

Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert



May 14, 2018

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Committee Schedule This Week

Tuesday, May 15

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

HB 575 VOLUNTEER TAX CREDITS (Keller, Rezabek) To grant income tax credits to persons who serve as volunteer firefighters or emergency medical service technicians.

1st Hearing-Sponsor testimony

House Energy & Natural Resources (Ch. Landis), Rm. 018, 2:30 p.m.

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.

5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

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

SB 299 WATER IMPROVEMENTS (Gardner, O'Brien) To allow equipment for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie to be purchased with proceeds from the Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund, and to appropriate funds for projects enhancing water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin.

1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent testimony

Senate Agriculture (Ch. Hackett), South Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.

HB 392 APIARY DAMAGES (Stein) To grant specified apiary owners immunity in personal injury or property damage cases involving bee stings.

2nd Hearing-Proponent testimony

Wednesday, May 16

House State & Local Government (Ch. Anielski), Rm. 114, 8:30 a.m.

HB 500 TOWNSHIP LAWS (Carfagna) To make various changes to township law.

5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments

***There will be three amendments, which the OTA supports, offered by the sponsor.*

HB 530 LODGING TAX (Hambley, Arndt) To authorize local elected officers that have levied a hotel lodging excise tax, or a designee of such officers to simultaneously hold the position of officer or member of the board of trustees of a convention and visitors' bureau without constituting incompatible offices.

4th Hearing-All testimony

Senate Ways & Means (Ch. Eklund), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

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

1st Hearing-Sponsor testimony

[Senate Government Oversight & Reform](#) (Ch. Coley), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

[SB 268 THEFT IN OFFICE](#) (Wilson) To expand the increased penalties for theft in office based on the amount of property or services stolen and to include as restitution certain audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss involved in the offense.

4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote

***The OTA will be submitting a letter of support for this legislation.*

[HB 34 PUBLIC NOTICES](#) (Hambley, Ryan) To authorize certain state agencies, local governments, and other boards, commissions, and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail.

3rd Hearing-Opponent testimony

Recently Introduced Legislation

[HB 625 AUXILIARY CONTAINERS](#) (Lang, Lipps) To authorize a person to use an auxiliary container for any purpose, to prohibit a municipal corporation, charter county, or limited home rule township from imposing a tax or fee on auxiliary containers, and to clarify that the existing anti-littering law applies to auxiliary containers.

Legislative Activity Last Two Weeks

Wednesday, May 2

Signed by Governor Kasich

[HB 122 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT](#)

[HB 251 SUBDIVISION INVESTMENTS](#)

[HB 478 WIRELESS SERVICES](#)

Wednesday, May 9

Senator Portman

Billy Kirkland - White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Thursday, May 10

Senator Brown

Congressman Renacci

Congressman Latta

Congressman Johnson

Congressman Stivers

Congresswoman Beatty's staff

Congressman Davidson

Congressman Joyce

Congressman Wenstrup's staff

Congresswoman Fudge's staff

Congressman Gibbs' staff

Congressman Jordan

Congressman Ryan's staff

Congresswoman Kaptur's staff

Congressman Turner

Friday, May 11

Rep. Becker's office - highway signage

Federal Update

BUILD Grant - Application Period Now Open

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) released the FY 2018 National Infrastructure Investments - [Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development or BUILD Transportation Grant](#). Formerly the



TIGER grant program, BUILD supports capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure. The program will award \$1.5 billion in funding for eligible projects - a \$1 billion increase in funding from the FY 2017 TIGER appropriation. This is a huge increase, and likely part of the piecemeal "infrastructure package" being rolled out by the Administration. DOT will award at least 30% of BUILD funds to projects located in rural areas. In FY 2017, 63% of all TIGER funds went to rural area projects, well above the 20% threshold requirement for that program. In addition, up to \$15 million will be allowed for planning, preparation or design or projects.

House Passes FAA Reauthorization Bill

On April 27, the House passed, by a vote of 393-13, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R. 4), which reauthorizes the Federal Aviation Administration through FY 2023; the current FAA authorization expires on Sept 30, 2018. Title VI of the bill includes the text of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA), which includes "bipartisan FEMA reforms providing greater focus on pre-disaster mitigation in order to lessen the impacts of future disasters, saving lives and saving taxpayer dollars." H.R. 4 now heads to the Senate for consideration within the next several months.



Ohio Ethics Commission Quarterly Newsletter Now Available

The latest edition of "The Voice of Ethics", the Ohio Ethics Commission's quarterly newsletter, has been released. To read it, please [click here](#).

Ohio Township Association

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