, provides that credit in one of those systems can be used only to determine the amount of an STRS benefit, not eligibility for the benefit.

• Revises eligibility for STRS disability and survivor benefits by requiring STRS members to have the requisite years of service credit "on account" (rather than "earned"), and revises the date by which the credit must be on account to June 30, 2013 (from July 1, 2013).
• Changes the effective date of a disability benefit to the date the application was received by the STRS Board instead of attainment of eligibility for the benefit, except in cases in which compensation continues beyond those dates.

• Eliminates a provision specifying that actions taken pursuant to STRS Board policies by administrators and committees of the Board were subject to subsequent approval by the Board.

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

• Requires employers of SERS members to transmit employer contributions monthly at times specified by the SERS Board, rather than monthly or at less frequent intervals.

• Eliminates requirements that employers notify SERS of new employees and changes in employee compensation and annually send SERS a list of employees not contributing to SERS.

• Requires employers to give notices and transmit employer and employee contributions to SERS directly rather than through the employer’s treasurer.

• Clarifies the calculation of a retirement benefit for an SERS member who qualifies for service retirement after termination of a disability benefit.

• Eliminates a provision permitting the SERS executive director to be a member of the SERS Board.

• Makes other changes to the law governing SERS, including technical changes.

State Highway Patrol Retirement System (SHPRS)

• Clarifies the types of service credit that can be used to determine eligibility for an SHPRS retirement pension.

• Expands the authority of SHPRS to collect overpayments made to certain individuals.

• Provides that an appointed SHPRS Board member holds office until the later of the end of the term for which the member is appointed or if later, the date the member’s successor takes office.

• Includes the email address of an SHPRS member in the member’s personal history record, which is excluded from public inspection.

• Authorizes the SHPRS Board to maintain records of the retirement system in printed or electronic format and to make the records available for public inspection in either format.
Permits the Board to share data with the state’s other public retirement systems and with the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program, U.S. Social Security Administration, and U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Cincinnati Retirement System.

Requires that any legal action commenced against SHPRS be filed in Franklin County.

Changes to September 1 (from July 1) the date by which SHPRS’s annual actuarial valuation must be submitted to ORSC, the OBM Director, and the House and Senate committees hearing retirement legislation.

Makes nonsubstantive technical, corrective, and conforming changes.

**Other provisions**

- Allows a private sector employer to automatically deduct amounts from an employee’s compensation as contributions to an employee retirement plan.

- Modifies the qualifications for county sheriff candidates.
H.B. 27


**Sens.** Tavares, Brown, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Uecker, Widener

**Effective date:** March 3, 2015

- Designates the last day of February as "Rare Disease Day."

Am. H.B. 105


**Sens.** Tavares, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Turner, Uecker, Widener

**Effective date:** September 11, 2014

- Designates the week that includes July 17 as "Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Week."

Am. H.B. 270

Sens. Brown, Tavares, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Jordan, Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Turner, Uecker

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Designates October 16 as "Dravet Syndrome Awareness Day."

**H.B. 399**


Sens. Tavares, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schaffer, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: September 4, 2014

- Designates the first Friday of May as "Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness and Education Day."

**Am. H.B. 404**


Sens. Bacon, Brown, Burke, Coley, LaRose, Obhof, Sawyer, Skindell

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Designates the Portage Lakes area in Summit County the "Purple Martin Capital of Ohio."

**Am. H.B. 465**

Sens. Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker

Effective date: March 5, 2015

- Designates the first week of July as "Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Awareness Week."

S.B. 227

Sens. Beagle, Gardner, Hughes, Jones, Manning, Patton, Turner, Bacon, Balderson, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Faber, Gentile, Hite, LaRose, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Tavares, Widener


Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Designates the second Tuesday of April as "Ohio Internship and Co-Op Appreciation Day."

Sub. S.B. 272

Sens. Cafaro and Eklund, Coley, Smith, LaRose, Brown, Burke, Hite, Hughes, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Skindell, Uecker


Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Designates February 21 as "Rascal Flatts Day."
- Designates March as "Ohio Maple Syrup Products Month."
- Designates September as "Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month."
- Designates September as "School Bullying Prevention Awareness Month."
**S.B. 275**

**Sens.** Hite, Gardner, Jones, Cafaro, Brown, Tavares, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gentile, Hughes, Jordan, Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Turner, Uecker, Widener


**Effective date:** September 4, 2014

- Designates March 9 as "Meningitis Awareness Day."
- Names the act "Tess's Law."

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**Am. S.B. 294**

**Sens.** Hughes, Bacon, Beagle, Manning, Brown, Cafaro, Tavares, Skindell, LaRose, Patton, Schaffer, Jordan, Uecker, Balderson, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Jones, Kearney, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Smith, Turner, Widener


**Effective date:** September 17, 2014

- Designates September as "Safe Driving Awareness Month."

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**S.B. 300**

**Sens.** Beagle and Faber, Gardner, Peterson, Hite, Hughes, Patton, Brown, Tavares, Burke, Cafaro, Coley, Eklund, Gentile, Jones, Kearney, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Sawyer, Skindell, Uecker, Widener


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5 The list of sponsors matches the names from the Journals; it differs from the list that appears on the act.
Effective date: September 17, 2014

- Designates September as "Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Month" in place of "Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Week."
- Names the act the "Corynna Strawser Act."

S.B. 301

Effective date: March 3, 2015

- Designates the week in May each year that coincides with Armed Forces Week as "Ohio Warrior Awareness Week."
Sub. H.B. 218


Sens. Beagle, Bacon, Balderson, Brown, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Jones, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Schaffer, Seitz, Tavares, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: March 3, 2015

• Requires the LeanOhio Office in the Department of Administrative Services to create a one-year "entrepreneur in residence" "pilot" program to strengthen coordination, interaction, and outreach between state government and small businesses.

• Requires the Office to appoint up to five entrepreneurs in residence among individuals who are successful in their fields.

• Requires the Office to make reasonable efforts to attract participation from entrepreneurs of various backgrounds, including female entrepreneurs, minority business enterprises, and owners of EDGE businesses.

• Establishes duties for entrepreneurs in residence, such as assisting with lean process improvement events and other presentations, participating in strategic planning efforts for LeanOhio and other areas of state government, and facilitating meetings with businesses.

• Stipulates that entrepreneurs in residence receive no compensation or expense reimbursements.

• Requires the LeanOhio Office to evaluate the program after one year and recommend whether it is to be continued.

Am. Sub. S.B. 3

Sens. LaRose, Faber, Eklund, Gardner, Obhof, Widener, Uecker, Hite, Balderson, Beagle, Coley, Patton, Jones, Manning, Lehner, Seitz, Bacon, Burke, Oelslager, Peterson

Reps. Grossman, Hackett, Brown, Burkley, Amstutz, Blair, Bose, Conditt, Duffy, Green, Hayes, McClain, McGregor, Roegner, Sears, Thompson, Batchelder

Effective date: September 17, 2014
Business review of rules

- Authorizes the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) to refer or re-refer a proposed or existing rule to the Common Sense Initiative Office (CSIO) if JCARR is uncertain whether the rule has an adverse impact on businesses or if it appears that such an impact has not been addressed or has been inadequately addressed.

- Specifies that rule-making by the offices of the state elected officers must comply with the business review provisions, but the offices may bypass CSIO and file relevant business review documents directly with JCARR.

- Specifies that rule-making by the offices of the state elected officers may become subject to review by CSIO under the act’s referral and re-referral provisions (described above).

- Extends or revives the time for legislative review of a proposed rule if JCARR rejected a later version of the proposed rule for noncompliance with business review procedures.

- Requires existing rules that, as a result of their review under the Periodic Review of Rules Act, are being filed as "no change" rules, to be put through business review.

- Amends the Common Sense Initiative Act to clarify its applicability under the act to existing, no change rules.

Periodic Review of rules

- Authorizes JCARR to recommend invalidation of an existing, no change rule if the agency has not complied with the Periodic Review of Rules Act and fails to appear before JCARR to show cause for the noncompliance.

- Requires an agency, in conducting periodic review of its rules, to determine whether a rule contains derogatory or offensive words or phrases.

- Specifies, when JCARR extends the review date of a rule under the Periodic Review of Rules Act, that not more than two such extensions may be allowed.

- Removes a requirement under which an agency that claimed a rule was exempt from five-year periodic review nevertheless had to submit the rule to JCARR, which after a hearing and by a two-thirds vote of members present, could declare that the rule was not entitled to the exemption.

Rule Watch system

- Requires JCARR to establish, maintain, and improve a Rule Watch system that enables persons to register electronically to receive e-mail alerts when an agency files a rule for review by JCARR.
- Requires JCARR to integrate the Common Sense Initiative Office into the Rule Watch system in furtherance of the goal of providing one worldwide web portal through which information about rules and rule-making can be obtained.

**Customer service standards**

- Requires an agency to post its customer service standards on the Internet.
- Authorizes CSIO, upon agency request, to review and comment on an agency's customer service standards.
- Imposes deadlines by which state agencies must develop initial customer service standards.

**Consideration of information learned at hearing on proposed rule**

- Requires a state agency to consider information learned at a public hearing on a proposed rule, and to prepare a hearing summary that analyzes the issues raised at the hearing.
- Requires a state agency to prepare a hearing report describing how information learned at the public hearing has led or not led to modifications in the proposed rule.
- Requires a state agency to file the hearing report with the Secretary of State, the Director of LSC, and JCARR if the hearing report is available when the agency files the proposed rule.
- Requires a state agency to file the hearing report with JCARR if it later becomes available.
- Specifies that a hearing report is to be published in the *Register of Ohio*.

**Operational duration of emergency rules**

- Increases the period of time during which an emergency rule remains operative from 90 to 120 days.

**Legislative review**

- Clarifies that a proposed rule that is subject to legislative review cannot be adopted until the time for legislative review has expired without recommendation of a concurrent resolution to invalidate the proposed rule.
- Authorizes JCARR, as an alternative to recommending invalidation of a proposed rule, to return the proposed rule to the agency for revision, for any of the reasons for which JCARR may recommend invalidation of a proposed rule.
- Clarifies the procedure according to which concurrent resolutions invalidating proposed and existing rules are processed.
• Modifies the December carry-over clause by specifying that if the original version of a proposed rule has been pending before JCARR for more than 35 days, and a revised version is filed in December or in the following January before the first day of the legislative session, the proposed rule must be reviewed legislatively by the 30th day after the first day of the legislative session.

Rule Summary and Fiscal Analysis (RSFA)
• Clarifies that JCARR is responsible for designing the form on which agencies are required to prepare an RSFA of their proposed rules.
• Specifies that the statutory list of information to be included in an RSFA is only suggestive of what might be included, and states that JCARR may solicit information instead of or in addition to what is in the list.
• Includes, among the suggested information, a suggestion that an agency provide the e-mail address, in addition to the name and telephone number, of the individual or office who has been designated to provide information about the proposed rule.

Transition rules
• Specifies that rules pending before JCARR on the act's effective date are not subject to its revised and clarified legislative review procedures.

Rule-making by state institutions of higher education
• Requires a state institution of higher education to cause publication of its rules in the Register of Ohio and in any electronic publication of the Administrative Code.
• Requires JCARR to accommodate a rule adopted by a state institution of higher education to the Rule Watch system.
• Requires a state institution of higher education to post its rules on its website, and periodically to verify its posting.
• Specifies that a state institution of higher education is not entitled to rely on a rule that is not currently posted on its website.

Review of fines imposed by state agencies
• Requires the Director of Budget and Management to conduct a review of all fines imposed by state agencies.
•Requires the Director to report the findings of the review and to make recommendations not later than February 1, 2015.
Transitional duties of Legislative Information Systems

- Requires Legislative Information Systems to program or reprogram the electronic rule filing system as necessary to enable electronic filing and other processing of rules as is required by the act not later than June 17, 2015.

Other changes

- Relocates and otherwise reorganizes the Legislative Review of Rules Act and the Periodic Review of Rules Act to cure their inaccurate locations in the Revised Code.
- Specifies that references to the "119.032 review date" of a rule are to be read as if they referred to the sections providing for periodic review under the act.
- Repeals obsolete provisions, repeals surplus provisions, and cures other technical defects in rule-making and rule review procedures.

Am. Sub. S.B. 84

Sens. Kearney, Smith, Turner, Obhof, LaRose, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Eklund, Gentile, Hite, Lehner, Oelslager, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Tavares

Reps. Anielski, Antonio, Barborak, Bishoff, Blessing, Boyce, Brown, Burkley, Carney, Celebrezze, Cera, Clyde, Damschroder, Dovilla, Driehaus, Duffey, Fedor, Foley, R. Hagan, Hayes, Hottinger, Kunze, Milkovich, Patterson, Phillips, Pillich, Ramos, Redfern, Rogers, Sheehy, Stinziano, Thompson, Winburn, Young, Batchelder

Effective date: March 23, 2015

- Creates the position of Ohio Poet Laureate, to be appointed by the Governor and administered by the Ohio Arts Council.
- Designates June as "Ohio Community Theatre Month."

Am. Sub. S.B. 263

Sens. Peterson and Beagle, Jones, Obhof, Bacon, Patton, Schaffer, Hughes, Gardner, Burke, Coley, Balderson, Eklund, Faber, Jordan, LaRose, Manning, Oelslager, Schiavoni, Tavares, Uecker, Widener


Effective date: September 17, 2014; Section 3 appropriation effective June 17, 2014
• Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to either apply a taxpayer’s overpayment of a tax or fee administered by the Commissioner to the taxpayer's future tax liabilities or issue a refund to the taxpayer without the taxpayer having to request the credit or refund.

• Requires the Commissioner to notify taxpayers of tax or fee overpayments.

• Appropriates $682,000 in fiscal year 2015 from the General Revenue Fund to augment existing funding for the operating expenses of the Department of Taxation.

Sub. S.B. 287

Sens. Hughes, Eklund, Patton, Sawyer, Seitz

Reps. Amstutz, Anielski, Beck, Blessing, Bose, Budish, Burkley, Damschroder, Hackett, Henne, Huffman, Letson, Ruhl, Terhar, Young

Effective date: September 4, 2014

• Modifies the types and classifications of obligations in which the Treasurer of State, treasurer or governing body of a political subdivision (other than a county), or treasurer of a board of education may invest or execute transactions with interim moneys.

• Modifies the types and classifications of obligations in which a county investing authority may invest inactive moneys and moneys in the county library fund.

• Permits the State Board of Deposit to adopt rules necessary to implement the state’s Uniform Deposit Act.

• Makes a conforming change to an exemption from investment limits regarding moneys in the Deferred Prizes Trust Fund.
Sub. H.B. 5


Sens. Burke, Coley, Eklund, Faber, J. ones, J. Jordan, Peterson, Schaffer, Seitz

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Imposition of new law and rules

- Requires municipal corporations levying an income tax as of January 1, 2016, that intend to continue levying the tax thereafter to amend their existing income tax ordinances to include certain statements incorporating the act’s limitations; amended ordinances continuing a pre-existing tax rate above 1% do not require further voter approval.

- Expressly allows a municipal corporation to offer a credit to residents for tax paid by residents to other municipal corporations, including tax paid by pass-through entities owned by the resident.

- Expressly prohibits municipal corporations and tax administrators from adopting rules to administer a municipal income tax that conflict with statutory limitations on the tax.

Computation of taxable income

- Establishes a uniform tax base applicable to all municipal corporations levying an income tax (with a few exceptions) by further defining the forms of income that municipal corporations must tax and the forms that they may not tax.

- Specifically adds to the income tax base of individuals certain deferred compensation and stock option-related income unless grandfathered by local ordinance, and self-employment income of religious leaders.

- Specifically excludes from the tax base, in addition to the continuing mandatory exclusions: alimony and child support received; compensation for personal injuries or property damage (e.g., from insurance) except for punitive damages or lost wages; dues received by certain kinds of organizations; gains from involuntary conversions; interest on federal obligations; and nonbusiness income of a decedent’s estate.

- Requires all municipal corporations to allow businesses to deduct new net operating losses and to allow a five-year carryforward of such losses, reducing the
requirement for five years for certain municipal corporations, and permits pre-existing losses to continue to be carried forward if pre-existing ordinances allow.

- Modifies the deduction for unreimbursed employee business expenses.

Residency and exemptions

- Allows a municipal corporation to treat an individual as a resident for municipal income tax purposes only if the individual is domiciled there, and prescribes standards for determining an individual's domicile for municipal income tax purposes.

- Modifies the "casual" or "occasional" entrant exemption to increase the number of days, from 12 to 20 per year, that an individual may work in a municipal corporation without incurring income tax liability there, to define how such days are to be counted, and to further define how the exemption does not apply to professional athletes, entertainers, and public figures.

- Provides that the occasional entrant exemption does not apply to employees of businesses with less than $500,000 in annual revenue, and instead creates a separate exemption that prohibits the taxation of income of such employees by any municipality other than the municipality where the business' fixed location is located or the municipality of residence.

- Grandfathers petroleum refinery employees under prior law's 12-day occasional entrant exemption from the employer withholding requirement.

- Allows an employee to receive a refund of taxes withheld under the occasional entrant or small business employer exemption on the basis that the employee did not actually perform services in the municipality for which the taxes were withheld.

Apportionment and allocation of net profit

- Modifies and further specifies how the "sales" and "payroll" factors are to be computed in the formula used to apportion income for taxpayers that have income from both within and outside a municipal corporation.

- Authorizes taxpayers to use an alternative method of apportioning income, and expressly allows tax administrators to require the use of an alternative method if the statutory formula does not fairly represent the extent of the taxpayer's business activity in a municipal corporation.

- Allows individuals with net profit from rental activity to elect to use separate accounting to calculate their net profit from rental activity.
Withholding taxes at source

- Prescribes a uniform income tax employer withholding schedule for all municipal corporations that depends on recent withholding amounts.
- Expressly permits municipal corporations to require electronic remittance of withheld taxes if electronic remittance is required for federal income tax purposes.
- Expressly permits employers to withhold income tax for a municipal corporation where an employee resides if so requested by the employee.
- Modifies and clarifies the law governing municipal income tax withholding by casinos and video lottery terminal operators.

Tax filing and payment

- Requires all municipal corporations levying an income tax to comply with a uniform annual tax return filing schedule, with some exceptions.
- Requires municipal corporations to allow any taxpayer subject to the tax on net profit to file a municipal income tax return extension by using the Ohio Business Gateway.
- Requires municipal corporations to grant income tax payment and filing extensions for active duty military personnel and civilian support personnel and persons who request a federal income tax extension.
- Requires municipal income taxpayers to file an amended return if adjustments to the taxpayer's federal income tax return affect the taxpayer's municipal income tax liability.
- Prescribes more specific rules for the filing of consolidated income tax returns by affiliated groups of corporations, including a requirement that such returns be prepared in the same manner as consolidated federal income tax returns.
- Requires taxpayers to report and pay estimated taxes if the estimated annual tax liability, after subtracting for amounts to be withheld from the taxpayer's compensation, will be more than $200, unless the taxpayer is a member of an exempted class or the tax administrator waives the requirement.
- Prohibits a municipal corporation from penalizing a taxpayer for the underpayment of estimated taxes if the taxpayer has paid at least 90% of the amount due in the current year, while maintaining similar safe harbor for taxpayers who were not living in a municipality at the beginning of a year or who have made payments equal to 100% of the taxpayer's total tax liability for the previous year.
• Authorizes the Governor to appoint up to two additional municipal tax administrators to the Ohio Business Gateway Steering Committee selected from nominees of the Ohio Municipal League.

**Refunds and assessments of liability**

• Provides that a municipal income taxpayer may receive a refund of overpaid taxes only if the amount overpaid is more than $10.

• Requires tax administrators to either approve a request for a tax refund or deny the request in writing, but retains the authority of the tax administrator to require taxpayers to substantiate refund claims.

• Establishes procedures for the issuance of assessments against taxpayers who allegedly fail to pay municipal income tax or file a return.

• Specifies the manner by which assessments may be appealed.

• Prohibits civil actions to collect municipal income taxes after three years or, if an appeal was made, one year and 60 days after the appeal is finalized and all opportunities for further appeal are exhausted or expired.

• Limits the amount of penalties and interest that may be charged for the failure to file returns or pay taxes on time.

• Renames boards of appeal "local boards of tax review."

• Extends the deadlines for filing an appeal to a local board of tax review and for the board to schedule a hearing.

• Requires hearings of a local board of tax review to be completed within 120 days.

• Prescribes the membership of local boards of tax review, and revises the procedural and notice requirements that apply to the boards.

**Tax administration, collection, and enforcement**

• Prescribes how and under what circumstances a tax administrator may compromise a claim or agree to a pay-over-time arrangement to, for example, provide relief to an innocent spouse.

• Requires a municipal corporation to deliver assessments to taxpayers in accordance with requirements similar to those applicable to the delivery of state income tax notices.

• Prescribes municipal income tax audit procedures, limitations on the conduct of audits, and rights and remedies available to taxpayers subject to an audit.

• Requires municipal income taxpayers to retain tax-related records for six years, authorizes municipal tax administrators to require taxpayers to retain the records
beyond that six-year period, and allows taxpayers to destroy the records sooner upon written consent of the tax administrator.

- Prohibits a tax administrator from engaging an agent on a contingency basis to inspect a person’s records, and requires agents to display credentials upon request.

- Permits municipal income taxpayers to request official opinions from tax administrators regarding prospective tax liability, specifies procedures for the issuance of such opinions, and states the extent to which they are binding.

- Requires a person to notify a tax administrator of any change to the person's personal identifying information, such as a Social Security number, if the tax administrator requires a person to submit such information.

- Requires tax administrators to take necessary steps to protect taxpayers’ Social Security numbers, and prohibits the display of a Social Security number on the outside of a mailed envelope.

- Modifies continuing protections for confidential municipal income tax information to prohibit anyone from accessing the information without a proper judicial order and outside the scope of official business.

- Prescribes minimum penalties for any person who unlawfully accesses or discloses confidential municipal income tax information.

- Authorizes the exchange of confidential municipal income tax information among tax administrators.

- Imposes a uniform standard of justiciability on actions for municipal income tax-related damages brought by taxpayers against municipal corporations or tax administrators.

- Specifies that the proper measure of damages available to taxpayers in such actions is compensatory damages along with reasonable costs of litigation and attorneys' fees.

- Permits courts of common pleas to impose a penalty of up to $10,000 on a taxpayer who brings a frivolous action against a tax administrator or a municipal corporation.

- Prohibits knowing involvement with false or fraudulent tax documents submitted to a tax administrator or with records upon which such documents are based with intent to defraud a municipal corporation or a tax administrator.

**Other provisions**

- Revises the required contents of the annual report of municipal income tax revenues to the Tax Commissioner.
• Specifies that, if a portion of the revenue from a municipal income tax levy will be shared with a school district, the levy may not take effect until the year following the year in which voters approved the levy.

• Creates a 13-member temporary committee to quantify and recommend ameliorations for the potential fiscal impact to municipal corporations of requiring each to allow net operating losses to be carried forward for five years.

• Creates a 12-member temporary committee to study the feasibility of requiring municipal corporations to separately report income tax revenue paid by resident and nonresident individuals.

Am. Sub. H.B. 85


Sens. Coley, LaRose, Balderson, Beagle, Brown, Burke, Eklund, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Seitz, Skindell, Smith, Tavares, Turner, Uecker, Widener

Effective date: September 11, 2014

• Increases, from $25,000 to $50,000, the amount of the homestead exemption available to veterans who are permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected disability.

• Exempts these veterans from the $30,000 income threshold for homestead eligibility.

Am. Sub. H.B. 492

Reps. Scherer, Amstutz, McClain, Anielski, Beck, Blessing, Boone, Brown, Budish, Burkley, Carney, Celebrazze, Damschroder, Duffey, Green, Hackett, C. Hagan, Henne, Huffman, Letson, McGregor, Milkovich, O'Brien, Patmon, Pelanda, Rogers, Ruhl, Sears, Sprague, Stebelton, Stinziano, Terhar, Thompson, Batchelder

Sens. Coley, Eklund, Hite, Oelslager, Peterson, Seitz

Effective date: September 17, 2014
Cigarette and tobacco excise taxes

- Shifts the duty of selling cigarette tax stamps and receiving cigarette tax returns from the Treasurer of State to the Tax Commissioner.

- Eliminates provisions in prior law that authorized the use of a metering device in lieu of tax stamps to show that the excise tax had been paid.

- Changes the due date for reporting and paying the "other tobacco product" (i.e., no cigarette) excise tax.

Tobacco Settlement Enforcement Fund

- Eliminates the Tobacco Settlement Enforcement Fund.

Motor fuel excise tax

- Consolidates two motor fuel exporter licenses into a single license.

- Requires persons delivering motor fuel to locations in Ohio to register with the Tax Commissioner.

- Authorizes the Commissioner to impose and assess a penalty on persons that are required to file motor fuel reports but are not required to pay motor fuel excise tax for the failure to file timely reports.

- Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to require all or a class of motor fuel dealers to remit tax payments electronically, including through the Department of Taxation's website.

- Modifies the penalty for a motor fuel dealer's failure to remit tax payments electronically.

- Requires the monthly report the Commissioner is required to prepare showing information about motor fuel dealers to include each dealer's address and tax identification number.

- Allows the Commissioner to provide retail dealers with certain information about wholesaler dealers for the purpose of the retailer's receiving a motor fuel tax refund for fuel lost through shrinkage and evaporation.

- Removes the requirement that a person apply to the Tax Commissioner for a refund permit before receiving certain motor fuel tax refunds.

Petroleum activity tax

- Renames the tax levied on the basis of gross receipts from the first sale of motor fuel in the state from the "motor fuel receipts tax" to the "petroleum activity tax" (PAT).
Changes the basis on which the tax is computed, from a taxpayer's actual gross receipts to a per-gallon, average price-per-gallon basis.

Further specifies the point at which the tax applies (the "first sale" in Ohio).

Exempts receipts from certain exchanges between parties in which no money is paid other than to compensate for fuel grade, location, or handling.

Permits taxpayers to bill or invoice the PAT to purchasers.

Specifies that only persons that have a sufficient business presence in Ohio ("substantial nexus") are subject to the tax, but allows others to voluntarily register to be subject to the tax.

Requires persons that knowingly acquire fuel from an unlicensed taxpayer to pay the tax on fuel received in or transported into Ohio.

Prescribes a rebuttable presumption that gasoline and undyed diesel fuel are used on public roads or on waterways for the purpose of determining how the revenue is to be divided between highway and no highway expenditure.

Modifies the continuing CAT exclusion for receipts from selling motor fuel.

Requires the Tax Commissioner to prepare a list of suppliers holding a PAT license each month, and allows for public inspection of that list.

**Tax credits**

Permits the Director of Development Services to reduce the amount, percentage, or term of a research and development loan tax credit if the loan recipient fails to comply with the terms of the loan agreement.

Shortens the minimum holding period of investments, from five to two years, necessary for the investment to qualify for the small business investment income tax credit.

Authorizes job creation and retention tax credits to be claimed against the PAT.

Allows the recipient of a nonrefundable job retention tax credit to claim a credit initially awarded against the CAT against the PAT instead.

Eliminates the part-year computation of the base used to compute the increase in an employer's Ohio income tax withholdings for the purpose of the job creation tax credit.

Specifies that municipal corporations may award job creation or retention municipal income tax credits to taxpayers not awarded a corresponding state credit.
Tax administration and compliance

- Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to adopt rules requiring returns for any tax or fee administered by the Commissioner to be filed electronically or telephonically and for payments to be made electronically.

- Prescribes the date a document or payment sent by mail or electronically or delivered in person is considered to have been received by the Tax Commissioner.

- Prescribes the date a document sent by the Tax Commissioner by mail is considered to have been received by another person.

- Requires the Tax Commissioner to include interest when refunding any overpayments of natural gas distribution tax, kilowatt-hour tax, and tire fees.

- Authorizes the Department of Taxation to disclose information to the Development Services Agency (DS) that is necessary to ensure compliance with tax laws or to verify information provided to DS regarding tax credits or other financial assistance.

- Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to retroactively exempt real property that is subject to an enterprise zone agreement if it otherwise qualifies except for a failure to comply with tax exemption application procedures.

PUCO for-hire motor carrier tax receipts

- Requires the Public Utility Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to provide to for-hire motor carriers, instead of a single receipt, a tax receipt for each of the carrier's motor vehicles for which a tax has been paid under the for-hire motor carrier law.

- Requires that the appropriate tax receipt be kept in each motor vehicle operated by the carrier.

- Requires the carrier to maintain records that track to which motor vehicle each tax receipt is assigned.

Am. Sub. S.B. 243

Sens. Bacon, Faber, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Lehner, Obhof, Oelslager, Schaffer

Reps. Amstutz, Cera, Stautberg, Anielski, Antonio, Baker, Barborak, Boyce, Buchy, DeVitis, Dovilla, Driehaus, Duffey, Grossman, Hood, Hottinger, Milkovich, Patterson, Reece, Strahorn, Sykes, Wachtman, Young

Effective date: March 23, 2015; certain sections effective December 19, 2014

- Exempts sales of clothing and school supplies and instructional materials from sales and use taxation during August 7, 8, and 9, 2015.
• Adjusts the rate "brackets" of the financial institution tax (FIT).
• Adjusts the formula used to calculate the amount by which the top FIT bracket rate increases if revenue generated by the FIT falls below a revenue "target."
• Expands a continuing FIT exemption by exempting entities that were grandfathered unitary savings and loan holding companies on January 1, 2012, and nonbank subsidiaries of such entities, and subjects those entities and subsidiaries to the commercial activity tax.
• Eases qualifications necessary for property to qualify for a tax exemption for a cultural center that is a historic structure under renovation and that is conveyed to a nonpublic, noncharitable organization.
• Modifies the investment eligibility requirements for the purchase of a computer data center to be exempt from the sales and use tax.
• Creates the Economic Gardening Technical Assistance Pilot Program in the Development Services Agency to provide eligible businesses with services related to marketing, market research, and the development of business connections.
• Repeals the Program after two years.
• Appropriates $500,000 per year to the Program in fiscal year 2015.
• Permits a county to pay by credit card for webinar services and purchases of automatic or electronic data processing or recordkeeping equipment, software, and services.
• Permits a county law library resources board to accept payment of fees for services or receive gifts by a financial transaction device, such as a credit or debit card, if the board of county commissioners permits payments to be made by financial transaction device for other types of payments to the county.
• Requires the Ohio Healthier Buckeye Advisory Council to submit its recommendations regarding public assistance programs by December 1, 2015, instead of December 1, 2014.
• Adds the Governor or the Governor’s designee to the ex officio members of the Ohio Business Gateway Steering Committee.
• Makes other changes to operating and capital appropriations.
Sub. H.B. 319

Reps. Grossman, Amstutz, Anielski, Boose, Buchy, Burkley, Dovilla, Hackett, Hayes, McGregor, Pelanda, Wachtman, Young, Batchelder

Sens. Balderson, Burke, Coley, Eklund, Hite, Jones, Keamey, Lehner, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Schaffer, Seitz

Effective date: March 23, 2015

Economic development projects

- Permits a natural gas company to apply to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for approval of one or more economic development projects (EDPs) for inclusion in an infrastructure development rider.

- Permits the PUCO to approve EDPs of two types: (1) an EDP that meets PUCO criteria established in rules (hereafter, general EDP), or (2) a certified SiteOhio EDP that, upon completion, will be primarily intended for commercial, industrial, or manufacturing use.

- Permits the PUCO to approve an EDP if:
  --The infrastructure development costs are projected to generate a return on the natural gas company's investment that is less than the most recently authorized rate of return; and
  --The infrastructure development costs to be incurred by the company per calendar year for the EDP and all previously approved EDPs of the same type are not projected to exceed: (1) $2 multiplied by the aggregate number of the company’s Ohio customers, with respect to general EDPs, and (2) $1 multiplied by the aggregate number of the company’s Ohio customers, with respect to SiteOhio EDPs.

- Provides that any property installed or constructed by a natural gas company to enable the provision of natural gas service to an approved EDP must be considered used and useful in rendering public utility service for purposes of fixing utility rates.

Infrastructure development rider

- Permits a natural gas company to file an application with the PUCO for approval of an infrastructure development rider to recover prudently incurred infrastructure development costs for one or more general and SiteOhio EDPs.
• Establishes an infrastructure development rider cost cap on the costs a natural gas company may recover from any single Ohio customer for all approved EDPs for which recovery was authorized.

• Sets the cost cap at not more than $2 from any single Ohio customer each calendar year for a general EDP and not more than $1 from any single Ohio customer each calendar year for a SiteOhio EDP.

Reconciliation report

• Requires a natural gas company that has established an infrastructure development rider to file an annual report with the PUCO that: (1) details the infrastructure development costs related to applicable EDPs, and (2) sets forth the rider rate for the 12 months after the annual report.

Financial audit

• Permits the PUCO, at its discretion, to conduct a financial audit of a natural gas company that has established an infrastructure development rider to determine if the infrastructure development costs incurred by the company and collected under the rider are in conformance with PUCO orders.

Sub. S.B. 310

Sens. Balderson, Coley, Eklund, Faber, Jones, Seitz
Reps. Stautberg, J. Adams, Buchy, Hill, Huffman, Maag, Retherford, Roegner, Ruhl, Terhar, Wacht mann, Batchelder

Effective date: September 12, 2014

Renewable energy and advanced energy requirements

• Freezes, for 2015 and 2016, the renewable and solar energy benchmarks (required of electric distribution utilities (EDUs) and electric services companies (ESCs)) at the 2014 level required under prior law, and requires the benchmarks to resume beginning in 2017 starting at the 2015 levels of prior law.

• Eliminates the requirement that EDUs and ESCs provide, by 2025, up to 12.5% of the former 25% alternative energy requirement from advanced energy.

• Extends the benchmark period by which EDUs and ESCs must provide 12.5% of their electricity supply from renewable energy resources by two years to 2027.

• Eliminates the requirement that at least one-half of the renewable energy resources implemented to meet the benchmarks must be met through facilities located in Ohio and the remainder with resources deliverable into Ohio.
Permits the renewable energy resources implemented to meet the benchmarks to be met either through facilities in Ohio or with resources shown to be deliverable into Ohio.

Freezes the solar energy compliance payment at $300 for 2014, 2015, and 2016, and resumes, in 2017, the gradual reduction of the payment amounts to a minimum of $50 in 2026 and thereafter.

Requires that recovery from customers of ongoing costs that are associated with EDUs’ contracts to procure renewable energy resources, entered into before April 1, 2014, continue on a bypassable basis until the prudently incurred costs are fully recovered.

States that renewable energy resources do not have to be converted to electricity in order to be eligible to receive renewable energy credits.

Requires that rules of the Public Utilities Commission (PUCO) specify that for renewable energy credits, one megawatt hour of energy derived from biologically derived methane gas equals 3,412,142 British thermal units.

Repeals the Alternative Energy Advisory Committee, which was required to study the alternative energy resources requirements and submit semiannual reports to the PUCO.

Permits EDUs and ESCs to use a baseline of the compliance-year's sales to measure compliance with the renewable energy benchmarks, rather than the most recent three-year average of sales.

Requires EDUs and ESCs that switch back to the three-year baseline to use that baseline for at least three consecutive years before again using the compliance-year baseline.

Permits the PUCO to adjust the compliance-year baseline to adjust for new economic growth in the EDU’s or ESC’s territory or service area.

**Classification of renewable energy resources**

 Adds to the list of renewable energy resources, for purposes of the renewable energy requirements, advanced energy projects funded by the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority, and the Advanced Energy Program:

---Heat captured from a generator of electricity, boiler, or heat exchanger fueled by biologically derived methane gas; and

---Power produced by a run-of-the-river hydroelectric facility placed in service on or after January 1, 1980, located in Ohio, relies on the Ohio River, and operates or is rated at an aggregate capacity of at least 40 megawatts.
Energy efficiency (EE) and peak demand reduction (PDR) requirements

- Specifies a formula for determining the amount of annual EE savings that an EDU must achieve for 2015 and 2016, and requires the annual EE savings requirement to be 1% of the baseline prescribed for EE savings for each year during 2017-2020, and 2% each year thereafter.
- Extends the period in which an EDU must achieve the cumulative EE savings in excess of 22% by two years, to the end of 2027.
- Specifies a formula for determining the amount of PDR that an EDU must achieve for 2015-2016, and requires the EDU to achieve an additional .75% PDR for each year during 2017-2020.
- Prohibits the baseline for EE savings and PDR from including the load and usage of certain customers.
- Requires that EE savings and PDR that are achieved, in whole or in part, as a result of funding from the Universal Service Fund through certain programs be counted toward meeting the EE/PDR requirements.
- Prohibits the EE savings and PDR described immediately above from qualifying for "shared savings," which is not defined.
- Requires that EE savings and PDR achieved through actions taken by customers or through EDU programs that comply with federal standards for either or both EE or PDR requirements be counted toward meeting the EE/PDR requirements.
- Requires EE savings and PDR amounts approved by the PUCO to continue to be counted toward achieving the EE/PDR requirements as long as the requirements remain in effect.
- Permits, at an EDU’s discretion, any EE savings or PDR amount achieved in excess of the requirements to be banked and applied toward achieving the EE/PDR requirements in future years.
- Requires the PUCO to count both the EE savings and PDR on an annualized basis and a gross savings basis.
- Requires certain EE savings and PDR to be measured on the higher of an as found or deemed basis, and specifies how EE savings and PDR are to be counted for new construction.
- Requires the PUCO to "count energy efficiency savings and peak demand reductions associated with transmission and distribution infrastructure improvements that reduce line losses."
• Prohibits the EE savings and PDR reductions described immediately above from qualifying for "shared savings," which is not defined.

**Portfolio plans for EE and PDR compliance**

• Requires that portfolio plans that exist on September 12, 2014, for compliance with the EE and PDR requirements be either continued through the end of 2016 or amended under a 60-day PUCO review process.

• Specifies that prior law applies to EDUs that have continued plans, for the duration of those plans, and the law as amended by the act applies to EDUs with amended plans.

• Prohibits the PUCO from reviewing or approving applications for portfolio plans if the applications are pending on September 12, 2014, and prohibits the PUCO from taking unauthorized actions regarding portfolio plans.

**Higher voltage and consumption customer opt-out, reporting**

• Permits certain higher voltage and higher consumption customers, through written notice to the PUCO, to opt out of an EDU’s portfolio plan or plans, thereby exempting the customer from cost recovery mechanisms but also removing the customer's ability to participate in or benefit from the plans.

• Provides two opt-out options: (1) a temporary opt-out of amended EDU portfolio plans, and (2) a longer-term opt-out of EDU portfolio plans beginning in 2017.

• Permits a customer that has elected the longer-term opt-out to opt in to the EDU’s portfolio plan, if the customer previously has opted out for at least three consecutive calendar years and gives 12-month’s advance written notice to the PUCO Secretary and the EDU.

• Specifies that a customer that has opted in may elect to opt out after a minimum opt-in period of three consecutive calendar years.

• Requires a customer that opts out of an EDU’s portfolio plan to verify and submit initial and updated reports to the PUCO that, for the opt-out period, (1) summarizes the energy-intensity reductions measures implemented by the customer and (2) identifies the cumulative energy-intensity reductions achieved.

• Permits the PUCO staff to request additional information from the customer regarding the energy-intensity reductions measures adopted and the energy-intensity reductions achieved during the period covered by the updated report.

• Specifies that all information contained in customers’ initial or updated reports, and any responses to requests for additional information from the PUCO staff, are confidential, proprietary, and a trade secret.
• Prohibits the information in customers’ reports or responses from being publicly divulged without the customers’ written authorization or used for any purpose other than to identify the customer’s adopted measures and achieved energy-intensity reductions.

• Provides for an opt-out suspension if energy-intensity reductions are not substantially achieved by the customers.

Disclosure of costs to customers
• Requires disclosure of the costs to customers of the renewable energy resource, EE savings, and PDR requirements, on each EDU and ESC customer’s monthly bill, as applicable.

Service restoration for hospitals
• Requires an EDU’s service restoration plan to prioritize hospitals.

Energy Mandates Study Committee
• Creates the 13-member Energy Mandates Study Committee to study Ohio's renewable energy, EE, and PDR mandates.

• Requires the Committee to submit a report to the General Assembly by September 30, 2015, including a cost-benefit analysis of the mandates, a recommendation of a standard for future review of the mandates, recommendations regarding opt-in and opt-out systems for the mandates, and reviews and analyses of other energy and cost issues.

• Abolishes the Committee effective October 1, 2015.

• States that the General Assembly intends to enact legislation in the future, after taking the Committee’s recommendations into account, that will reduce the renewable energy resource, EE, and PDR mandates.

Percentage of Income Payment Plan
• Prohibits the imposition of a waiting period for enrollment of an eligible customer in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan.

Am. Sub. S.B. 378

Sens. Coley, Peterson, Hite, Eklund, Hughes, Kearney, LaRose, Patton, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Seitz, Uecker

Reps. Stautberg, Burkley, Conditt, Dovilla, Grossman, Hackett, Perales, Sheehy, Strahorn

Effective date: March 23, 2015
• Gives the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) jurisdiction to enforce Ohio's underground-utility-damage-prevention law, in conjunction with a 17-member Underground Technical Committee (UTC).

• Permits a person with certain duties and obligations, who is directly involved with or impacted by a failure to comply with certain requirements of the underground-utility-damage-prevention law, to request an inquiry with PUCO.

• Requires PUCO to make reports of those inquiries available to the UTC.

• Requires the UTC to review each report and: (1) recommend a fine or penalty, consistent with certain guidelines, (2) request an administrative hearing with PUCO if the UTC believes that heightened fines or penalties are warranted, or (3) determine that no enforcement action should be taken.

• Requires PUCO to impose the UTC's recommended fines and penalties, with some exceptions.

• Permits the UTC to find that a person is a persistent noncomplier, in which case PUCO may impose a fine of up to $10,000.

• Permits a person requesting an inquiry or a person responsible for a compliance failure to seek reconsideration with PUCO if either person disagrees with a finding of or no-enforcement determination made by the UTC.

• Requires utilities, excavators, developers, and designers who participate in the one-call notification system to register with PUCO and pay a safety registration of up to $50 annually.

• Requires the safety registration and fines for failure to pay the safety registration to be deposited in the Underground Facilities Protection Administrative Fund created by the act to be used to fund the new enforcement process.

• Requires PUCO to adopt rules in consultation with the UTC.

• Specifies that members of the UTC, by virtue of their UTC membership, are not subject to the financial disclosure requirements of Ohio ethics law.

• Specifies that members of the UTC are immune, individually and jointly, from civil liability for any act or omission done or made in performance of UTC duties, provided that the act or omission was not willful misconduct.

• Creates an Underground Utility Damage Prevention Grant Program, funded by compliance-failure fines collected under the act's provisions, and creates the Underground Facilities Protection Fund.
Listed on the following pages is the legislative history of each bill and two joint resolutions enacted in 2014. The legend at the top left-hand corner of the following pages contains abbreviations for various actions taken on the bills. The committees of the House of Representatives and Senate are abbreviated as follows:

**House**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Committee Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANR</td>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLT</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRR</td>
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<td>ED</td>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>FA</td>
<td>Finance &amp; Appropriations</td>
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<td>Policy &amp; Legislative Oversight</td>
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<td>SLG</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPS</td>
<td>Transportation, Public Safety &amp; Homeland Security</td>
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**Senate**

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<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>MHS</td>
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<td>Rules</td>
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<td>Ways &amp; Means</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grossman</td>
<td>Municipal income tax-revisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henne</td>
<td>Receivers-powers/procedure for real property sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stautberg</td>
<td>Local government fiscal accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hagan</td>
<td>Rare Disease Day-last day of February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letson</td>
<td>Memorial highways &amp; bridge-Rickey, Coleman, Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>Military Sacrifice license plates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terhar</td>
<td>Homestead exemption-enhance-100% service-connected disabled veterans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayes</td>
<td>Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia-Week that includes July 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Tax credit-businesses-employ high school students-career exploration internships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damschoder</td>
<td>Hearing aids-regulate fitting of/prohibit sales of by mail</td>
</tr>
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<td>Hackett</td>
<td>Captive insurance companies-provide for Ohio operation of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Health insurance-cover telehealth services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Menacing offenses-expand scope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fedor</td>
<td>Victims of trafficking/child victims- protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Chemical tanning-regulate/sun lamps-prohibited for those under 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Advanced practice registered nurses/physician assistants-admit patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roegner</td>
<td>Respiratory care regulation-exempt hyperbaric technologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>McClain</td>
<td>Students-receive credit for released-time, off-site religious courses</td>
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<td>Butler</td>
<td>Mortgage subrogation/entries of satisfaction-changes relative to</td>
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<td>Rutherford</td>
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<td>Pelanda</td>
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<td>Cebrezze</td>
<td>Entrepreneur in Residence Pilot Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>House Bill</td>
<td>A - Amended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>232</td>
<td>Sears</td>
</tr>
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<td>234</td>
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</tr>
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<td>247</td>
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</tr>
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<td>289</td>
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<td>290</td>
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<td>296</td>
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<td>362</td>
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<td>474</td>
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<td>494</td>
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<td>497</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Batchelder &amp; Hackett</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Notes for House Bill Status Report</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>S. Cmte. Assigned Note: Rereferred to WM on 11/12/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>S. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 05/21/14, 05/22/14 &amp; 05/27/14 and retained its place on the calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>H. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to WM on 04/10/13; Re-referred to FIN on 11/06/13. H. Cmte. Report Note: Reported out of WM on 10/29/13 as a Substitute. Eff. Date Note: Section 2 effective March 26, 2014</td>
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<td>109</td>
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<td>130</td>
<td>S. 3rd Cons. Note: Passed Senate on 06/03/14; Reconsidered on 06/03/14 and Passed Senate with amendment</td>
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<td>131</td>
<td>S. Cmte. Assigned Note: Assigned to CL on 11/12/14, passed CL as Substitute on 12/10/14, rereferred to RU on 12/11/14. Eff. Date Note: Sections 1 and 2 effective June 23, 2015</td>
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<td>178</td>
<td>Eff. Date Note: Section 3 effective 12/19/14</td>
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<td>247</td>
<td>S. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to MHS on 11/19/13; Reported amended by MHS on 05/21/14; Referred back to CVJ on 05/28/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>270</td>
<td>Concurrence Note: House has laid Senate amendments over under the Rule on 12/04/14, taken up later in same session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>292</td>
<td>S. 3rd Cons. Note: Passed amended on 06/03/14; Reconsidered on 06/04/14; Amended and passed on 6/4/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>309</td>
<td>S. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to CRJ on 02/19/14; Reported as a substitute bill by CRJ on 05/27/14; Rereferred to CVJ on 06/03/14</td>
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<td>S. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 05/21/14, 05/22/14 &amp; 05/27/14 and retained its place on the calendar</td>
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<td>341</td>
<td>Eff. Date Note: Certain provisions effective January 1, 2015 and April 1, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>367</td>
<td>Eff. Date Note: Certain sections effective 12/19/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>394</td>
<td>Eff. Date Note: Sections 3 and 4 effective April 1, 2015; certain provisions effective other than those dates</td>
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<td>399</td>
<td>S. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 05/22/14 &amp; 05/27/14 and retained its place on the calendar</td>
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<td>416</td>
<td>H. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 02/12/14, 02/13/14, and 02/18/14 retained its place on the calendar. Conf. Cmte. Note: House refused to concur in Senate amendments on 02/26/14; Senate insisted on its amendments and requested a committee of conference on 02/26/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>430</td>
<td>H. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to SLG on 02/25/14; Rereferred to RR on 03/12/14; Referred to INS on 03/18/14</td>
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### Notes for House Bill Status Report

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<th>Effect Date Note: Section 2 effective 12/08/14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>449</td>
<td>Eff. Date Note: Section 2 effective 12/08/14 and 05/08/14, to be taken up for consideration on 05/14/14</td>
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<td>468</td>
<td>S. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 12/10/14 and 12/11/14 and retained its place on the calendar</td>
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<td>Eff. Date Note: July 16, 2014; Section 2, emergency, effective April 16, 2014</td>
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<td>Concurrence Note: House refused to concur in Senate amendments on 05/28/14; Senate insisted on amendments and requested a committee of conference on 05/28/14; Senate agreed to conference committee report on 06/04/14, reconsidered on 06/04/14 and agreed to report.</td>
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<td>Eff. Date Note: Appropriations effective 06/16/14; certain provisions effective on other dates; contains item vetoes</td>
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<td>Concurrence Note: House refused to concur in Senate amendments on 05/28/14; Senate insisted on amendments and requested a committee of conference on 05/28/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
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<td>42</td>
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<td>43</td>
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</tr>
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<td>69</td>
<td>Beagle</td>
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</tr>
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<td>82</td>
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</tr>
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<td>202</td>
<td>Obhof Kearney</td>
</tr>
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<td>Senate Action</td>
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<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Coley</td>
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<tr>
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S.B. No. 42
H. Cmte. Assigned Note: Assigned to WM on 04/17/13, Reported out of WM as a Substitute on 12/08/14, re-referred to RR on 12/09/14
H. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed and retained its place on the calendar 12/09/14

S.B. No. 43
S. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to CRJ on 02/20/13
H. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to JUD on 03/12/14
H. Cmte. Report Note: Reported amended out of JUD on 05/22/14; Re-Referred to RR on 05/28/14; Reported out of RR amended on 05/28/14

99 Eff. Date Note: Certain provisions effective January 1, 2015

140 Eff. Date Note: Certain provisions effective 01/1/15

172 Concurrence Note: Senate considering House amendments, informally passed on 04/08/14 & 4/10/14 to be considered on 05/07/14; Senate did NOT concur in House amendments 05/07/14; House insisted on amendments and requested a committee of conference on 05/14/14; Senate agreed to a committee of conference 05/15/14

205 Eff. Date Note: Section 4 of the act effective 05/23/14

207 S. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 05/28/14 & 05/29/14 & 06/03/14 and retained its place on the calendar

238 Eff. Date Note: Section 3 of the act effective 05/23/14

243 Eff. Date Note: Certain sections effective December 19, 2014

245 Concurrence Note: Senate informally passed House amendments, retained its place on the calendar 05/19/14; 05/20/14

258 H. Cmte. Assigned Note: Referred to HG on 04/02/14; Re-referred to RR on 11/18/14
Concurrence Note: Senate informally passed House amendments on 11/25/14 and 12/01/14 and retained its place on the calendar

263 Eff. Date Note: Section 3 effective 06/17/14

272 S. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 05/21/14, 05/22/14 & 05/27/14 and retained its place on the calendar

276 H. 3rd Cons. Note: Informally passed on 12/09/14 and retained its place on the calendar
Eff. Date Note: Sections 3 and 4 effective April 1, 2015; certain provisions effective other than those dates
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<th>Other Action</th>
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</tr>
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**Subject:** General obligation bonds-ssue to fund public infrastructure capital improvements

**Primary Sponsor(s):**
- Bacon
- Manning
## INDEX

### HOUSE BILLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.B. 5</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>H.B. 165</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>H.B. 296</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>H.B. 449</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.B. 19</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>H.B. 178</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>H.B. 315</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>H.B. 468</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.B. 27</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>H.B. 201</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>H.B. 318</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>H.B. 474</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.B. 45</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>H.B. 213</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>H.B. 326</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>H.B. 484</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.B. 85</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>H.B. 218</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>H.B. 341</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>H.B. 486</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.B. 95</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>H.B. 232</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>H.B. 342</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>H.B. 487</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.B. 105</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>H.B. 234</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>H.B. 362</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>H.B. 488</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.B. 117</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>H.B. 261</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>H.B. 393</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>H.B. 494</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.B. 123</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>H.B. 264</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>156</td>
<td>H.B. 497</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
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<td>67</td>
<td>H.B. 270</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>H.B. 399</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>H.B. 533</td>
<td>174</td>
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<td>H.B. 130</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>H.B. 286</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>H.B. 404</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>H.B. 552</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.B. 131</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>H.B. 289</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>H.B. 416</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>H.B. 652</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
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<td>H.B. 139</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>H.B. 290</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>H.B. 430</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>H.B. 663</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SENATE BILLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.B. 3</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.B. 42</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.B. 43</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
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<td>120</td>
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<td>178</td>
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