



# Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert

July 24, 2020

---

## Legislative Action This Week

### ***CARES Act Revenue Replacement Up for Discussion***

As Congress is discussing the next phase of COVID-19 relief, the use of local government CARES Act funding for revenue replacement is on the table. The OTA will notify townships as soon as possible if federal restrictions on these funds are to change - please stay tuned!

### ***Governor Institutes Statewide Mask Mandate***

Governor DeWine has announced that all Ohio counties will be under a mandatory mask order beginning at 6:00pm on Thursday. Generally, masks are required to be worn when indoors in a public location, outdoors in a public location when unable to keep a 6ft social distance, and when utilizing public transportation or ridesharing services. There are exceptions to these requirements. For more information, please review the public health order [here](#).

### ***House Speaker Arrested***

This week, Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder has been accused of orchestrating a \$60 million bribery scheme, along with four other individuals. With the case still pending and as of this email, Speaker Householder has not resigned from his seat nor the speakership.

---

## Use of CARES Act Funding

The Office of Budget and Management hosted another informational webinar on the CARES Act this week. The webinar provided an update on recent US Treasury guidance and discussed examples of eligible uses of funds. If you missed it, you may review the recording [here](#).

Additionally, OBM released [updated guidance](#) on these funds.

---

## Indigent Burial Funding

**Don't Forget:** Townships are eligible for reimbursement of indigent burial expenses up to \$1,000. In 2019, the General Assembly allocated \$1 million per year for local government indigent burial reimbursements through the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors. The OTA has been made aware that, as of April, only \$18,000 of the fund has been used.

The Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors has experienced delays in processing reimbursements, but the OTA encourages townships to submit eligible reimbursements, as they must be fulfilled if requirements are met and funds are available. For more information on the program, click [here](#). To access the application, click [here](#).

---

# OPWC Funding

The Ohio Public Works Commission has announced the kickoff for Clean Ohio funding (Round 15) and State Capital Improvement Program and Local Transportation Improvement Program funding (Round 35).

[Clean Ohio Information](#)  
[SCIP/LTIP Information](#)

---

## Federal Update



### ***Congressional Action***

The House and Senate were in session this week.

The House voted on the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act ([H.R. 6395](#)), which authorizes \$740.5 billion for national defense programs at the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and other agencies. The Senate considered its version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act ([S. 4049](#)).

Talks continued this week on another coronavirus relief package. Senate Republicans, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), outlined some of the provisions in a proposed "CARES 2" bill, which they said targets supports for kids, jobs, and healthcare.

### ***Davidson Introduces Bill for CARES Act Flexibility***

Rep. Warren Davidson (R-OH-8) has introduced the Flexibility for States and Localities Act ([H.R. 7094](#)), which would allow local governments to use CARES Act funding for revenue replacement.

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](#)

---

6500 Taylor Road, Suite A, Blacklick, OH 43004  
614-863-0045 | [OhioTownships.org](http://OhioTownships.org)  
myers@ohiotownships.org

