

Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert



April 27, 2018

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Legislative Activity This Week

Wednesday, April 25

Rep. Carfagna's office - amendments to HB 500 Township Omnibus Bill

Thursday, April 26

Rep. Duffey - HB 602 Water & Sewer Act & DataOhio

Rep. Henne - HB 419 Sovereign Immunity for Emergency Personnel

Friday, April 27

Rep. Stein's office - railroad crossings

****Please note, the General Assembly, including House and Senate committees will not be meeting until after the Primary Election on May 8.**

Recently Introduced Legislation

SB 292 CREDIT UNIONS (Terhar) To revise the laws governing credit unions and to allow credit unions to serve as public depositories.

Federal Update

Congressional Activity

The House and Senate were in session this week. The House voted on the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R. 4), which would authorize the Federal Aviation Administration at \$3.35 billion each year through FY 2023 (the current FAA authorization expires on Sept. 30, 2018) and includes the text of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, which provides reforms to FEMA's response and recovery programs, focusing on increased pre-disaster planning and mitigation.



Four weeks after enacting the final FY 2018 appropriations legislation, lawmakers are continuing work on a new set of spending bills for FY 2019. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees this week heard testimony on FY 2019 budget proposals from Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Defense Secretary James Mattis, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, and FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, among other agency heads.

House Agriculture Committee Advances 2018 Farm Bill

On April 18, the House Agriculture Committee advanced, on a strict party-line vote of 26-20, the "Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018" (H.R. 2); the full House will likely vote on the bill during the week of May 7. The Committee signed off on 20 amendments introduced at the markup (all provided by Republicans), including topics focused on broadband speed; gene editing and precision plant breeding; repealing a block on the use of margin insurance by producers enrolled in Agriculture Risk Coverage; an algae research program; organic approved substances; and banning the sale of cats and dogs for eating. The defining issue in the debate surrounding the 2018 Farm Bill is the proposed work requirement changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which Committee Democrats unanimously oppose.



BWC Announces \$1.5 Billion In Premium Rebates

Pointing to strong investment returns, the Bureau of Workers' Compensation announced plans on April 24 to distribute premium rebates totaling \$1.5 billion to employers this summer. The proposal, which was presented to the BWC Board of Directors on Wednesday, is larger than past rebates, which included \$1.1 billion that was returned to employers last year. The BWC Board will likely vote on the plan at its May 24 meeting. Should the BWC Board approve the plan, checks would likely be mailed in July or August. It is estimated that approximately \$48 million would be returned to schools and \$111 million returned to local government entities.

Statewide Variance Issued for Mobile Food Trucks

A statewide variance has been issued that affects required separation distances for Mobile Food Units operating in Ohio. A copy of the variance can be found [here](#). A revised copy of the Mobile Food Unit Technical Bulletin 18-002 can be found [here](#). This revised version further explains the new distance requirement.

If you have any questions relating to this variance or either of the documents, please contact:

State Fire Marshal's Code Enforcement Bureau
Phone: 614.728.5460 | Toll free: 888.276.0303
sfm_codeenf@com.state.oh.us



Looking for Public Feedback & Participation

ODOT has scheduled public meetings and local partners workshops to look at ODOT's long-range transportation plan - Access Ohio 2045. The dates and cities are as follows:

- * May 7 - Akron (ODOT District 4)
- * May 8 - Dayton (MVRPC)
- * May 9 - Toledo (TMACOG)
- * May 10 - Marietta (Buckeye Hills)
- * May 15 - Cleveland (NOACA/Library)

- * May 16 - Columbus (MORPC)
- * May 17 - Cincinnati (OKI)

There will be two events taking place on each of these dates. The first will be a workshop for public officials from 2:00-4:00 p.m. This would include any locally elected official or representative from a public/government entity. At the workshop, the AO45 team will lead participants through an exercise to develop scenarios ODOT will use for the future planning.

The second event will be a public meeting from 5:00-7:00 p.m. There will be a short presentation during the public meeting and then members of the public will have the opportunity to comment on the scenarios under development and provide input on emerging trends in transportation.

For more information about Access Ohio and to register for one of the workshops, please visit www.access.ohio.gov. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact:

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