



# Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

## Monthly Legislative Update

November 2021



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

**Joseph Garrity**  
Director of Government Affairs  
+ Community Relations  
(614) 233-4127  
jgarrity@morpc.org

## What's Happening

### *US House Passes Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill*

Late on Friday, by a vote of 228-206, the US House of Representatives passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. This bill will have a transformative impact to MORPC and communities across our region.

Please find a few critical funding provisions in the bill below:

- **Roads, bridges and major projects:** \$110 billion in new money, including a \$37 billion new bridge repair and replacement program;
- **Passenger and freight rail:** \$66 billion in new money for the Northeast Corridor and Expanding Amtrak's National Network, including \$3 billion to improve safety at rail crossings
- **Safety:** \$11 billion for highway and pedestrian safety programs, plus pipeline safety;
- **Transit:** \$39 billion in the infrastructure bill
- **Broadband:** \$65 billion, which will help make connected cars communicate with each other, among other major goals;
- **Airports:** \$25 billion, including an increase for grants for airport capital projects and a new airport terminal improvement program

### *State Announces Recipients of Water and Sewer Grants*

The enactment of HB 168 (Frazier-Loychik) at the end of June created the \$250 million Water and Sewer Quality Program, also called the Ohio BUILDS initiative, to award grants from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to political subdivisions for water and sewer quality projects.

Following evaluation of applications submitted to the Ohio Department of Development, Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted have announced two rounds of winners of these water infrastructure grant awards. The first round in October resulting in a total of \$93 million to 54 projects for communities located in 60 counties. The second round in early November included the announcement of 28 additional projects to receive nearly \$44 million. With \$137 million of the \$250 million appropriation being awarded to projects in all 88 counties, there is approximately \$113 million left to be awarded by the state.

The Ohio BULDS funds, which stands for the Ohio Broadband, Utilities and Infrastructure for Local Development Success, will help reduce or eliminate the burden on local governments for constructing new water systems, replacing aging lines and installing new water mains. The funds will also be used to improve sewer systems.



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION



KEGLER  
BROWN  
HILL  
+  
RITTER

# What's Happening

Among the winners of these grants were the following communities:

- **Lancaster** (Fairfield County) will receive a \$950,000 grant to install approximately 1,380 linear feet of water main, of which 342 linear feet is located under U.S. 33. The project will also install three fire hydrants and subsequent piping and valves. The project will provide an additional connection to the Mount Zion water tank and a reliable connection for improved fire flows to areas west of US 33. The project will benefit 40,159 people.
- **Plain City** (Madison and Union counties) will receive a \$250,000 grant for the installation of a 10-inch waterline to create redundancy in the village's water distribution system. Currently, there is one 10-inch line and one 4-inch line coming from the water plant. If the existing 10-inch line were to fail, a substantial section of the village would lose water pressure, creating a public health hazard and reduced water quality for schools, residents, assisted living residences, and businesses in the area. This project will benefit 4,922 people.
- **Jeffersonville** (Fayette County) will receive a \$71,000 grant to replace the existing deficient ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system with a new UV system. The project will benefit 1,203 people.
- **Upper Arlington** (Franklin County) will receive a \$703,280 grant for the city's Sustainable Sewer Solutions plan. The plan will help prevent rainwater from getting into the sanitary sewer pipes and repair 55% of the city's sanitary mainlines. The project will benefit 200 people.
- **Pataskala** (Licking County) will receive a \$250,000 grant to reduce inflow and infiltration entering older portions of the sanitary sewer system by using slip lining in the existing sanitary mains. The project will help to eliminate sanitary overflow and water-in-basement incidents and allow additional residents to be served by the centralized sewer system. The project will benefit 165 people.
- **Russells Point Village** (Logan County) will receive a \$100,000 grant for the planning and engineering design of a project that will replace a stormwater sewer system which is deteriorated and non-functional, causing inflow and infiltration to the Logan County Sanitary Sewer System. The project will benefit 1,196 people.
- **Morrall** (Marion County) will receive a \$5 million grant to create a new sewer system in the main portion of the village that will serve homes that currently have failing household sewage treatment systems. The project will benefit 354 people.
- **Crooksville** (Perry County) will receive a \$1.87 million grant to replace two main critical lift stations within the village's sanitary sewer system that provide basic sanitary sewer service to area residents. Both stations are experiencing severe corrosion and infiltration and are near the end of their useful lives. The project will benefit 2,534 people.
- **Del-Co Water Company, Inc.** (Knox County) will receive a \$419,002 grant to replace a waterline in Centerburg. Del-Co Water Co., Inc. took over the existing water distribution system in the village of Centerburg in 2018. The village's current water system is in dire need of improvements and repairs to provide potable water to their residents and allow for future expansion. Del-Co is now in the process of replacing the aging infrastructure, including the current waterlines along South Hartford Road, Landrum Avenue, and Dalley Streets. This project will benefit 2,226 people.
- **Del-Co Water Company, Inc.** (Morrow County) will receive a \$186,391 grant to replace waterlines in the village of Edison. Del-Co Water Co., Inc. took over the existing water distribution system in the village of Edison and is now in the process of replacing the aging infrastructure, which is predominantly old cast and ductile iron and consistently failing. Del-Co is preparing to replace the current waterlines along North Boundary Street as well as the valves on the current distribution system. This project will benefit 491 people.
- **Delaware County Board of Commissioners** will receive a \$5 million grant for the Olentangy Environmental Control Center Headworks and Aeration Upgrades project. This project will provide a new headworks pump station, screening building, and aeration system improvements to optimize the biological process. Additional items include replacing the existing tertiary filters, improving solids handling, and retrofitting existing tanks that will mitigate the negative effects of high flow events. This project will benefit 45,600 people.
- **Logan** (Hocking County) will receive a \$250,000 grant to cover the planning and engineering design for a project that will replace 20,000 linear feet of sewer line, 1700 linear feet of storm sewer lines, 68 manholes, add 300 service connections, and five new catch basins. The city completed an extensive infiltration and inflow study after Ohio EPA issued a schedule of compliance to the sewer system serving. This project addresses the highest-priority areas identified in the study. This project benefits 7,020 people.

# What's Happening

---

- **Ashville** (Pickaway County) will receive a \$250,000 grant to cover the planning and engineering design for a sanitary sewer replacement project. The proposed improvements north of Church Street include replacing the aged sanitary sewer lines, providing an adequate storm sewer system, and to separate roof drains, sump pumps, and sanitary services. This project will benefit 4,500 people.
- **Chillicothe** (Ross County) will receive a \$5 million grant to make needed repairs, update wastewater treatment capabilities to prepare for economic growth and address upcoming Ohio EPA regulatory requirements to reduce phosphorus discharges. The majority of the equipment at the Chillicothe Wastewater Treatment Plant is 35 years old and has reached the end of its useful life. Major renovations will include replacing most of the mechanical and electrical equipment, changing the biosolids digestion process to aerobic digestion process, and adding phosphorus removal. This project will benefit 22,000 people.

## Top News

---

### *Cities*

Remote work, or work-from-home (WFH), will have “significant impacts” on the tax revenue of major Ohio cities as it continues after the pandemic, according to a report released by the Ohio Mayors Alliance (OMA). The report from financial management consultant PFM estimated that a third of the workforce could be remote, based on economic data in a cross section of 10 cities. The fiscal effects for the 10 major cities are projected to range from 6 to 17 percent in lost municipal income tax revenue from the general fund, with the report giving high, medium and low projections for each. Dayton could lose the most at 17 percent, followed by Fairfield, 15 percent; Elyria, 14 percent; and Cincinnati, Columbus and Kettering at 12 percent.

### *Coronavirus*

The House Health Committee passed HB435 (Carfagna-Seitz) on its first hearing, and it was scheduled for a floor vote, but after a 90-minute session delay for caucus deliberations, Republicans instead sent it back to the House Rules and Reference Committee. The bill only allows mandates for vaccines with full FDA approval, rather than emergency use authorization, and requires that employers and schools offer exemptions for medical reasons, natural immunity derived from a past infection with COVID-19, or reasons of conscience, including religious beliefs. The latter exemption simply requires a written statement from the individual seeking it. The bill includes a few exceptions, including for those working in children's hospitals, where the majority of patients cannot be vaccinated for lack of an approved product for the under those under the age of 12.

Speaker Bob Cupp (R-Lima) ordered House Health Committee Chairman Scott Lipps (R-Franklin) to reverse course on plans to bring stringent restrictions on vaccination mandates up for a committee vote next week. Cupp had tried to push vaccination mandate debates to the side, saying lack of consensus on his leadership team's compromise measure, HB435 (Carfagna-Seitz), meant the House would be “moving on” to other topics. However, around mid-day Thursday, Lipps' office put out notice of a committee meeting Tuesday, Oct. 19, including plans for amendments and a vote on HB248, a measure from Rep. Jennifer Gross (R-West Chester) that would institute broader restrictions on vaccination mandates, beyond just those for COVID-19. Several hours later, both Cupp and Lipps sent out a letter the speaker sent to the chairman. “You are hereby directed to immediately cancel the Health Committee currently scheduled for Oct. 19, 2021. Upon receipt of this letter, please notify the members of the committee of the cancellation,” Cupp wrote. Lipps complied.

Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff and colleagues implored parents to get their children vaccinated during a briefing after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) signed off on the COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11. Vanderhoff said a large portion of the more than 367,000 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19

pediatric vaccine formulation expected to arrive in Ohio over the coming days are already available and can immediately be administered to children in this age group. The doses are set to arrive in the state on a staggered schedule over the coming days during the first week of vaccine administration, including 252,300 ordered through the state's allocation and 115,200 ordered by pharmacies through the federal retail pharmacy program. Additional doses will continue to be delivered to providers in Ohio on a regular basis moving forward. Vanderhoff also announced the official expansion of the Vax-2-School program for those ages 5 to 25. The program will award \$2 million in scholarships to eligible Ohioans, and prizes include 150, \$10,000 scholarships, and five, \$100,000 grand prize scholarships. The program has a series of registration deadlines; to be eligible for all prize drawings, Ohioans should register as soon as the first dose of the vaccine has been administered, ideally by the initial registration deadline of Sunday, Nov. 21. The deadlines are as follows:

- Sunday, Nov. 21, 11:59 p.m. -- eligible for all drawings.
- Sunday, Nov. 28, 11:59 p.m. -- eligible for the second drawing (75, \$10,000 winners)
- Wednesday, Dec. 1, 11:59 p.m. -- eligible for the grand prize drawing.

## ***Elections 2021***

Cuyahoga County Councilwoman Shontel Brown and lobbyist Mike Carey easily won special elections for the 11th and 15th Congressional Districts. Brown had more than 80 percent of the vote over Republican Laverne Gore early on, and her margin remained around that number for the rest of the evening. Meanwhile, Carey easily defeated Democrat Allison Russo in the 15th Congressional District. He never trailed from the first results and his lead grew over the evening. Of the 12 counties in the district, Russo only won Franklin County. This race had received more attention nationally, with former Vice President Mike Pence and U.S. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy visiting the district to stump for Carey. Former President Donald Trump also endorsed Carey and had touted his candidacy throughout the election. Russo, who had slightly outlasted Carey in the most recent filing, was endorsed by President Joe Biden this week.

## ***Elections 2022***

Mayor of Cincinnati and candidate for the Democratic nomination for Ohio governor John Cranley told reporters how he would reform the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO), pledging to fire all five commission members if he were elected next year.

## ***Environment***

Gov. Mike DeWine and Ohio EPA Director Laurie A. Stevenson announced that \$3.7 million in H2Ohio grants will go to several local communities to help improve drinking water quality and to repair or replace aging water and wastewater infrastructure.

The Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) awarded \$1.7 million in low interest loans to three Ohio communities to improve wastewater and drinking water infrastructure and to make water quality improvements. The three projects received an interest rate ranging from 1.51 percent to 1.73 percent. For October, the following Ohio communities receiving funding from OWDA's Fresh Water Loan Program:

- The city of London in Madison County is receiving \$827,888.00 at 1.73 percent for five years for the design of 20,000 feet of sanitary sewer, a new lift station, and upgrades to the Sharp Avenue lift station to facilitate further development and growth within the northeast corner of the city.
- Northwestern Water & Sewer District is receiving \$552,736.52 at 1.51 percent for 20 years for the construction of 1,600 feet of waterline along Wales Road in Wood County to replace aging waterlines.
- The city of Rittman in Wayne County is receiving \$375,049.00 at 1.70 percent for 30 years for the construction of 2,000 feet of waterline along Grant, Seneca, and South State streets to replace aging waterline.

# Top News

---

## *General Assembly/Statehouse*

Latyna Humphrey will represent the 26th House District, House Democrats announced. Following the recommendation of a screening panel chaired by Rep. Dan Troy (D-Willowick), the caucus voted to appoint Humphrey to fill the vacancy left by former Rep. Erica Crawley (D-Columbus) when she resigned to become a Franklin County commissioner. Humphrey, currently serving as bailiff at the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, is expected to take the oath of office in the coming weeks.

Representatives of environmental organizations and American Electric Power (AEP) of Ohio urged members of the House Public Utilities Committee to support bipartisan energy efficiency bill HB389 (Leland-Seitz). Environmental Law and Policy Center (ELPC) senior attorney Robert Kelter thanked House Majority Floor Leader Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati), Rep. David Leland (D-Columbus) and House Public Utilities Committee Chair Jim Hoops (R-Napoleon) for their efforts in crafting the legislation.

The House Journal included committee assignments for newly appointed Rep. Latyna Humphrey (D-Columbus). Humphrey replaces Rep. Catherine Ingram (D-Cincinnati) on the House Financial Institutions Committee; Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington) on the House State and Local Government Committee; and she has also been appointed to the House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Committee. Additionally, Rep. Paula Hicks-Hudson (D-Toledo) will replace Rep. Bride Sweeney (D-Cleveland) as Ranking Member on the House Government Oversight Committee.

## *Health And Human Services*

A study released recently on state vaccination rates -- including but not limited to COVID-19 -- by personal finance site WalletHub found Ohio was 33rd nationally and fourth among its neighbors. The study used 17 metrics and had three subrankings, with Ohio 28th in adult and elderly vaccination rates, 33rd in "immunization uptake disparities and influencing factors" and 41st in children and teenager immunization rates. Neighboring states ranked as follows: Pennsylvania, 13th; West Virginia, 21st; Kentucky, 28th; Michigan, 34th; and Indiana, 38th. The top five were Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and North Dakota. Those ranked lowest included Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Georgia and Mississippi.

## *Housing/Homelessness*

The Ohio Department of Development (DOD) and Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) recently reminded Ohioans facing foreclosure, eviction or utility shut offs that they can receive assistance through state programs. The Home Relief Grant includes rent, mortgage and utility assistance, and the Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis program provides funds for electric utility bills, central air conditioning repairs and air conditioning unit and/or fan purchases. Ohioans should contact local community action agencies to apply.

A collection of organizations focused on housing, finance, health and human services is urging Gov. Mike DeWine and the General Assembly to dedicate nearly \$400 million of the state's \$5 billion-plus in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) COVID relief money to address affordable housing needs. "The recent economic upheaval, combined with rapidly increasing housing costs, have put many of our neighbors in precarious circumstances. Even before the pandemic, nearly 400,000 Ohio households were spending over half their income on rent, and that number has surely increased during the past year and a half," states a letter signed by 181 organizations including the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO), Ohio Bankers' League, Ohio Credit Union League, Ohio Council of Churches, Nationwide Children's Hospital, multiple Medicaid managed care plans and numerous local entities.

Ohio home sales are 6.1 percent higher so far this year than they were through the first three quarters of 2020, according to Ohio Realtors. Sales for the first nine months of 2021 reached 124,802, versus 117,642 for the same period in 2020. The average sales price of \$239,608 represents a 13.9 percent increase from the \$210,451 seen in the first three quarters of last year.

# Top News

---

## **Local Government**

Gov. Mike DeWine, Lt. Gov. Jon Husted and other top Ohio officials traveled the state, promoting the first round of water infrastructure grant awards in the “Ohio BUILDS” initiative. A total of \$93 million will be provided to 54 projects benefiting communities in 60 counties. The rest of the \$250 million total awards will be announced later. The funds will help reduce or eliminate the burden on local governments for constructing new water systems, replacing aging lines and installing new water mains. They can also be used to improve sewer systems.

Legislation to extend Community Reinvestment Areas (CRAs) to limited home rule townships is moving its way through the legislature.

House Bill 123, sponsored by Rep. Mark Fraizer (R-Newark) and Rep. Jon Cross (R-Kenton), said they introduced the bill because existing law governing CRAs has an “overly bureaucratic nature” and the legislation attempts to address that in order to vastly improve the investment opportunities for these zones.

A CRA is a primary economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions for property owners who renovate existing property or construct new buildings within a designated zone. Property owners operating within CRAs can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements with appropriate legislative authorization and agreements with local authorities and property owners. The program is delineated into two distinct categories, those created prior to July 1994 (“pre-1994”) and those created after the law changes went into effect after July 1994 (post-1994).

The bill already passed out of the House in May by a 57-36 vote and is now pending before the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Prior to the House vote, a substitute bill was accepted in committee that allows limited home rule townships to use CRAs.

Marisa Myers, director of governmental affairs at the Ohio Township Association (OTA), testified as a proponent regarding the ability of limited home rule townships to use CRAs through the sub bill changes. Myers acknowledged that existing law only allows county and municipal corporations to approve a CRA and while the OTA believes that all townships should have access, she appreciated the substitute bill including the change for limited home rule townships to have CRA authority.

Under the Ohio Revised Code limited home rule townships must have a population of at least 2,500 in the unincorporated area of the township. Statutory townships are only able to exercise powers expressly granted under the Revised Code, while limited home rule townships organized under Chapter 504 are able to enact any legislation not specifically prohibited.

Limited home rule has been an option for townships for almost 30 years. There are currently 34 townships in Ohio that have adopted the limit home rule form of government and could benefit from the passage of HB 123.

## **Public Safety**

Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Col. Richard S. Fambro joined Ohio Traffic Safety Office Director Felice Moretti to launch a new educational program for youth -- DRIVE to Live -- and to encourage parents to discuss the importance of driving safety with their young drivers. DRIVE to Live is a new educational program intended “to positively impact our youth and engage in conversations about good decision making.” It is geared to meeting teens where they are and building relationships between students and those in public safety. To schedule a presentation, call 614-752-2792 or email [oshp@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:oshp@dps.ohio.gov).

# Top News

---

## ***Redistricting/Reapportionment***

The Ohio Supreme Court now has three lawsuits challenging the new maps for the Ohio House and Senate after three Ohio civic groups and six individuals announced they had filed a challenge with the Court. The Ohio Redistricting Commission adopted new maps along party lines very early on Thursday, Sept. 16, which would limit the new General Assembly district lines to four years. However, all three lawsuits are seeking to have the Court order new maps to be drawn. Monday's lawsuit, Ohio Organizing Collaborative v. Ohio Redistricting Commission, which includes the Ohio Organizing Collaborative, the Ohio Environmental Council, and the Council on American-Islamic Relations Ohio (CAIR), argues that the new maps violate the prohibition against partisan gerrymandering and voters' equal protection and associational rights under the Ohio Constitution. The groups are being represented by the Brennan Center for Justice and attorney Reed Smith. The lawsuit follows ones filed by the ACLU of Ohio and the National Democratic Redistricting Committee in *Bennett v. Ohio Redistricting Commission*. This latter is the NDRC National Redistricting Action Fund's (NRAF) first legal challenge to a map drawn as part of the 2021 redistricting process in the U.S. Don McTigue of McTigue and Colombo LLC is the counsel of record.

The newly unveiled congressional map proposed in HB479 was criticized roundly by witnesses at the House Government Oversight Committee. They called it unrepresentative of Ohio's political leanings and said it unnecessarily carves up urban areas to pair them with far flung counties, among other characterizations. Witnesses also decried the process for considering maps, noting testimony for the hearing was technically due before the maps were unveiled at the prior hearing.

## ***Telecommunications***

Lt. Gov. Jon Husted announced that the state will accept Broadband and 5G Sector Partnership grant applications starting Monday, Oct. 25 through Friday, Dec. 17, with the award announced in January. The grant is open to Ohio colleges and universities that identify a nonprofit telecommunications industry partner to lead the effort, according to his office. This follows the unveiling of a "Strengthening Ohio's Broadband and 5G Workforce" strategy in September. Speaking at Youngstown State University (YSU), Husted said the DeWine administration is working to expand broadband access around Ohio but needs a trained workforce to build that infrastructure.

## ***Transportation/Infrastructure***

Lt. Gov. Jon Husted announced that the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) will provide Ohioans with valid credentials the ability to make one online order of a driver's license or ID card reprinting. This had previously only been an option in person at a deputy registrar location, and the new service could save an average of 500,000 visits per year. The reprint represents an exact copy of the last-issued credential, with no changes to personal information. It is not available for changes to a name, address or other identifier, though customers visiting the BMV can benefit from "Get In Line, Online" queuing.

Gov. Mike DeWine, AAA, the Ohio Turnpike, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and The Risk Institute recognized Move-Over Day, Saturday, Oct. 16, by reminding Ohio drivers to move over and slow down for any vehicle with flashing lights parked on the roadside. The groups used social media and ODOT used more than 130 digital message boards to remind drivers about the state's Move Over law, ODOT said. This effort is part of a larger multi-agency campaign that includes social media messaging every Monday with the hashtags #MoveOverMonday and #MoveOverOhio.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Ohio Turnpike have been busy preparing and inspecting equipment for the upcoming winter season, according to the agencies. ODOT is also looking to fill around 500 seasonal plow driver positions, the department said. ODOT has more than 3,300 drivers who often work 12 hour shifts during snow events. While most are full-time drivers, ODOT also uses auxiliary drivers. These auxiliary drivers are ODOT employees who normally do other tasks and only plow snow when needed. A third group of drivers are hired seasonally. In addition to trucks and manpower, ODOT has more than 770,000 tons of salt on hand.

## Top News

---

The new standard license plate design, "Sunrise in Ohio," will be offered to Ohioans beginning Wednesday, Dec. 29, Gov. Mike DeWine and Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) Registrar Charlie Norman announced. It is the first update since the "Ohio Pride" design was released in 2013. DeWine said it is meant to represent "the beauty of Ohio" and the state's geographic diversity. Norman also commented that this is the 76th standard plate design, with the first offered in 1908. The design includes a sunrise at the center, with a state outline in the style of the "Ohio. Find It Here." marketing campaign and the Wright Flyer at the top with a banner that says "Birthplace of Aviation." The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) later issued a statement that the direction of the plane has been corrected, following a Cincinnati Enquirer report that the banner was attached to plane's front end. Also included on the plate -- which was inspired by the state seal -- are city skyscrapers, a body of water, a wheat field and a girl on a swing with a dog under a tree. DeWine acknowledged in response to press questions that the dog did resemble a Springer Spaniel, such as his family's Dolly, but can represent all pets.



# Legislative Updates

Goal 1: Promote regionalism at the local, state, and federal levels of government fostering economic growth, prosperity, efficient use of resources, and a high quality of life for Central Ohio residents.

**HB43** PUBLIC BODIES - ELECTRONIC MEETINGS (SOBECKI L, HOOPS J) To authorize public bodies to meet via teleconference and video conference.

**Current Status:** 2/11/2021 - House Government Oversight, (First Hearing)

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-43>

**HB63** AMEND EMINENT DOMAIN LAWS (CUTRONA A, STOLTZFUS R) To amend the law regarding eminent domain and to declare an emergency.

**Current Status:** 3/2/2021 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing)

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-63>

**HB66** REVIEW PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS (HOOPS J) To require the reporting of information on and legislative review of property tax exemptions.

**Current Status:** 10/19/2021 - BILL AMENDED, Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-66>

**HB71** EXEMPT CERTAIN HOUSING FROM PROPERTY TAXATION (PLUMMER P, HICKS-HUDSON P) To exempt from property taxation qualifying housing for individuals diagnosed with mental illness or substance use disorder and to declare an emergency.

**Current Status:** 2/23/2021 - House Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-71>

**HB77** PERMIT HIGHER ED BOARD OF TRUSTEES ATTEND ELECTRONICALLY (MANCHESTER S, SWEENEY B) To allow the board of trustees of a state institution of higher education to adopt a policy allowing the trustees to attend a board meeting via means of electronic communication.

**Current Status:** 5/26/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Workforce and Higher Education

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-77>

**HB143** REGARDS THE CLEAN OHIO PROGRAM (HILLYER B) Relating to the Clean Ohio Program and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-143>

**HB228** STATE-ADMINISTERED MUNICIPAL NET PROFIT TAXES (ROEMER B) To make changes related to state-administered municipal net profits taxes.

**Current Status:** 10/27/2021 - Consideration of Senate Amendments; House Does Concur, Vote 96-0

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-228>

**HB237** REQUIRE ELECTRONIC MEANS OF RECORDING INSTRUMENTS, INCREASE FEES (HILLYER B) To require counties to provide an electronic means of recording instruments and accessing them, to allow county recorders to charge a document preservation surcharge, to increase recording fees for certain instruments, and to make an appropriation.

**Current Status:** 10/26/2021 - House Finance, (First Hearing)

**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-237>

# Legislative Updates

- HB264** MODIFY TAX RULE FOR EMPLOYEES OF TEMPORARY WORKSITE (SMITH M, SOBECKI L) To amend Section 29 of HB197 of the 133rd General Assembly to modify the municipal income tax withholding rule for employees working at a temporary worksite.  
**Current Status:** 4/22/2021 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-264>
- HB275** EXPAND POLITICAL SUBDIVISION JOINT PURCHASING AUTHORITY (LAMPTON B) To expand political subdivision joint purchasing authority to expressly include purchases for construction services.  
**Current Status:** 5/12/2021 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-275>
- HB290** EXPRESS INTENT FOR SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA (MCCLAIN R, JOHN M) To express the intent of the General Assembly to establish a school funding formula that allows families to choose the option for all computed funding amounts associated with students' education to follow them to the public and nonpublic schools they attend.  
**Current Status:** 5/11/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-290>
- HB357** INDEX HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AMOUNTS STEPHENS J, LARE J) To index the homestead exemption amounts to inflation.  
**Current Status:** 10/12/2021 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-357>
- HB364** WATERWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION (PATTON T) To make changes to the application process for the waterworks infrastructure improvement surcharge.  
**Current Status:** 10/27/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-364>
- HB365** DRINKING WATER SAFETY RULES (LIGHTBODY M, RUSSO A) To require the Director of Environmental Protection to adopt rules establishing maximum allowable contaminant levels in drinking water and water quality standards for certain contaminants.  
**Current Status:** 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House Agriculture and Conservation  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-365>
- HB377** CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY (HALL T, SWEARINGEN D) To amend Section 220.11 of H.B. 168 of the 134th General Assembly to make an appropriation related to coronavirus local fiscal recovery.  
**Current Status:** 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-377>
- HB386** REQUIRE FIRE, POLICE CHIEF RESIDE IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (INGRAM C, HICKS-HUDSON P) To allow a municipal corporation to require its fire chief or chief of police to reside within the municipal corporation during the chief's first five years.  
**Current Status:** 9/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-386>

# Legislative Updates

- HB422** BILLING - MUNICIPAL SERVICES (FRAIZER M, WEST T) To limit the amount municipal corporations can recover from property owners of non-owner-occupied properties for unpaid municipal utility and other service rates and charges and to create an appeals process for improper billing of municipal services.  
**Current Status:** 9/29/2021 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-422>
- HB430** PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (CROSS J) Relating to property development.  
**Current Status:** 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Energy and Natural Resources  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-430>
- HB463** ELIMINATE HEALTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCILS (STEPHENS J) To eliminate district advisory councils for general health districts, and transfer their duties and responsibilities to boards of county commissioners.  
**Current Status:** 11/10/2021 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-463>
- SB20** COUNTY UTILITY SUPPLY CONTRACTS (HACKETT R) To exempt county utility supply contracts entered into under a joint purchasing program from the 10-year maximum period for such contracts and to declare an emergency.  
**Current Status:** 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-20>
- SB24** FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS (GAVARONE T, PETERSON B) To enact the First-time Home Buyer Savings Act, authorizing income tax deductions for contributions to and earnings on savings accounts designated for the purchase of a home.  
**Current Status:** 10/19/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Fifth Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-24>
- SB45** TAX INDUCEMENTS CERTAIN BUSINESSES (PETERSON B, KUNZE S) To enhance state and local tax inducements for businesses making substantial fixed asset and employment investments and their suppliers.  
**Current Status:** 2/23/2021 - Senate Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-45>
- SB105** MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (SYKES V, SCHURING K) To require political subdivisions to recognize state certifications of minority business enterprises.  
**Current Status:** 11/10/2021 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-105>
- SB172** TAX CREDIT-NONRESIDENT TAXPAYERS (SCHAFFER T) To require municipal corporations with more than \$100 million in annual income tax collections to provide a tax credit to nonresident taxpayers.  
**Current Status:** 5/4/2021 - Introduced  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-172>
- SB193** UNPAID WATER CHARGES (WILLIAMS S) To prohibit political subdivisions from placing a lien on property for unpaid water charges.  
**Current Status:** 6/2/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Public Utilities  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-193>

# Legislative Updates

**SCR7** MEMORIALIZE PJM INTERCONNECTION (ROMANCHUK M) To memorialize PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to urge the preservation of the Minimum Offer Price Rule for the PJM capacity market.  
**Current Status:** 9/8/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Public Utilities  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-7>

Goal 2: Achieve an advanced, inclusive, and exceptional transportation system that connects Central Ohio's people and products to the world.

**HB27** INCREASE PENALTY FOR FAILING TO SECURE VEHICLE LOAD (PATTON T) To increase the criminal penalties associated with failing to secure a load on a vehicle.  
**Current Status:** 9/30/2021 - House Criminal Justice, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-27>

**HB47** ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATION GRANT REBATE (LOYCHIK M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.  
**Current Status:** 6/22/2021 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Fourth Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-47>

**HB70** REVISE LAW FOR PASSING SCHOOL BUS (BROWN R) To make changes to the law governing passing a school bus.  
**Current Status:** 5/6/2021 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-70>

**HB111** ALTER USE OF CELLPHONES WHILE DRIVING LAWS (LIGHTBODY M) To alter the law governing the use of a handheld electronic wireless communications device while driving.  
**Current Status:** 5/11/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-111>

**HB141** MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS (SKINDELL M, UPCHURCH T) To make appropriations related to public transportation.  
**Current Status:** 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-141>

**HB283** EXPAND DISTRACTED DRIVING LAWS (ABRAMS C, LAMPTON B) To expand the texting while driving prohibition to a general prohibition against using an electronic wireless communications device while driving, with certain exceptions, and to create data collection requirements based on associated violations of the distracted driving laws.  
**Current Status:** 9/23/2021 - BILL AMENDED, House Criminal Justice, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-283>

**HB346** REGARDING ELECTRIC MOTOR VEHICLES (MILLER J, WEINSTEIN C) To alter the definitions of "plugin electric motor vehicle" and "hybrid motor vehicle" under the motor vehicle law and to halve the additional registration fees for those two types of motor vehicles.  
**Current Status:** 6/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-346>

# Legislative Updates

**HB347** REQUIREMENTS FOR REPLICA MOTOR VEHICLES (FOWLER S) To establish requirements relative to the titling and use of replica motor vehicles.  
**Current Status:** 6/16/2021 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-347>

**HB361** UNLAWFUL BLOCKS OF RAILROAD CROSSING (HALL T, MIRANDA J) To establish new requirements and increased penalties that apply to a railroad company that unlawfully blocks a railroad crossing.  
**Current Status:** 10/26/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-361>

**HB465** ODOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS-SCHOOLS (SHEEHY M, BIRD A) To establish requirements regarding Department of Transportation projects, specifically as they relate to schools and school zones.  
**Current Status:** 10/26/2021 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-465>

**SB23** ILLEGALLY PASSING SCHOOL BUS (GAVARONE T) To impose a civil penalty when a driver who illegally passes a school bus cannot be identified, to designate the month of August as "School Bus Safety Awareness Month," and to designate this act as the School Bus Safety Act.  
**Current Status:** 2/23/2021 - BILL AMENDED, Senate Veterans and Public Safety, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-23>

**SB32** ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION (RULLI M) To require the Director of Transportation to establish an electric vehicle charging station grant rebate program and to make an appropriation.  
**Current Status:** 2/17/2021 - Senate Transportation, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-32>

**Goal 3: Pursue sustainability solutions that protect and conserve our natural resources and promote a diverse supply of clean, affordable, and reliable sources of energy for our growing region.**

**HB10** REPEAL HB6 - REVISE ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE LAW (LELAND D) To repeal Section 5 of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to make changes regarding electric utility service law, to allow the implementation of energy waste reduction programs, and to repeal certain provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.  
**Current Status:** 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-10>

**HB18** REPEAL HB6 (LANESE L) Repeal HB 6 of the 133rd GA  
**Current Status:** 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-18>

**HB57** REPEAL HB6 ENERGY LAWS (SKINDELL M, O'BRIEN M) To repeal the changes made by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly to the laws governing electric service, renewable energy, and energy efficiency and the changes made to other related laws.  
**Current Status:** 2/17/2021 - House Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-57>

# Legislative Updates

- HB175** DEREGULATE CERTAIN EPHEMERAL WATER FEATURES (HILLYER B) To deregulate certain ephemeral water features under various water pollution control laws.  
**Current Status:** 10/26/2021 - Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-175>
- HB192** PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM STOPPING CERTAIN ENERGY GENERATION (CUTRONA A) To prohibit counties, townships, and municipal corporations from prohibiting energy generation from fossil fuels and gas pipelines.  
**Current Status:** 5/6/2021 - House Energy and Natural Resources, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-192>
- HB245** EXPAND ELIGIBILITY - COUNTY SEWER DISCOUNTED RATES (INGRAM C) To expand eligibility for county sewer discounted rates or charges.  
**Current Status:** 4/14/2021 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-245>
- HB351** REPEAL NONBYPASSABLE COST RECOVERY MECHANISMS (LANESE L, STOLTZFUS R) To repeal the nonbypassable cost recovery mechanisms associated with legacy generation resources and to provide customer refunds.  
**Current Status:** 10/27/2021 - House Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-351>
- HB381** ELECTRIC CHARGES - OTHER STRUCTURES (GRENDALL D) To allow for certain structures on a retail electric customer's property to be charged the same as the primary residence.  
**Current Status:** 11/10/2021 - House Public Utilities, (Third Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-381>
- HB389** REGARDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY (LELAND D, SEITZ B) To permit electric distribution utilities to establish energy efficiency and peak demand reduction portfolios.  
**Current Status:** 10/27/2021 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Public Utilities, (Fourth Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-389>
- HB429** CLEAN ENERGY JOBS (WEINSTEIN C) To establish programs and state policies regarding clean energy jobs and energy justice, to create the Governor's Office of Energy Justice, to make changes to the environmental, electric utility, and other public utility laws, and to make an appropriation.  
**Current Status:** 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-429>
- HB464** ELIMINATE WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (WIGGAM S) To eliminate public water system asset management program requirements and to require the Director of Environmental Protection to rescind rules governing that program.  
**Current Status:** 10/26/2021 - Referred to Committee House Agriculture and Conservation  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-464>
- SB19** REGARDING PROPERTY TAXATION (SCHAFFER T) To modify the law regarding property taxation and sales and use tax.  
**Current Status:** 6/28/2021 - PASSED BY HOUSE; Amended on Floor, Bill Vote 61-36  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-19>

# Legislative Updates

- SB29** ELIMINATE AUTO ENROLLMENT-UTILITY AGGREGATION (HOAGLAND F) To eliminate automatic enrollment in governmental electric and natural gas aggregation programs.  
**Current Status:** 2/23/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-29>
- SB44** REVISE HB6 FROM 133RD G.A. (RULLI M, CIRINO J) To repeal the nuclear resource credit payment provisions, and amend, and rename as solar resource, the renewable resource credit payment provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.  
**Current Status:** 3/9/2021 - Referred to Committee House Public Utilities  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-44>
- SB89** RENEWABLE ENERGY (DOLAN M) To extend the renewable portfolio standard, increase solar energy benchmarks, and extend the property tax exemption for qualified energy projects that use renewable energy resources.  
**Current Status:** 9/21/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-89>
- SB95** REGULATE UTILITY RESELLERS (MAHARATH T) To require refunds to utility customers who have been improperly charged and to regulate certain resellers of utility service.  
**Current Status:** 3/31/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-95>
- SB96** PREVENT UTILITY DISRUPTION-COVID (WILLIAMS S) To prevent the disruption of utility service during the state of emergency declared regarding COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.  
**Current Status:** 3/31/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-96>
- SB117** REPEAL LEGACY GENERATION PROVISIONS-HB6 (ROMANCHUK M, CRAIG H) To repeal the legacy generation resource provisions of H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly and provide customers refunds.  
**Current Status:** 6/15/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-117>
- SB127** PREVENT LOCALITIES-LIMIT USE OF NATURAL GAS (LANG G, RULLI M) To prevent local governments from limiting use of natural gas.  
**Current Status:** 5/12/2021 - Senate Energy and Public Utilities, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-127>
- SCR7** MEMORIALIZE PJM INTERCONNECTION (ROMANCHUK M) To memorialize PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to urge the preservation of the Minimum Offer Price Rule for the PJM capacity market.  
**Current Status:** 9/8/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Energy and Public Utilities  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-7>

# Legislative Updates

## Goal 4: Promote effective data policies and the equitable deployment of digital infrastructure that benefit Central Ohio communities.

- HB278** REVISE MARCS LAWS (HILLYER B) To make changes to laws governing the multi-agency radio communications system (MARCS).  
**Current Status:** 5/4/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-278>
- HB432** DATA BREACHES (CROSSMAN J, SOBECKI L) Regarding data breaches on state agency computer systems.  
**Current Status:** 10/12/2021 - Referred to Committee House Technology and Innovation  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-432>
- HB445** 9-1-1 SERVICES, TRAINING (CARFAGNA R, SMITH K) To make changes to the law governing 9-1-1 service and to repeal program requirements for emergency-service-telecommunicator training.  
**Current Status:** 10/26/2021 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-445>
- SB8** BROADBAND-ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EASEMENTS (MCCOLLEY R) Regarding broadband expansion, including access to electric cooperative easements and facilities, and to make an appropriation.  
**Current Status:** 2/17/2021 - Referred to Committee House Finance  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-8>

## Goal 5: Raise awareness or racial and social justice issues and work to continually improve communities within our growing region.

- HB72** DESIGNATE HISPANIC, LATINX HERITAGE MONTH (MIRANDA J, CUTRONA A) To designate September 15 to October 15 each year as "Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month."  
**Current Status:** 4/21/2021 - House State and Local Government, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-72>
- HB341** CREATE BUREAU OF HATE CRIMES (MILLER A, WEINSTEIN C) To create the Bureau of Hate Crimes in the Office of the Attorney General and to authorize the Attorney General to prosecute a hate crime.  
**Current Status:** 6/10/2021 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-341>
- HCR6** DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (HOWSE S, CRAWLEY E) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.  
**Current Status:** 6/23/2021 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HCR-6>
- SB48** CULTURAL COMPETENCY-HEALTH CARE (MAHARATH T, ANTONIO N) To require certain health care professionals to complete instruction in cultural competency.  
**Current Status:** 6/16/2021 - Senate Health, (First Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-48>



# Legislative Updates

- SB105** MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (SYKES V, SCHURING K) To require political subdivisions to recognize state certifications of minority business enterprises.  
**Current Status:** 10/27/2021 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-105>
- SB125** BIRTH EQUITY (KUNZE S, MAHARATH T) To enact the Save Our Mothers Act regarding birth equity, peripartum racial and ethnic disparities, and implicit bias in the health care system and to designate May as "Maternal Mortality Awareness Month."  
**Current Status:** 3/10/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-125>
- SB158** EXPUNGEMENT-EVICTION RECORDS (CRAIG H, KUNZE S) Related to expungement of eviction case court files.  
**Current Status:** 10/19/2021 - Senate Judiciary, (Second Hearing)  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-158>
- SB243** PROHIBITION ON BIASED POLICING (WILLIAMS S) To prohibit biased policing and other status-based profiling.  
**Current Status:** 10/6/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Judiciary  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SB-243>
- SCR4** DECLARE RACISM PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS (CRAIG H, WILLIAMS S) To declare racism a public health crisis and to ask the Governor to establish a working group to promote racial equity in Ohio.  
**Current Status:** 2/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-4>
- SCR5** DENOUNCE RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION-COVID-19 (MAHARATH T, THOMAS C) To denounce all forms of stigmatization, racism, and discrimination occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.  
**Current Status:** 3/24/2021 - Referred to Committee Senate Health  
**State Bill Page:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-SCR-5>

*For more information please contact:*

*Joseph Garrity | Director of Government Affairs + Community Relations | [jgarrity@morpc.org](mailto:jgarrity@morpc.org) | 614.233.4127*

# Your Government Affairs Team



**Steve Tugend**  
Director +Chair, Government Affairs  
(614) 462-5424  
stugend@keglerbrown.com



**Tony Fiore**  
Of Counsel  
(614) 462-5428  
afiore@keglerbrown.com



**Rusty Schuermann**  
Director  
(614) 462-5440  
rschuermann@keglerbrown.com



**Robert Dove**  
Associate  
(614) 462-5443  
rdove@keglerbrown.com



**Mike Culp**  
Government Affairs Advisor  
(614) 462-5477  
mculp@keglerbrown.com



**Andy Shifflette**  
Government Affairs Advisor  
(614) 462-5491  
ashifflette@keglerbrown.com



**Beverly Staten**  
Government Affairs Specialist  
(614) 462-5455  
bstaten@keglerbrown.com