



To: State Board of Education
Re: Legislative Update
Date: March 14, 2014

State Activity

Introduced Bills

House Bill 472 (McClain, R-Springfield, by request) MBR Budget - To make operating and other appropriations and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.

House Bill 473 (Hayes, R-Harrison Twp.) To require school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and college-preparatory boarding schools to establish a limited public forum for student expression.

Signed by the Governor

[House Bill 342](#) (Brenner, R-Powell/ Drienhaus, D-Cincinnati) To permit an educational service center to be a partner or the lead applicant of an education consortium seeking a grant under the Straight A Program, to modify the goals of projects supported by the program, to make other changes regarding the operation of the program, and to declare an emergency.

Passed in the Senate

[House Bill 416](#) (Hill, R-Zanesville, Burkley, R- Paulding) to permit payment in fiscal year 2015 to school districts and STEM schools that exceed, by up to four days, the number of permitted 'calamity' days in fiscal year 2014 and to declare an emergency. Amendments on the floor changed from four to three calamity days and an additional permissive professional development day. The vote was 32-0.

Passed in the House

House Bill 107 (Baker, R-Westlake) to authorize the Development Services Agency to award grants to businesses that employ high school students in career exploration internships and to make an appropriation. The vote was 32-0.

[House Bill 416](#) (Hill, R-Zanesville, Burkley, R- Paulding) to permit payment in fiscal year 2015 to school districts and STEM schools that exceed, by up to four days, the number of permitted 'calamity' days in fiscal year 2014 and to declare an emergency. Amendments on the floor changed from four to three calamity days and an additional permissive professional development day. The vote was 87-5.

This Week's Committees

Conference Committee on House Bill 416

The Conference Committee met on Tuesday, March 11th to hear [House Bill 416](#) (Hill, R-Zanesville, Burkley, R- Paulding) to permit payment in fiscal year 2015 to school districts and STEM schools that exceed, by up to four days, the number of permitted 'calamity' days in fiscal year 2014 and to declare an emergency. Amendments on the floor changed from four to three calamity days and an additional permissive professional development day. It was favorably reported out of committee.

House State & Local Government: Shared Services & Government Efficiency Subcommittee

The Shared Services and Government Efficiency Subcommittee met for the 5th hearing of the DataOhio legislative package on Tuesday, February 25th. Testimony on the "DataOhio" legislative package came from Ohio Municipal League Executive Director, Sue Cave, who expressed concerns on the proposal. Nancy Reger, director of regional data and mapping for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), offered support for three of the four-bill package. Written support for the bill was offered by Matthew DeTemple, executive director of the Ohio Township Association and Ohio Society of CPAs.

The DataOhio Package includes the following pieces of legislation:

[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 Bill 324](#) (Duffey, R-Worthington), to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program and to make an appropriation.

Senate Finance Committee

The Senate Finance Committee met on Tuesday, February 25th. [House Bill 107](#) (Baker, R- Westlake) to create a grant program for businesses that employ high school students in career exploration internships. The bill was favorably reported out of committee with no additional testimony at its 5th hearing.

House Judiciary Committee

The House Judiciary Committee met on Wednesday, February 26th for the 3rd hearing of [House Bill 376](#) (Derickson, R-Oxford/ Patmon, D-Cleveland) to enact the Ohio Religious Freedom Restoration Act. The bill received no additional testimony and has been indefinitely postponed.

Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Service Committee

The Senate Medicaid, Health & Human Services Committee met on Wednesday, February 26th for the 3rd hearing of [House Bill 296](#) (Johnson, R-McDermott/ Duffey, R- Worthington) which would permit public

schools to procure epinephrine auto injectors in accordance with prescribed procedures and to exempt them from licensing requirements related to the possession of epinephrine auto injectors. No testimony was provided.

Senate Education Committee

The Senate Education Committee met Wednesday, February 26th to hear [Senate Bill 284](#) (Coley, R- Liberty Twp.) which provides additional calamity day relief for schools and declares an emergency. It was scheduled but not heard. Instead, the bill was amended into [House Bill 416](#) (Burkley, R-Paulding/Hill, R-Zanesville) which permits payment in fiscal year 2015 to school districts and STEM schools that exceed, by up to four days, the number of permitted 'calamity' days in fiscal year 2014 and to declare an emergency. The bill was favorably reported out of committee with a vote of 10-0. Testimony was heard from the sponsors of the bill, Representatives Hill and Burkley, as well as, Superintendent John Shue.

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee met on Wednesday, February 26th and heard the following bills:

[House Bill 228](#) (Brenner, R- Powell) would reform the system of funding elementary and secondary education. Proponent testimony at the bill's second hearing was provided by Olentangy Local Schools Superintendent, Wade Lucas and Steven Cuckler, an attorney whose children attend the Olentangy Local School District.

[House Bill 393](#) (Baker, R-Westlake) would require public high schools to publish annually a career decision guide in its newsletter or on its web site. Representatives Baker and Landis gave sponsor testimony.

[House Bill 413](#) (Stautberg, R-Cincinnati) would prohibit the administration of the assessments developed by the PARCC for the 2014-2015 school year and prohibit the renewal of the state's memorandum of understanding with the Partnership, and declare it an emergency. Representative Brenner presented proponent testimony on this bill.

The committee favorably reported [House Bill 362](#) (Scherer, R- Circleville/ Derickson, R- Oxford) which would authorize the STEM Committee to grant a designation of STEM school equivalent to a community school or chartered nonpublic school and to make other revisions to the law regarding STEM schools. Proponent testimony was given by Joshua Jennings, director of Global Impact STEM Academy in Springfield and Alison White, director of the Ohio STEM Learning Network - Akron Hub.

Also favorably reported out of committee without further testimony was [House Bill 367](#) (Driehaus, D-Cincinnati/ Sprague, R- Findlay) which requires the health curriculum of each school district to include instruction in prescription opioid abuse prevention.

Next Week's Committees

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee will meet Wednesday, March 19th at 9:30am in room 017 to hear the following bills:

House Bill 241 (Hagan, C., R-Alliance) To prohibit an employee of a public or nonpublic school or institution of higher education from engaging in sexual conduct with a minor who is enrolled in or attends that public or nonpublic school or who is enrolled in or attends that institution of higher education and is also enrolled in or attends a public or nonpublic school. -3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendment & vote

House Bill 449 (Gonzales, R-Westerville) With respect to residency status for certain veterans, spouses, and dependents at state institutions of higher education. -2nd Hearing-Proponent

House Bill 454 (Gonzales, R-Westerville) To expand and clarify the authority of a concealed handgun licensee to possess a handgun in a school safety zone. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

House Bill 460 (Brenner, R-Powell/ Driehaus, D- Cincinnati) To authorize school districts and community schools to initiate a community learning process to assist and guide school restructuring. --1st Hearing-Sponsor

Federal Activity

There is no federal update this week.