



To: State Board of Education
Re: Legislative Update
Date: February 15, 2013

State Activity

Introduced Bills

- [Senate Joint Resolution 2](#) (Sawyer, D-Akron), to require and fund a high quality education for each student enrolled in a public school
- [Senate Bill 3](#) (LaRose, R-Copley Township), to reform rule-making and rule-review procedures and regulatory processes
- [Senate Bill 6](#) (Schaffer, R-Lancaster), to establish education programs and continuing education requirements for the fiscal officers of townships and municipal corporations, to establish procedures for removing those fiscal officers, county treasurers, and county auditors from office and to create fiscal accountability requirements for public schools, counties, municipal corporations and townships
- [Senate Bill 11](#) (Brown, D-Cleveland), to require school districts to allow alternative summer meal sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions, to allow the distribution and consumption of meals on a school bus, and to create a healthy food license for child day-care centers and school child programs
- [Senate Bill 15](#) (Sawyer, D-Akron), to prescribe a system and timeline for the General Assembly to deliberate and determine the components and cost of a high quality public primary and secondary education, to make property tax law changes to fund a high quality public primary and secondary education, and to provide that the provisions of this act take effect only after being approved by the electors
- [Senate Bill 21](#) (Lehner, R-Kettering), to revise the requirements for reading teachers under the third grade reading guarantee
- [Senate Bill 31](#) (Schaffer, R-Lancaster), to allow a credit against the personal income tax for amounts spent by teacher for instructional material
- [Senate Bill 35](#) (Jordan, R-Powell), to eliminate the ability to conduct special elections in February and August
- [House Bill 58](#) (Gerberry, D-Austintown), to 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 appointed by the Governor if there is an even number of such electoral districts
- [House Bill 59](#) (Amstutz, R-Wooster), to make appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2015; to provide authorization and conditions for the operations of state programs
- [Senate Bill 42](#) (Manning, R-North Ridgeville/ Gardner, R-Bowling Green), to authorize school districts to levy a property tax exclusively for school safety and security purposes

FY14-15 Biennial Budget

Please note that we are working on a detailed summary of HB 59, the biennial budget bill, and hope to have that to you by next Friday.

This Week's Committees

House Finance and Appropriations Committee

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, February 13 and heard testimony on the education provisions of House Bill 59 (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget. The following individuals offered testimony:

- Dick Ross, Director, Governor's Office of 21st Century Education
- Barbara Mattei-Smith, Assistant Policy Director, Governor's Office of 21st Century Education
- Michael Sawyers, Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Education

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee met on Wednesday and heard a presentation from Auditor Yost regarding his findings pertaining to the school attendance investigation.

Joint Meeting of the Senate Education, Public Safety, Local Government and Veteran's Affairs Committees

The joint committee met on Tuesday and held a hearing on school safety with a focus on prevention and mental health issues. The following individuals offered testimony:

- Dr. Mark Hurst, Medical Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health
- Michael Woody, President at CIT International and former Lieutenant and Director of Training for the Akron Policy Department
- Ann Brennan, Executive Director of the Ohio School Psychologists Association
- Chuck Archer, Ohio School Psychologists Associations' Legislative Policy Chair
- Brenda Rinkes, National Association of Social Workers- Ohio Chapter and the Ohio School Social Work Association
- Sarah Collins, Ohio School Counselors Association
- Darold Johnson, Ohio Federation of Teachers

Next Week's Committees

House Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee

The House Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee will meet on Wednesday, February 20 at 5:00 pm in Room 017 of the Statehouse and hear testimony the budget from the following:

- Commission on Volunteerism
- Dental Board
- Hispanic and Latino Affairs Commission
- Manufactured Homes Commission
- Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Athletic Trainers Board
- Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedortics

The House Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee will also meet on Thursday, February 21 at 8:30 am in Room 017 of the Statehouse to hear testimony on the budget from the following:

- Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Board
- Ohio Facilities Construction Commission
- School for the Deaf
- School for the Blind

- Casino Commission
- Lottery Commission

Federal Activity

President Announces Education Reforms in State of the Union Address

President Obama delivered his State of the Union Address calling for preschool expansion for 4 years old from moderate- and low-income families along with a new Race to the Top program focused on high school redesign to better coincide with industry needs. The preschool expansion proposal would include incentives for states that offer full-day kindergarten and grow their other early-childhood education offerings. On the flip side, the high school redesign proposal would seek to expand challenging coursework in high-need areas such as computer science, engineering, and technology as well as expand opportunities for career internships through partnerships with colleges and employers. Important to note, there was no mention of reauthorizing ESEA in the President's address.

House Education and the Workforce Subcommittee Holds Hearing on Education Innovation

On February 14, the House Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education held a hearing entitled *Raising the Bar: How Education Innovation Can Improve Student Achievement*. The archived webcast and witness testimonies may be accessed [here](#).

Senate Appropriations Committee Holds Hearing on Impact of Sequester

On February 14, the Senate Appropriations Committee held a hearing on the impact of the automatic spending reductions required by sequestration on domestic programs. Copies of the witness testimonies and committee member statements may be accessed [here](#). Testimony was provided by several agency secretaries including US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. In related news, recently, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a report entitled the Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2013 to 2023. The report may be accessed [here](#). In the report, the CBO estimates the pending sequester will require cuts of 5.3% for FY13 to non-defense discretionary programs.