

Legislative Update

To: State Board of Education

Re: Legislative Update Date: March 15, 2013

State Activity

Introduced Bills

<u>Senate Bill 71</u> (Tavares, D-Columbus), to double the fine for a speeding violation that occurs in a school zone during restricted hours

<u>House Bill 96</u> (Strahorn, D-Dayton), to eliminate an exemption from the Public Employee's Collective Bargaining Law for specified educational employees

House Bill 97 (Brenner, R-Powell), to designate October as "Dyslexia Awareness Month"

This Week's Committees

House Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee

The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee met on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and heard testimony on House Bill 59 (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget, from the following witnesses.

- Paul Craft, Delaware City Schools
- Brent May, Plain Local School District
- Tim Saxton, Brookfield Local Schools
- Jay Arbaugh, Keystone Local Schools
- Felicia Drummey, Big Walnut Schools Treasurer
- Aimee Horton, Gilead Christian School
- Jessica Ramos- Hispanic Latino Affairs Commission
- Christi Smith
- Bruce Hawkins, Management Council of the Ohio Education Computer Network
- Rachel Winters, Ohio Association of Gifted Children
- Faith Denslow, Sandusky City School Board
- Karen Lampe, Creative World of Child Care, Inc.
- Kimberly Moyer, West Muskingum Local Schools
- Thomas Perkins, Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools
- Eric Karolak, Action for Children
- Thomas Gibbs, Fort Frye and Warren Local Schools
- Greg Ring, ESC of Lorain County
- Mark Murphy, Tuscarawas Valley Local Schools
- Mark Neal, Tri-Valley Local Schools
- Steve Dackin, Reynoldsburg City Schools
- Thomas Tucker, Lorain City Schools
- Lou Salza, Lawrence School
- Shelly Weisbacher, Springer School
- Robert Kubick, Jr., Ohio School Psychologists Association

- Terry Bendo, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Dale DeLong, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Brian Hill, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Bonnie Horowitz, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Erich Merkle, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Amanda Tandy, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Jeffrey York, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Chris Sweeney, Akron Public Schools- School Psychologist
- Suzanne Allen, Philanthropy Ohio
- Lisa Gray, Philanthropy Ohio
- Ariana Ulloa-Olavarrieta, Latino Small Business Development Center
- Rafi Rodriguez, Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
- Earl Oremus, Marburn Academy
- Cassaundra Crawford, Parent of a student with special needs
- Chris Pfister, Waynesfield-Goshen Local School District
- Ann Brennan, Ohio School Psychologists Association
- Nina Andrews, Logan Hocking School District- School Psychologist
- Gail Gallwitz, Coshocton City Schools- School Psychologist
- Debra Buck, State Support Team Region 16- Lead Special Education Consultant
- Robert Hancock, Hamilton City School District Treasurer
- Mario Basora, Yellow Springs Schools
- Dr. Elaine Schulte, Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital
- Dr. Andrew Hill, Waterloo Local School District
- David Branch, Muskingum Valley ESC
- Ed Bischoff, ESC of Central Ohio
- Mike Hebenthal, Centerburg Local Schools
- John Scheu, Sidney City Schools
- Cathy Ruiz, Parent Mentor/ Western Buckeye ESC
- John Yi, Parent Revolution
- Albert Haberstroh, Trumbull County ESC
- Bonny Buffington, Knox ESC
- Robert Mecum, Lighthouse Youth Services
- Holli Stevenson, Parent of EdChoice student
- Michael Stevenson, EdChoice student
- Helen Kane, Parent of student in Wyoming City Schools
- Isabel Bozada, Student studying early childhood education at the Ohio State University
- Torey Stroud, Student studying education at the Ohio State University
- Yow Feng, Students for Education Reform at the Ohio State University
- Lorena Mora-Mowry, Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
- Dr. Yung-Chen Lu, Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
- Jon Gubera, College Board
- Ralph Shell, Clermont Northeastern Schools
- Melanie Elsey, American Policy Roundtable
- Rich Evans, Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools- Human Resources Director
- Bruce Bradley, North Royalton City Schools- Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- Ron Sexton, Wilmington City Schools
- Charla Evans, Gallia County Local Schools
- Denise Abboud, Administrator in a school district in Cuyahoga County

- Nick Torres, Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
- Michael Ferrer, Coalition for Hispanic/Latino Issues and Progress
- Lourdes Ribera, League of United Latin American Citizens
- Bobbie Medina, Parent of a charter school students

Senate Safety Panel

The Senate Safety Panel met and held a hearing on school safety focused on security, school infrastructure, law enforcement response, training and protection. The following individuals testified:

- Dr. Richard Caster, Senior Board Services Consultant for the Ohio School Boards Association
- Jeffrey Pedicino, Executive Director, Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association
- Steven Farnsworth, Superintendent of Hudson City Schools
- Melanie Drerup, K-12 Planning Manager for OSFC
- Rick Amweg, Director of Campus Safety and Security, Board of Regents

Next Week's Committees

Senate Ways and Means Committee

The Senate Ways and Means Committee will be meeting on Tuesday at 10:00 am in the South Hearing Room to hold a hearing on the following bill:

• <u>Senate Bill 42</u> (Manning, R-North Ridgeville), to authorize school districts to levy a property tax exclusively for school safety and security purposes- 3rd hearing- all testimony- possible vote

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee will be meeting on Wednesday at 4:00 pm in Room 121 of the Statehouse and will address following items of business:

- <u>Senate Bill 21</u> (Lehner, R-Kettering), to revise the requirements for reading teachers under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee and to declare an emergency- 1st hearing- sponsor testimony
- A presentation from Tina Thomas-Manning regarding the 2012-2013 report card

House Finance and Appropriations Committee

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee will be meeting on Thursday at 9:00 am in Room 313 of the Statehouse to hear public testimony on the education provisions in House Bill 59 (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget.

Federal Activity

Senate Preparing to Vote on CR to Fund FFY13

It is expected that the Senate will approve, possibly Friday or over the weekend, a continuing resolution (CR) to fund government operations for the remaining six months of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2013. The FFY13 began October 1, 2012 and a CR has extended funding government operations through March 27, 2013. It is likely that the Senate CR will not include amendments to address the sequester reductions to non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending. In other words, the Senate CR likely will allow the sequester reductions to NDD spending, including education programs, to continue for the remainder of FFY13. Last week, the House approved its version of the FY13 CR, HR 933. HR 933 keeps the level of funding for NDD at essentially the FFY12 levels and subjects NDD programs to sequester reductions. According to the Office of Management and Budget, the sequester will reduce NDD programs, including education, by five percent.

FFY14 Budget News

At the same time Congress is trying to complete the delayed federal fiscal year (FFY) 2013 spending bills, both the House and Senate are planning to approve budget resolutions for FFY 2014. The FFY 2014 begins October 1, 2013 and budget resolutions (which are non-binding spending and tax plans) are supposed to be approved by April 15. The President is supposed to release a budget plan the first Monday of February but the Obama Administration is not expected to release a budget plan for FFY 2014 until April 8. On Thursday, the Senate Budget Committee approved its first budget resolution in 4 years, by a vote of 12-10. The House is expected to vote on its FFY 2014 budget resolution next week.