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# Legislative Report

November 2, 2020 Prepared by: Matthew Carle

#### OHIO PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

## Bill Information

# HB3

### AISHA'S LAW - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (BOYD J, CARRUTHERS S)

To add domestic violence circumstances to the offenses of aggravated murder and endangering children, to establish local domestic violence high risk teams, and to require law enforcement officers to utilize a qualified lethality assessment screening tool to refer high risk victims to a local team.

#### CURRENT STATUS

9/16/2020 - Senate Judiciary, (First Hearing)

# HB27 PUBLIC MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY (INGRAM C)

To modify political subdivision liability for an employee's negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

#### CURRENT STATUS

3/19/2019 - House Civil Justice, (Third Hearing)

# HB48 LOCAL GOVT ROAD IMPROVEMENT FUND (GREENSPAN D)

To provide for a new Local Government Road Improvement Fund for local governments to fund road improvements.

#### CURRENT STATUS

2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance

# HB51 UNDIVIDED HIGHWAY RUMBLE STRIPS (GINTER T)

To require the Ohio Department of Transportation to install rumble strips along the center line for all two-way, undivided state highways with a speed limit exceeding 45 miles per hour, as a part of specified highway projects.

### CURRENT STATUS

12/11/2019 - Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (Second Hearing)

To increase the proportion of state tax revenue allocated to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.53% beginning July 1, 2019.

#### CURRENT STATUS

2/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means

# **HB78**

## PREVAILING WAGE-PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS (RIEDEL C, MANCHESTER S)

To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects.

### CURRENT STATUS

12/11/2019 - House Commerce and Labor, (First Hearing)

# **HB92**

# **VOTE ON COUNTY SALES TAX** (ANTANI N, SMITH J)

To require voter approval of any increase in the rate of a county sales tax.

### CURRENT STATUS

3/13/2019 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)

# HB93

### PUBLIC TRANSIT INVESTMENT (SKINDELL M, UPCHURCH T)

To make appropriations related to public transportation.

#### CURRENT STATUS

3/5/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance

# HB116

## TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH (BRINKMAN T)

To make an appropriation related to transportation planning and research.

#### CURRENT STATUS

3/12/2019 - Referred to Committee House Finance

## HB148

## YIELD TO PARALLEL PARKERS (BRINKMAN T)

To require drivers to yield the right of way to any other vehicle that is parking in or exiting an angled or parallel parking space on a public road.

### CURRENT STATUS

4/2/2019 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)

HB187 TAX ISSUES-AUGUST (MERRIN D, WIGGAM S)

To prohibit local tax-related proposals from appearing on an August special election ballot.

#### CURRENT STATUS

4/10/2019 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government

HB202 ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE (SMITH K, WEINSTEIN C)

To establish the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Study Committee.

#### CURRENT STATUS

10/1/2019 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Fourth Hearing)

HB295 ELECTRIC SCOOTERS (HOOPS J)

To establish requirements governing low-speed electric scooters.

#### CURRENT STATUS

2/12/2020 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT, Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce, (Sixth Hearing)

HB309 ASSAULT-TRANSIT OPERATOR (DENSON S, PERALES R)

To increase the penalty for assault when the victim is an operator of an Ohio transit system bus or rail car; to authorize Ohio transit systems to post a sign regarding abuse or assault of staff; and to increase the penalty for evading payment of the known fares of a public transportation system.

### CURRENT STATUS

2/20/2020 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)

HB369 SEXUAL, GENDER DISCRIMINATION (HILLYER B, SKINDELL M)

To enact the Ohio Fairness Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, to add mediation as an informal method that the Ohio Civil Rights Commission may use, and to uphold existing religious exemptions under Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

#### CURRENT STATUS

2/4/2020 - House Civil Justice, (Second Hearing)

# HB382 PROHIBIT INCOME TAX-MUNICIPAL NONRESIDENTS (JORDAN K)

To prohibit municipal corporations from levying an income tax on nonresidents' compensation for personal services or on net profits from a sole proprietorship owned by a nonresident.

#### CURRENT STATUS

11/6/2019 - Referred to Committee House Ways and Means

### HB384

### PERMITTING STOP SIGN REQUESTS (BOGGS K, LELAND D)

To permit a local resident, neighborhood association, or neighborhood organization to request the erection of a stop sign at an intersection and to support a request for a lower prima-facie speed limit on certain streets and highways.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/2/2020 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (Second Hearing)

## HB468

## HANDHELD ELECTRONIC DEVICE WHILE DRIVING (LIGHTBODY M)

To alter the law governing the use of a handheld electronic wireless communications device while driving.

### CURRENT STATUS

5/19/2020 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Second Hearing)

## HB499

# MOTOR FUEL TESTING PROGRAM (KELLY B, LANG G)

To authorize a county to implement a motor fuel quality testing program.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/19/2020 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)

## HB501

## ANIMAL-DRAWN VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS (WIGGAM S, KICK D)

To clarify the law governing slow-moving vehicles and to revise the lighting and reflective material requirements applicable to animal-drawn vehicles.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/2/2020 - SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Second Hearing)

# HB510

To increase the criminal penalties associated with failing to secure a load on a vehicle.

#### CURRENT STATUS

3/10/2020 - Referred to Committee House Criminal Justice

## **HB546**

## REGISTRATION FEES - ELECTRIC VEHICLES (MILLER J, WEINSTEIN C)

To alter the definitions of "plug-in 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**

6/2/2020 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)

# HB550

## **MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EDUCATION** (HOOPS J)

To make changes to the laws related to the motorcycle safety and education program.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/2/2020 - BILL AMENDED, House Transportation and Public Safety, (Second Hearing)

# HB566

# INCREASE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION (ROGERS J, CROSSMAN J)

To increase the percentage of revenue to the General Revenue Fund distributed to the Local Government Fund and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Finance

## HB570

## OPEN BIDDING DURING COVID-19 (BOGGS K)

To allow a county to purchase public health-related items and communication equipment without competitive bidding, solicit bids electronically, and open bids during a meeting held electronically during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government

### HB581

## **ADDRESS COVID-19 CONCERNS** (CALLENDER J)

To address immediate concerns related to COVID-19.

### CURRENT STATUS

### HB582

## MAKE APPROPRIATIONS, REAPPROPRIATIONS (CALLENDER J)

To make appropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, and capital reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2022.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Finance

## HB593

## REQUIRED PAID LEAVE - COVID-19 (BOYD J, BOGGS K)

To require paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation, to create a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor

## HB600

## AMBULANCE LICENSE EXPANSION (BLAIR G, O'BRIEN M)

To authorize a person who has had a valid commercial driver's license to drive an ambulance during the state of emergency due to COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/5/2020 - Referred to Committee House Transportation and Public Safety

### **HB601**

## MATHEW'S LAW (PERALES R)

To enact Matthew's Law, requiring public buildings to have at least one rest room facility with an adult changing station and authorizing an income tax credit for installation.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/9/2020 - House State and Local Government, (First Hearing)

### HB606

## CIVIL IMMUNITY - COVID-19 TRANSMISSION (GRENDELL D)

To grant civil immunity to a person who provides services for essential businesses and operations for injury, death, or loss that was caused by the transmission of COVID-19 during the period of emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020.

#### CURRENT STATUS

9/14/2020 - **SIGNED BY GOVERNOR** 

# HB609 TEMPORARY TAX AMNESTY PROGRAM (WEST T)

To require the Tax Commissioner to administer a temporary amnesty program from August 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020, with respect to delinquent state taxes and fees, and to repeal Section 1 of this act on January 1, 2021.

#### CURRENT STATUS

9/22/2020 - BILL AMENDED, Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)

# HB615 PROTECTIVE BARRIERS - SCHOOL BUSES (SOBECKI L, MILLER J)

To authorize the installation of protective barriers in school buses, to require the Director of Public Safety to adopt rules related to the barriers, and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/26/2020 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)

# HB671 PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER LIMITS (ABRAMS C, STEPHENS J)

To establish limits on certain public health orders issued by boards of health and the Department of Health, to prohibit a licensing authority from taking disciplinary action against a licensee for engaging in permitted activities during a pandemic, and to declare an emergency.

### CURRENT STATUS

6/9/2020 - House State and Local Government, (Fourth Hearing)

# HCR17 EXPAND SNAP TO STRIKERS (SOBECKI L, RUSSO A)

Urging Congress to expand Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program eligibility to include the households of striking workers.

#### CURRENT STATUS

2/11/2020 - House Health, (First Hearing)

# HCR21 OHIO LOVES TRANSIT DAY (LEPORE-HAGAN M, GREENSPAN D)

To declare February 14, 2020, as "Ohio Loves Transit Day" and encourage all Ohioans to participate in the events taking place across Ohio during the week of and on February 14, 2020, to celebrate the importance of public transit in Ohio.

### CURRENT STATUS

1/28/2020 - House Transportation and Public Safety, (First Hearing)

# HCR31 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

6/3/2020 - Referred to Committee House State and Local Government

# SB132 GAS TAX-LOCAL GOVERNMENT ALLOCATION (WILLIAMS S)

To modify the amount of revenue derived from any increase in the motor fuel tax rate that is allocated to local governments and to change the manner in which that revenue is divided between municipal corporations, counties, and townships.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/1/2019 - Referred to Committee Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce

# SB134 PASSING SCHOOL BUSSES (GAVARONE T)

To make changes to the law governing passing a school bus, to create a new offense for vehicular homicide and vehicular assault related to improperly passing a stopped school bus, to make an appropriation, and to designate this the School Bus Safety Act.

### CURRENT STATUS

5/19/2020 - House Criminal Justice, (First Hearing)

# SB285 DISTRACTED DRIVING (O'BRIEN S, KUNZE S)

To revise the laws relative to distracted driving and the use of an electronic wireless communications device while driving.

#### CURRENT STATUS

9/22/2020 - Senate Local Government, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs, (Third Hearing)

# SB291 ELECTRIC VEHICLE FEES (LEHNER P, HOTTINGER J)

To provide for the proration of the plug-in electric and hybrid motor vehicle registration fees.

### CURRENT STATUS

5/6/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce

# SB293 OPEN MEETINGS LAW COMPLAINTS (MANNING N, BLESSING III L)

To create a procedure within the Court of Claims to hear complaints alleging a violation of the Open Meetings Law.

### CURRENT STATUS

8/31/2020 - Referred to Committee House Civil Justice

# SB299 REQUIRE PAID LEAVE (CRAIG H)

To require paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation, to create a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

5/6/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Finance

# SB307 SALES TAX EXEMPTION-PPE (GAVARONE T)

To authorize a temporary sales and use tax exemption for personal protective equipment and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/9/2020 - Senate Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)

# SB308 CIVIL LIABILITY-EMERGENCY SERVICES (HUFFMAN M)

To revise the law governing immunity from civil liability and professional discipline for health care providers during disasters or emergencies, to provide qualified civil immunity to service providers providing services during and after a government-declared disaster, and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee House Civil Justice

# SB310 FEDERAL COVID FUNDING (DOLAN M)

To provide for the distribution of some federal coronavirus relief funding to local subdivisions, to make an appropriation, and to declare an emergency.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/10/2020 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate Does Not Concur, Vote on Emergency Clause 10-22

# SB322 NON-RECOURSE CIVIL LITIGATION ADVANCES (WILSON S)

To amend the law regarding the non-recourse civil litigation advance business.

#### CURRENT STATUS

6/10/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Judiciary

# SB348 LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH (SCHAFFER T, ROEGNER K)

To prohibit local boards of health from using certain threatening words in notifications to the public, to allow local boards of health to reject Department of Health orders during an emergency, to allow health care professionals who serve on a board of health to receive continuing education credit, and to change the makeup of local boards of health.

#### CURRENT STATUS

9/1/2020 - Referred to Committee Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid

# SB350

# PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION VOUCHERS FOR STUDENTS (BRENNER A)

To prohibit school districts from providing vouchers for public transportation to students enrolled in grades kindergarten through eight for the 2020-2021 school year.

#### CURRENT STATUS

9/23/2020 - Senate Education, (Third Hearing)

# SJR3

## REQUIRE SUPERMAJORITY-INCOME TAX INCREASE (BURKE D)

Proposing to enact Section 7 of Article XII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require that any increase in income tax rates be approved by a supermajority of the membership of each house of the General Assembly.

### CURRENT STATUS

6/9/2020 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Ways and Means, (Sixth Hearing)

# Week in Review

The Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) formally approved Gov. Mike DeWine's request to issue a \$5 billion dividend to Ohio employers (see *The Hannah Report*, 10/28/20), voting unanimously during a special board meeting Monday.

BWC Administrator/CEO Stephanie McCloud said the dividend, along with CARES Act funding, "will hopefully be the difference between businesses staying open and businesses closing." She also said this action and those of DeWine will hopefully have a "noticeable difference" in Ohio's history during the pandemic.

McCloud then discussed how keeping people employed will drive more usage of disposable income and tax revenue to local governments. She also stressed that despite the size of the dividend, their fund remains in a good position financially and injured workers will remain a top priority.

The dividends should go out in the first and second weeks of December but by the end of the year at the latest, she said in response to a board question. In total, BWC has returned nearly \$8 billion to Ohio employers through three dividends to help businesses during the pandemic, including \$1.54 billion in late April and \$1.34 billion in October. (See *The Hannah Report*, 4/21/20, 9/25/20.)

BWC board member David Johnson, citing his around 25 years on the board of the Ohio Manufacturers' Association, called the latest dividend "the single most important initiative" he'd seen from state government in that time. He also noted that both public and private employers will benefit.

BWC will apply the dividend to an employer's unpaid balances first, then send a check for the remainder, according to a release. Employers in Franklin County will receive approximately \$559 million, followed by Cuyahoga County, \$528 million; Hamilton County, \$379 million; Summit County, \$241 million; Montgomery County, \$194 million; and Lucas County, \$191 million.

The city of Columbus will receive the most of any single employer, at nearly \$64 million in this dividend and a total of \$100 million	ı foı
the year. A full breakdown of dividends by county is available at www.hannah.com/>Important New Documents>Library.	

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