



## GOVERNMENTAL POLICY GROUP, INC. & RH RESOURCES

### Ohio Speech & Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition Legislative Activities Report June 2023

The Senate passed its version of budget bill HB33 (Edwards) by a vote of 24-7 on June 15 with Republicans touting the measure's tax cuts and education policies. The bill now heads to the House for a concurrence vote and will likely be sent to a conference committee. The Senate Finance Committee had made a final round of budget changes in a 2,100-plus page omnibus amendment. The omnibus packaged dozens and dozens of individual amendments addressing everything from tax policy to preemption of local tobacco regulations to limiting how much time state employees can spend working from home. Compared to the substitute bill version of HB33 unveiled the previous week, the version reported by committee included about \$58 million more in state-only General Revenue Fund (GRF) money for FY24 and about \$43 million more for FY25. Funding totals remain below House-proposed levels by more than 2 percent in each fiscal year. Among major changes is the inclusion a major rewrite of higher education laws, as well as the inclusion of SB1 (Reineke) which removes most of the authority of the State Board of Education, giving it to a new state education department under the governor.

Attorney General (AG) Dave Yost will not issue the formal legal opinion requested by the State Board of Education (SBOE) on the constitutionality of a measure to strip most of the board's powers, saying that would tread on the proper role of other government branches. At the May board meeting, members voted 13-4 to ask Yost for an opinion on how SB1 (Reineke) and HB12 (Jones-Dobos) comport with the Ohio Constitution. The SBOE was established as an independent body by voters via constitutional amendment in the 1950s, although the amendment specifies that the board's powers and duties are left to lawmakers to determine. Under both bills, the board and state superintendent would lose most of their powers to a renamed Department of Education and Workforce (DEW), which would be led by a cabinet director appointed by the governor. Language of SB1 is now incorporated into the pending biennial budget bill, HB33 (Edwards).

Ballots for the Tuesday, Aug. 8 special election will start to be sent out Friday, June 23 for military and overseas voters, according to a list of important dates released by the secretary of state's office. Ohio voters will be deciding Issue 1, which would raise the threshold for passage of future constitutional issues to 60 percent. The deadline for voter registration for the August election will be Monday, July 10, with early, in-person absentee voting beginning Tuesday, July 11. Applications for absentee ballots must be received by county boards of elections on Tuesday, Aug. 1. Boards will remain open until 8:30 p.m. that day. Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Aug. 8.

Incomes taxes generated more than \$200 million above expected collections in May, bearing out the Office of Budget and Management's explanation that an April miss of about \$120 million was mostly a matter of timing, according to preliminary revenue figures released this week. The monthly report puts Ohio's FY23 overage at more than \$840 million as lawmakers enter the final month of deliberations on the FY24-25 biennial budget. May's income tax collections reached \$1 billion versus expectations of \$759.6 million, nearly \$242 million or 31.9 percent more than expected.



Below is a list of legislation we are currently tracking during the 135<sup>th</sup> Ohio General Assembly:

- HB7 ADDRESS INFANT, MATERNAL MORTALITY (WHITE A, HUMPHREY L)** To support strong foundations for Ohio mothers and babies in their first one thousand days to address maternal and infant mortality, to improve health, developmental, and learning outcomes for babies and mothers through expanded prenatal, postnatal, infant, and toddler health care and early intervention and wraparound services and supports; to name this act the Strong Foundations Act; and to make appropriations.  
*Current Status:* 6/13/2023 - Re-Referred to Committee  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-7>
- HB12 REFORM OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (JONES D, DOBOS D)** To rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce; to create the position of Director of Education and Workforce; and to reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.  
*Current Status:* 4/18/2023 - House Primary and Secondary Education, (Fifth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-12>
- HB33 FY24-25 OPERATING BUDGET (EDWARDS J)** To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, to levy taxes, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.  
*Current Status:* 6/15/2023 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 24-7  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-33>
- HB68 GENDER SERVICES FOR MINORS, SINGLE-SEX SPORTS TEAMS (CLICK G)** To enact the Saving Ohio Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act regarding gender transition services for minors, and to enact the Save Women's Sports Act to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex.  
*Current Status:* 6/14/2023 - **SUBSTITUTE BILL ACCEPTED & REPORTED OUT**, House Public Health Policy, (Fourth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-68>



- HB96 INCREASE MINIMUM WAGE (JARRELLS D, MOHAMED I)** To increase the state minimum wage.  
*Current Status:* 3/14/2023 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-96>
- HB105 MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX RETURNS EXTENSIONS (THOMAS J)** To modify the law regarding extensions for filing municipal income tax returns and to limit penalties for late filings.  
*Current Status:* 5/31/2023 - Referred to Committee Senate Ways and Means  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-105>
- HB106 PAY STUB PROTECTION ACT (JARRELLS D, LIPPS S)** To enact the Pay Stub Protection Act requiring employers to provide earnings and deductions statements to each of the employer's employees.  
*Current Status:* 5/23/2023 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Commerce and Labor, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-106>
- HB115 EQUAL PAY ACT (MIRANDA J, BRENT J)** To address wage disparities in public and private employment and to name this act the Ohio Equal Pay Act.  
*Current Status:* 3/22/2023 - Referred to Committee House Commerce and Labor  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-115>
- HB116 TAXPAYER DEDUCTIONS (PETERSON B, CLAGGETT T)** To allow taxpayers to deduct in a single year the full bonus depreciation and enhanced expensing allowances the taxpayer deducts for federal income tax purposes.  
*Current Status:* 5/2/2023 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Ways and Means, (Fourth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-116>
- HB121 REMOTE WORKERS - MODIFIED MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX (ROBB BLASDEL M, MATHEWS A)** To allow businesses with remote workers to use a modified municipal income tax apportionment formula.  
*Current Status:* 6/14/2023 - **PASSED BY HOUSE**; Vote 93-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-121>



- HB126**      **TAX EXEMPTION - MILITARY PAY** (MATHEWS A, MILLER A) To expand a municipal income tax exemption for military pay.  
*Current Status:* 5/23/2023 - House Ways and Means, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-126>
- HB130**      **EXEMPTION - PRIOR AUTHORIZATION** (MILLER K) To establish an exemption to prior authorization requirements.  
*Current Status:* 6/7/2023 - House Insurance, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-130>
- HB141**      **COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS - PHYSICAL THERAPISTS** (LARE J, ROBB BLASDEL M) To restrict cost-sharing requirements with regard to occupational and physical therapists and chiropractors.  
*Current Status:* 6/14/2023 - House Insurance, (Second Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-141>
- HB146**      **SERS BENEFIT CAP** (BIRD A) To establish a contribution based benefit cap in calculating a School Employees Retirement System member's retirement benefit.  
*Current Status:* 5/16/2023 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Pensions, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-146>
- HB151**      **STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION** (DEMETRIOU S, WILLIAMS J) To enact the Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act regarding the operation of state institutions of higher education and to revise the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.  
*Current Status:* 6/14/2023 - House Higher Education, (Third Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-151>
- HB152**      **HEARING AID COVERAGE** (WEINSTEIN C, YOUNG B) To require health plan issuers to cover hearing aids and related services for persons twenty-one years of age and younger and to name this act Madeline's Law.  
*Current Status:* 6/7/2023 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Insurance, (Third Hearing)  
*Comments:* 5/10/2023 - Gina Hounam (on behalf of OSHGAC), Proponent, House Insurance Committee



5/10/2023 - Maggie Kettler (on behalf of Cincinnati Children's Hospital), Proponent, House Insurance Committee

6/7/2023 - Jane Mariani-Walker (on behalf of OSHGAC), Proponent, House Insurance Committee

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-152>

**HB159**     **AUTISM REPORTING (LIPPS S)** To require data collection, reporting, and outreach regarding applied behavior analysis for children with autism who are Medicaid enrollees.

*Current Status:* 5/2/2023 - Referred to Committee House Behavioral Health

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-159>

**HB174**     **UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE (SKINDELL M, GRIM M)** To establish and operate the Ohio Health Care Plan to provide universal health care coverage to all Ohio residents.

*Current Status:* 5/23/2023 - Referred to Committee House Insurance

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-174>

**HB199**     **PERSONAL INCOME TAX JOINT FILER CREDIT (YOUNG T, DEAN B)** To modify the computation of the personal income tax joint filer credit.

*Current Status:* 6/20/2023 - House Ways and Means, (Second Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-199>

**HB200**     **PASS-THROUGH ENTITY TAXES (CALLENDER J, YOUNG T)** To modify the income tax treatment of income subject to other states' pass-through entity taxes.

*Current Status:* 6/20/2023 - House Ways and Means, (First Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HB-200>

**HJR1**       **REQUIRE 60 PERCENT VOTE-CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (STEWART B)** Proposing to amend Sections 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II and Sections 1 and 3 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment and to modify the procedures for an initiative petition proposing a constitutional amendment.

*Current Status:* 4/19/2023 - **REPORTED OUT**, House Constitutional Resolutions, (Third Hearing)



*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-HJR-1>

- SB1 REFORM OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (REINEKE W)** To rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce; to create the position of Director of Education and Workforce; and to reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.  
*Current Status:* 5/9/2023 - House Economic and Workforce Development, (Fourth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SB-1>
- SB33 MEDICAID ESTATE RECOVERY-INFORMED CONSENT (SCHAFER T)** To require Medicaid applicants to certify that they have been notified about the Medicaid estate recovery program.  
*Current Status:* 3/7/2023 - Senate Medicaid, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SB-33>
- SB44 ELECTRONIC LICENSING APPLICATION REQUIREMENT (BRENNER A)** To require a state occupational licensing agency to accept electronic license applications.  
*Current Status:* 6/7/2023 - **PASSED BY SENATE**; Vote 31-0  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SB-44>
- SB50 911 SERVICE LAW CHANGES (WILSON S, SMITH K)** To make changes to the law governing 9-1-1 service and to repeal program requirements for emergency-service-telecommunicator training.  
*Current Status:* 6/6/2023 - **REPORTED OUT**, Senate Financial Institutions and Technology, (Eighth Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SB-50>
- SB83 HIGHER EDUCATION OPERATIONS ENHANCEMENT (CIRINO J)** To enact the Ohio Higher Education Enhancement Act regarding the operation of state institutions of higher education and to revise the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act.  
*Current Status:* 5/24/2023 - House Higher Education, (First Hearing)  
*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SB-83>



**SB96**

**LABOR LAW NOTICES-POSTING** (LANG G, WILSON S) To allow employers to post certain labor law notices on the internet.

*Current Status:* 6/21/2023 - Senate Workforce and Higher Education, (First Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SB-96>

**SJR2**

**CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE-60 PERCENT REQUIREMENT**

(MCCOLLEY R, GAVARONE T) Proposing to amend Sections 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II and Sections 1 and 3 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to require a vote of at least 60% of the electors to approve any constitutional amendment.

*Current Status:* 5/10/2023 - Consideration of House Amendments; Senate Does Concur, Vote 26-7

*State Bill Page:* <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA135-SJR-2>

