



Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert

July 3, 2020

Legislative Action This Week

Senate Passes COVID Immunity Bill

This week, the Senate passed [HB 606](#), giving immunity to businesses for issues related to the pandemic. The House-passed version contained a provision for local government immunity; however, the Senate removed that provision before passage. The bill is now pending a House concurrence vote.

Governor Extends Health Orders, Issues New Color Alert System

Governor DeWine has extended the current public health orders, set to expire on July 1st, through this week, as the administration finalizes the next phase.

Additionally, the Governor rolled out a new county-based color alert system for COVID-19 impact that shows more localized information. You can find a summary [here](#). There are four alert levels - yellow, orange, red, and purple - with increasing levels of impact. The colors are informed by data over a 3 week period and will be updated weekly. Data informing the alert levels includes: 1. new cases per capita, 2. sustained increase in new cases, 3. proportion of cases that are not congregate cases, 4. sustained increase in emergency room visits, 5. sustained increase in outpatient visits, 6. sustained increase in new COVID-19 hospital admissions, and 7. ICU bed occupancy.

Currently, there are 53 counties at alert level 1 (yellow), 28 counties at alert level 2 (orange), 7 counties at alert level 3 (red), and 0 counties at alert level 4 (purple). For a breakdown of each alert level, click [here](#).

The Governor also unveiled requirements and recommendations for restarting K-12 schools. More information will be available on coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Bills Recently Introduced

[SB 333 TAX PAYMENTS](#) (Schaffer) To require the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to make payments in lieu of taxes to local taxing units for significant land acquisitions by the department after 2018.

Cemetery Updates

2021 Cemetery Grant Applications

The Ohio Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing is pleased to announce that they are now accepting applications for the FY 2021 Cemetery Grant Program. This year's grant applications may only be submitted online. You may find the application [here](#) and the grant instruction package [here](#).

COVID-19 Guidance

The Ohio Department of Commerce, Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers, and Ohio

OBM CARES Act FAQ Updated

The Ohio Office of Budget and Management has issued an updated FAQ on June 30th related to CARES Act dollars. Please review the document [here](#).

If you are having trouble registering on OBM's website as required, please contact OBM at grants@obm.ohio.gov. The easiest and most efficient way to get in touch with the OBM office is via email.

Federal Update



Congressional Action

The House and Senate were in session this week. On Monday, the House voted on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act ([H.R. 1425](#)), which expands the Affordable Care Act's insurance subsidies, encourages states to increase Medicaid, and directs the government to negotiate prices for expensive drugs; the Emergency Housing Protections and Relief Act of 2020 ([H.R. 7301](#)), which provides additional assistance to renters, homeowners, and people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic, authorizing about \$194 billion in housing aid, expanding moratoriums on foreclosures and evictions, authorizing federal loans for rental property owners and mortgage servicers, and offering bankruptcy relief, among other provisions; the Protecting Your Credit Score Act of 2019 ([H.R. 5332](#)), which makes improvements to the credit reporting system and installs new guidelines that the credit reporting agencies must follow; and a Congressional Review Act disapproval resolution ([H.J. Res. 90](#)) to overturn a final rule from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency to reassess how banks comply with an anti-redlining law, the 1977 Community Reinvestment Act.

For the remainder of the week, the House voted on the Moving Forward Act ([H.R. 2](#)), a \$1.5 trillion infrastructure package which includes the \$500 billion five-year surface transportation reauthorization, the INVEST in America Act, and numerous provisions related to education, housing, water, broadband, health, energy, the Postal Service, and financing. On Monday, the House Rules Committee considered which of the more than 375 amendments filed for consideration to H.R. 2 were voted on by the full House when debate began on the bill Tuesday.

The Senate continued its consideration of the \$740.5 billion FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act ([S. 4049](#)). The measure has already attracted more than 500 amendments, many of which won't be debated. However, the managers of the bill, Sens. Jim Inhofe (R-OK) and Jack Reed (D-RI), are likely to agree on scores of amendments they would roll into packages the majority of senators could support. The debate over renaming military bases honoring Confederate generals, efforts to restrict a Pentagon program that transfers excess equipment to police departments, and provisions addressing racial inequities within the military services continued. The House Armed Services Committee also worked on a markup of its own version of the FY21 NDAA ([H.R. 6395](#)).

NATaT has created a [Coronavirus Guidance webpage](#) to store NATaT letters, memos and briefs on the outbreak, as well as critical information and guidance released by Congress and the Administration.

2020 Census



All Your Information for the Upcoming 2020 Census

2020 Census Field Operations have resumed in Ohio as of June 3rd. Operations field staff will be hand delivering census packets as part of the Update Leave operation. These are the forms delivered to areas where they do not receive mail at their home

address (P.O. Box Delivery). The operation does not require person to person contact. Census field staff will have mask and gloves and will leave the questionnaire packet at the door or on the porch in a plastic bag. They will not knock on doors.

Currently, the planned completion date for data collection for the 2020 Census is July 31, 2020, but that date can and will be adjusted if necessary as the situation dictates in order to achieve a complete and accurate count.

It has never been easier to respond on your own, whether online, over the phone or by mail - all without having to meet a census taker.

Learn more about these updates and ways to be counted [here](#).

[US Census Website](#)

[Ohio Census Website](#)

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