

Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert



January 26, 2018

To print this alert as a PDF, [please click here](#).

****Please note, there will not be a legislative alert next week due to the 2018 OTA Winter Conference. Next week's legislative activities will be recapped in the Friday, Feb. 9 alert.****

Legislative Activity This Week

Tuesday, January 23

House Finance

HB 281 BROADBAND EXPANSION (Carfagna) To establish the residential broadband expansion program within the Development Services Agency to award matching grants for last mile broadband expansion in municipal corporations and townships and to make an appropriation.

Sponsor Carfagna provided an overview of proposed changes to the bill, which the committee accepted and subsequently favorably reported the bill to the full House for a vote.

House Government Accountability & Oversight

HB 410 TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS (Seitz, Butler) To grant municipal and county courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action concerning a traffic law violation, to specify that the court require an advance deposit for the filing of specified civil actions by the local authority bringing the civil action, and to modify the reporting requirements and LGF withholding that apply to subdivisions that operate traffic law photo-monitoring devices.

Traffic Safety Activist, Sharon Montgomery, provided interested party testimony. The Ohio Municipal League provided written opposition testimony.

House Energy & Natural Resources

HB 422 WATER SEWER ACQUISITIONS (Ginter, Rogers) To govern acquisitions of municipal water-works and sewage disposal system companies by certain larger nonmunicipal water-works or sewage disposal system companies.

The Ohio Consumers' Counsel provided written opponent testimony.

HB 393 BRINE SALES (DeVitis, O'Brien) To authorize a person to sell brine derived from an oil and gas operation that is processed as a commodity for use in surface application in deicing, dust suppression, and other applications.

An amendment was accepted to require the collection of samples rather than making samples optional. The Ohio Environmental Council testified as an interested party. A representative of ToxStrategies testified in support of the bill. The Ohio Sierra Club and NARO Appalachia provided written opponent testimony.

Wednesday, January 24

House Insurance

HB 459 WORKERS' COMPENSATION (Henne) To allow groups of employers to be granted status as a self-insuring employer for purposes of the Workers' Compensation Law.

Sponsor Henne provided an overview of the bill to committee members emphasizing that small-to medium-sized employers within the same industry would benefit greatly from the legislation.

House Government Accountability & Oversight

HB 478 WIRELESS SERVICES (Smith, LaTourette) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way.

The Ohio Municipal League, several municipal leaders, Verizon and the NFIB all provided proponent testimony to the committee stating that the bill was a true legislative compromise between all parties.

House State & Local Government

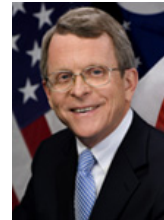
HB 415 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (Greenspan, Ryan) To allocate one-half of any surplus revenue to a new Local Government Road Improvement Fund, from which money will be distributed directly to local governments to fund road improvements.

Just as the OTA and County Engineers Association did at the previous hearing, the County Commissioners Association and the Ohio Municipal League testified in support of the legislation. A substitute bill was offered and accepted to clarify that the legislation is only applicable to counties, townships, villages and cities, not all political subdivisions, and that the funding is based on center lane miles.

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.

Sponsor Patterson provided an overview of the legislation.

Recent Attorney General Opinion



2018-002 Conforming Boundaries and Taxation

Syllabus:

1. A township tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation that was approved by the electors of a village prior to the detachment of the village from the township pursuant to R.C. 503.07 may be levied upon real property located in the village for the limited purpose of paying legal or just claims that were contracted by the township prior to the change in the township's boundaries and incurred by the township in anticipation of the receipt of revenue from the tax levy. (1962 Op. Att'y Gen. No. 3170, p. 601, overruled, in part, on the basis of legislative amendment.)
2. The township fiscal officer shall conduct an accounting to determine what amount of tax revenue is necessary to pay the claims against the township that were contracted by the township prior to the village's detachment and what proportion of that revenue shall be paid from real property taxes imposed in the village. After detachment, the real property located in the village may only be assessed an amount of tax that is necessary to generate sufficient tax revenue to pay the village's share of the legal or just claims against the township that were contracted by the township prior to the change in the township's boundaries.

Recently Introduced Legislation

HB 473 LOCAL FUNDING (Young) To credit additional amounts to the Local Government Fund to provide for payment to fire districts that experienced a 30% or more decrease in the taxable value of power plants located in the districts between 2016 and 2017 and to increase the appropriation to the Local Government Fund.

HB 478 WIRELESS SERVICES (Smith, LaTourette) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way.

Legislative Committee Schedule For Next Week

Tuesday, January 30

House Agriculture & Rural Development (Ch. Hill), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

HB 175 LIVESTOCK OWNERSHIP (Brinkman) To allow an owner of residential property to keep, harbor, breed, or maintain small livestock on the property, and to prohibit zoning authorities from regulating certain agricultural activities conducted on residential property for noncommercial purposes.

2nd Hearing-Proponent testimony

Senate Finance (Ch. Oelslager), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

HB 168 CEMETERY REGISTRATION (Stein) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, and to make an appropriation.

2nd Hearing-Proponent testimony

HB 251 SUBDIVISION INVESTMENTS (Greenspan) To increase from five to ten years the maturity period of other political subdivision's bonds and obligations eligible for investment of a subdivision's interim moneys, a county's inactive moneys, and money in the county public library fund.

2nd Hearing-Proponent testimony-Possible amendments

House Public Utilities (Ch. Cupp), Rm. 116, 3 p.m.

HB 402 TELEPHONE REGULATION (Hill) To revise state regulation of telephone companies.

3rd Hearing-All testimony

Ohio Township Association

6500 Taylor Road, Suite A, Blacklick, OH 43004

614.863.0045 | www.OhioTownships.org

fought@ohiotownships.org



Ohio Township Association | 6500 Taylor Road, Suite A | Blacklick | OH | 43004

[Update Profile and Unsubscribe](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) zaky@ohiotownships.org | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by fought@ohiotownships.org in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today