



To: State Board of Education
Re: Legislative Update
Date: February 10, 2012

State Activity

House Activity

The House met on Wednesday and voted 62-35 to approve Senate Concurrent Resolution 11 (Lehner, R-Kettering) which approved the Department of Education's proposed graduation rate changes to the state accountability system.

Introduced Bills

[House Bill 444](#) (Henne, R-Clayton), to authorize a pilot program for school districts in Montgomery County to operate certain for-profit activities

House Education Committee

The committee held a first hearing on [House Bill 397](#) with Representative Antonio (D-Lakewood) offering sponsor testimony. The legislation would specify that school districts and chartered nonpublic schools may excuse from high school physical education students who play rugby in a school club.

The committee held a second hearing on [House Bill 381](#) (Slaby, R-Copley Township). This legislation would require a school district board, when it decides to dispose of real property, to offer the right of first refusal to a state university, having its main or a branch campus located within the district (prior to offering that property to community schools as required under current law). The following individuals offered proponent testimony:

- Dr. Luis Proenza, President of the University of Akron
- David James, Superintendent of Akron Public Schools

The committee held a second hearing on [House Bill 377](#) (Duffey, R-Worthington and Stinziano, D-Columbus). The legislation would grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions. The following individuals offered testimony:

- Katie Duff, University of Akron student trustee
- Joshua Westfall, OSU Undergraduate Student Government
- Vijay Gadepally, President of the OSU Graduate Student Body
- Alexandra Adams- OSU Undergraduate Student Government
- Daniel Moore- Kent State University
- Megan Conroy- Ohio State University

The committee held a third hearing on [House Bill 255](#) (Gonzales, R-Westerville). The legislation would require school districts and community schools to establish school breakfast programs in academic

emergency buildings and to make other changes regarding school breakfast programs. The following individuals offered testimony:

- Michael Romick, Noble Local Schools
- Philip Wagner, Superintendent of Licking Heights Local Schools
- Ginger Parson, Food Service Director of Licking Heights Local Schools
- Joshua Ashley, Clark County Schools
- Greg Stubbs, Marysville Exempted Village Schools
- Sue Owens, Ohio PTA
- Pat McKnight, Ohio Dietetic Association

Next Week's Committees

Senate Education Committee

The Senate Education Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 14th at 9:30 AM in the South Hearing Room of the Statehouse to hear the following bills:

[Senate Bill 230](#) (Sawyer, D-Akron), to create the Office of Regional Services and Accountability in the Department of Education—2nd hearing—proponent testimony

[Senate Bill 220](#) (Sawyer, D-Akron), to require a study of interdistrict open enrollment, and to repeal sections of the Revised Code effective July 1, 2015, to terminate interdistrict open enrollment on that date with the possibility of renewal following the General Assembly's examination of the study's findings—3rd hearing—all testimony

[Senate Bill 266](#) (Widener, R-Springfield, Sawyer, D-Akron), to grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions—4th hearing—all testimony

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 15th at 5:00 p.m. in Room 313 of the Statehouse to hear the following bills:

[House Bill 437](#) (Roegner, R-Hudson and Patmon, D-Cleveland), to increase the number of miles a school district board may authorize its motor vehicles for out-of-state travel—1st hearing—sponsor testimony

[House Bill 381](#) (Slaby, R-Akron), with respect to offering school district property to state universities—3rd hearing—opponent/interested party testimony

[House Bill 377](#) (Duffey, R-Worthington and Stinziano, D-Columbus), To grant student members of the boards of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions—3rd hearing—opponent/interested party testimony

Federal Activity

There is no federal activity to report for this week.