

Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert



January 5, 2018

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Recently Introduced Legislation

HJR 7 UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, Riedel) Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of public sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember public sector employees in employment-related matters.

HJR 8 UNION MEMBERSHIP (Becker, Riedel) Proposing to enact Section 22 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit laws, rules, and agreements that require employees of private sector employers to join or pay dues to an employee organization and to prohibit employee organizations from representing nonmember private sector employees in employment-related matters.

HJR 9 PREVAILING WAGE (Becker, Riedel) Proposing to enact Section 43 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit a public authority from requiring a contractor on a public improvement to pay the contractor's workers the prevailing rate of wages for work performed on the public improvement.

HJR 10 PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS (Becker, Riedel) Proposing to enact Section 2 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit certain requirements or prohibitions regarding labor agreements in government contracts.

HJR 11 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, Riedel) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to subject any public employee collective bargaining representative to an annual election to remain certified as the exclusive representative.

HJR 12 UNION DUES (Becker, Riedel) Proposing to enact Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit dues and other fees payable to an employee organization from being deducted from the payroll check of a public employee and to prohibit those dues and fees from being used for political purposes unless authorized by the public employee.

HB 454 CEMETERY LOTS (Patterson, Arndt) To require a township to compensate the owner of certain unused cemetery lots and rights which the township reenters after lack of response from the owner.

SB 247 PERS HEALTH CARE (Dolan) To require the Public Employees Retirement System to permit certain spouses of retired or deceased members to continue receiving allowances to pay for health care expenses under the System's group health care care plans.

Legislative Committee Schedules For Next Week

Tuesday, January 9

House Ways & Means (Ch. Schaffer), Rm. 121, 10 a.m.

HB 343 PROPERTY VALUES (Merrin) To require local governments that contest property values to formally pass an authorizing resolution for each contest and to notify property owners.

6th Hearing-Possible amendments & vote

HB 371 PROPERTY TAX (Merrin) To exempt from property taxation the increased value of land subdivided for residential development until construction commences or the land is sold.

6th Hearing-Possible vote

Wednesday, January 10

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Ch. Balderson), Finance Hearing Rm., 1 p.m.

SB 238 WIND FARM SETBACKS (Dolan) Regarding wind turbine setbacks for wind farms of at least five megawatts.

1st Hearing-Sponsor testimony

HB 114 RENEWABLE ENERGY (Blessing) To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

4th Hearing-All testimony



Federal Update

FCC Votes to Repeal Net Neutrality Rules

On December 14, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted 3-2 to repeal the net neutrality rules that prohibit Internet Service Providers (ISPs) from blocking websites or charging customers more for access to certain content and services. The repeal, spearheaded by FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, undoes the 2015 Open Internet Order, which allowed the federal government to regulate high-speed internet delivery as if it were a utility. Local public officials, state attorneys general and congressional lawmakers responded swiftly to the FCC's net neutrality repeal vote, vowing to bring forward a series of lawsuits and legislation that would seek to block the FCC's action and codify net neutrality into law. The FCC and the Federal Trade Commission released a memorandum of understanding on how they plan to allocate enforcement of ISP practices ahead of the FCC's repeal vote. Under the memorandum, the FCC would investigate and take action against violations of the new order's transparency requirements, while the FTC would investigate ISPs for any unfair or deceptive practices.

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

Ohio Township Association

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