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**State Board  
of Education**

# Legislative Update

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To: State Board of Education  
Re: Legislative Update  
Date: January 17, 2014

## State Activity

### Introduced Bills

[Senate Bill 264](#) (Schaffer, R- Lancaster) would require the Department of Education to solicit from school districts and educational service centers regular studies of the time spent by occupational and physical therapists on certain activities and to use the studies to determine appropriate workloads.

[Senate Bill 266](#) (Skindell, D-Lakewood/ Lehner, R-Kettering) with respect to the use of seclusion and physical restraint on students and positive behavior intervention supports in public schools.

### Legislation Passed in the House

[House Bill 171](#) (McClain, R-Upper Sandusky/ Patmon, D-Cleveland) would permit public school students to attend and receive credit for released time courses in religious instruction conducted off school property during regular school hours. It passed with a vote of 78-15.

[House Bill 342](#) (Brenner, R-Powell/ Dreihaus, D-Cincinnati) would permit an educational service center to be a partner or the lead applicant of an education consortia seeking a grant under the Straight A Fund grant program and modifies the goals of projects supported by the program. The bill passed with a vote of 92-0.

### This Week's Committees

#### **Senate Commerce and Labor Committee**

The Senate Commerce and Labor Committee met on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> for the first hearing of [Senate Bill 227](#) (Beagle, R- Tipp City) which would designate the second Tuesday of April as "Ohio Internship and Co-Op Appreciation Day." Senator Beagle gave sponsor testimony. Chair Bacon said he anticipates a vote on the bill at the panel's next meeting.

#### **Senate Education Committee**

The Senate Education Committee also met on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> for the second hearing on [Senate Bill 167](#) (Tavares, D-Columbus) which would require each school district to adopt a policy that allows for many factors to be considered prior to the suspension or expulsion of a student and that establishes alternative strategies, including prevention, intervention, restorative justice, peer mediation, and counseling. Proponent testimony was provided by Vernellia Randall, the cofounder of Racial Justice Now!, Sarah Biehl, policy director for Children's Defense Fund-Ohio, Kate Mitchell with Center for Equal Justice, Stephanie Moes with Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio, LLC., Shakyra Diaz, Policy Director for the Ohio ACLU and Danielle Smith, executive director for the National Association. Maria Holt, Nancy Miller, and Jen Miller also all gave opponent testimony.

### **House State and Local Government Committee**

The House State and Local Government Committee met Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, for the first hearing [House Bill 299](#) (Grossman, R-Grove City) which would require counties, municipal corporations, townships, and school boards that file complaints against the valuation of property they do not own to pass a resolution approving the complaint and specifying the compensation paid to any person retained to represent the county, municipal corporation, township, or school board in the matter of the complaint. Representative Grossman provided sponsor testimony.

### **House Education Committee**

The House Education Committee met and heard the following bills on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>:

[House Bill 58](#) (Gerberry, D- Austintown Twp.) would change the voting membership of the State Board of Education to consist of a member from each of several electoral districts with boundaries coinciding with the state's Congressional districts and a president to be appointed by the Governor if there is an even number of such electoral districts. This bill was removed from the agenda and no testimony was heard at the sponsor of the bill's request.

[House Bill 211](#) (Williams, D- Cleveland) would require the Director of the State Lottery Commission to prepare a report related to the Lottery Profits Education Fund. Representative Williams provided sponsor testimony for the first hearing of this bill.

[House Bill 343](#) (Stebelton, R- Lancaster) regarding educational programs for certain students and individuals who have not received a high school diploma. No testimony was provided at the second hearing on this bill.

[House Bill 348](#) (Henne, R- Clayton /Hagan, C., R-Alliance) would prohibit state institutions of higher education from requiring students to be covered by a health insurance policy or a health care benefits plan as a condition of enrollment or from automatically enrolling students in such policies or plans. Both Representatives Henne and C. Hagan provided sponsor testimony for the bill's first hearing in committee.

### **Next Week's Committees**

#### **House State and Local Government Committee**

The House State and Local Government Shared Services and Efficiency Subcommittee will meet Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at 5:00pm in room 113 for the first hearing and sponsor testimony of the following three bills:

[House Bill 321](#) (Duffey, R- Worthington/ Hagan, C., R-Alliance), To create the DataOhio Board, and to specify requirements for posting public records online

[House Bill 322](#) (Duffey, R-Worthington/ Hagan, C., R-Alliance), to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices

[House Bill 323](#) (Duffey, R-Worthington/Hagan, C., R-Alliance), to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov

### **House Education Committee**

The House Education Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00pm in room 313 to hear the following bills:

[House Bill 58](#) (Gerberry, D- Austintown Twp.) would make changes the voting membership of the State Board of Education to consist of a member from each of several electoral districts with boundaries coinciding with the state's Congressional districts and a president to be appointed by the Governor if there is an even number of such electoral districts. -2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing-Proponent testimony

[House Bill 158](#) (Brenner, R-Powell/ Patmon, D-Cleveland) would authorize nonrefundable tax credits for donations to nonprofit entities providing scholarships to low-income students enrolling in nonpublic schools. – 4<sup>th</sup> hearing- All testimony

[House Bill 304](#) (Hayes, R-Harrison Twp.) regarding student access to public school facilities will have its first hearing and sponsor testimony is scheduled.

[House Bill 343](#) (Stebelton, R- Lancaster) regarding educational programs for certain students and individuals who have not received a high school diploma. -3<sup>rd</sup> Hearing-All testimony

### **Senate Education Committee**

The Senate Education Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00pm in the South Hearing room to hear the following bills:

[House Bill 111](#) (Duffey, R- Wothington/ Stinziano, D- Columbus) would allow for student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions. -1<sup>st</sup> Hearing-Sponsor testimony

[House Bill 342](#) (Brenner, R-Powell/ Driehaus, D-Cincinnati) would permit an educational service center to be a partner or the lead applicant of an education consortia seeking a grant under the Straight A Program and to modify the goals of projects supported by the program. -Informal hearing-Sponsor testimony

[Senate Bill 167](#) (Tavares, D- Columbus) With respect to school district policies for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior. -3<sup>rd</sup> Hearing-All testimony

### **Senate Commerce and Labor Committee**

The Senate Commerce and Labor Committee will meet Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 10:45am, in the North Hearing room for the 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing and all testimony on [Senate Bill 227](#) (Beagle, R-Tipp City) which designates the second Tuesday of April as "Ohio Internship and Co-Op Appreciation Day."

## **Federal Activity**

### **Congress Passes Fiscal Year 2014 Spending Bills**

This week, the House and Senate approved, in a bipartisan fashion, the fiscal year (FY) 2014 omnibus spending bill, H.R. 3547. The \$1 trillion spending bill was approved by the House 359-67 and the Senate 72-26. Negotiations on the omnibus spending bill began shortly after Congress approved a comprehensive budget deal back in late December 2013. The budget deal increased the caps/limits on discretionary spending to higher levels than what were required under the Budget Control Act, better known as sequester.

Overall, the omnibus spending bill provides funding for programs under the U.S. Department of Education at \$70.6 billion for FY14. Most education programs are increased compared to the FY13 funding levels (when the automatic reductions under sequestration began) but collectively the education programs are funded \$800 million below the pre-sequester FY12 levels. Some of the highlights of omnibus spending bill include:

<b>Program</b>	<b>FY12 Levels</b>	<b>FY13 Levels (including sequestration)</b>	<b>FY14 Levels</b>	<b>Difference FY14 to FY13</b>
Title I	14.52 billion	13.76 billion	14.38 billion	+625 million
School Improvement	534 million	506 million	506 million	0
State Assessments	389 million	369 million	378 million	+9.1 million
21 <sup>st</sup> Century	\$1.15 billion	\$1.09 billion	1.15 billion	+57.8 million
Race to the Top	549 million	520 million	250 million	-270 million
Teacher Quality	2.47 billion	2.34 billion	2.35 billion	+12 million
IDEA	11.58 billion	10.98 billion	11.47 billion	+498 million
IDEA preschool	373 million	353 million	353 million	0
Career Tech	1.12 billion	1.06 billion	1.12 billion	+53 million
Head Start	7.97 billion	\$7.57 billion	\$8.6 billion	+1.03 billion