



# Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert January 17, 2020

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## Legislative Action This Week

### ***Legislature on Break***

The Ohio General Assembly continued its winter break this week. Sessions are scheduled to resume for the House on January 29th and for the Senate on January 22nd. Committees meetings will start up again next week.

### ***Legislative Meetings***

This week, the OTA met with Rep. Baldrige (R-Winchester) regarding the township omnibus bill ([HB 444](#)) in preparation for hearings when the House returns from break.

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## Bills in Committee Next Week

### **Senate General Government & Agency Review - Wednesday, January 22nd at 3:15**

[HB 76 ELECTION NOTICES](#) (MERRIN) - To enact the "Ballot Uniformity and Transparency Act" to modify the form of election notices and ballot language for property tax levies.

4th hearing - all testimony; OTA position - opposed.

[HB 46 SPENDING DATABASE](#) (GREENSPAN) - To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database.

7th hearing - all testimony, possible substitute bill

If you are interested in testifying, please let the OTA know.

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## Bills Recently Introduced

[HB 468 HANDHELD ELECTRONIC DEVICE WHILE DRIVING](#) (Lightbody) - To alter the law governing the use of a handheld electronic wireless communications device while driving.

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## OTA Conference Volunteers

The OTA is in need of workshop volunteers for the 2020 OTA Winter Conference!

If you are interested in serving as a sergeant-at-arms for one or more of our workshop sessions, please email Heidi Fought at [fought@ohiotownships.org](mailto:fought@ohiotownships.org).

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## ***Congressional Action***

The House and Senate were in session this week. The House considered eight bills under suspension of the rules, including the Homeless Assistance Act of 2019 ([H.R. 4302](#)), which authorizes Public Housing Agencies to disclose relevant client information to local government entities and nonprofits in order to facilitate housing and services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and the Veteran Housing Opportunities and Unemployment Support Extension (HOUSE) Act of 2020 ([H.R. 2398](#)), which expands eligibility for the HUD-VASH program to homeless veterans who have received an "other-than-honorable" discharge. The House also voted on a resolution appointing and authorizing managers for the Senate impeachment trial of President Trump, in addition to formally transmitting the two articles of impeachment to the Senate, which the House passed on December 18th.

The Senate voted on the nomination of Peter Gaynor to serve as Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Gaynor has been serving as the Acting FEMA Administrator since March 8, 2019, when Brock Long, who had been accused of misusing government funds, resigned.

On Tuesday, six candidates running in the 2020 Democratic presidential primary debated each other at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, hosted by CNN and The Des Moines Register: former Vice President Joe Biden, Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), former South Bend, Indiana Mayor Pete Buttigieg, and entrepreneur Tom Steyer. This was the final debate before the Iowa caucuses on Monday, February 3rd.

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## **2020 Census**



### **All Your Information for the Upcoming 2020 Census**

#### *PSAs Available*

The US Census Bureau has provided a selection of public service announcements intended to help educate the public. You may access them [here](#).

[US Census Website](#)

[Ohio Census Website](#)

The 2020 Census is headed your way! And it's so important that your township gets an accurate count. This section will help you get information out to your friends and neighbors to ensure residents in your area are counted. Check here for weekly information and links to important documents and resources.

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### **Ohio Township Association**

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