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**State Board
of Education**

Legislative Update

To: State Board of Education
Re: Legislative Update
Date: May 24, 2013

State Activity

Senate Activity

On Wednesday, the Senate concurred with the House changes to [Senate Bill 21](#) (Lehner, R-Kettering), to revise the requirements for reading teachers under the third grade reading guarantee by a vote of 33-0.

Introduced Bills

[House Bill 171](#) (McClain, R- Upper Sandusky), to permit public school students to attend and receive credit for released time courses in religious instruction conducted off school property during regular school hours

This Week's Committees

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee met on Tuesday and held a hearing on [House Bill 167](#), to authorize certain school districts to create the Office of Independent Auditor, share levy revenue with partnering community schools and permit the mayor of qualifying cities to sponsor community schools with Representative Grossman (R-Grove City) and Representative Heard (D-Columbus) offering sponsor testimony. The following individuals offered proponent testimony:

- Michael Coleman, Mayor of the City of Columbus
- E. Gordon Gee, President of The Ohio State University
- Alex Fischer, President and CEO of the Columbus Partnership
- Rhonda Johnson, President of the Columbus Education Association

The House Education Committee met again on Thursday and heard testimony on [House Bill 167](#) from the following proponents:

- Lolita Augenstein, President of the Columbus Council of PTAs
- Michael Dalby, President and CEO of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce
- Andrew Boy, Executive Director of the United Schools Network

Senate Finance Committee

The Senate Finance Committee met on Wednesday and heard reports from the subcommittee chairs on the testimony they received over the last few weeks. The committee met again on Thursday and heard public testimony on [House Bill 59](#). The following individuals offered testimony on the education provisions of the bill:

- Terry Groden, North Olmsted Board of Education
- Barbara Shaner, Ohio Association of School Business Officials
- Damon Asbury, Ohio School Business Officials
- Kirk Hamilton, Buckeye Association of School Administrators

Next Week's Committees

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, May 28 at 5:00 pm in Room 121 to hear the following:

- [House Bill 158](#) (Brenner, R-Powell/ Patmon, D-Cleveland), to authorize nonrefundable tax credits for donations to nonprofit entities providing scholarships to low-income students enrolling in nonpublic schools- 1st hearing- sponsor testimony
- [House Bill 167](#) (Heard, D-Columbus/ Grossman, R-Grove City), to authorize certain school districts to create the Office of Independent Auditor, share levy revenue with partnering community schools and permit the mayor of qualifying cities to sponsor community schools- 3rd hearing- all testimony- possible amendments- possible vote

Senate Finance Committee

The Senate Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, May 28 at 2:30 pm in the Finance Hearing Room to accept a substitute version of [House Bill 59](#) (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget, and hear public testimony on general government issues.

The Senate Finance Committee will meet again on Wednesday, May 29 at 9:00 am in the Finance Hearing Room to hold a hearing on [House Bill 59](#) (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget. The committee will hear public testimony on Medicaid, health and human services issues in the morning and education issues in the afternoon.

The Senate Finance Committee will meet again on Thursday, May 30 at 9:00 am in the Finance Hearing Room to hold a hearing on [House Bill 59](#) (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget. The committee will hear public testimony on taxation issues in the morning and education issues in the afternoon.

The Senate Finance Committee will meet again on Friday, May 31 at 9:00 am in the Finance Hearing Room to hear public testimony on [House Bill 59](#) (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the biennial budget.

House Ways and Means Committee

The House Ways and Means Committee will be meeting on Wednesday at 3:00 pm in Room 116 to hear the following bill:

- [Senate Bill 42](#) (Manning, R-North Ridgeville), to authorize school districts to levy a property tax exclusively for school safety and security purposes- 1st hearing- sponsor testimony

Federal Activity

There is no federal activity to report.

