

Good Afternoon,

We at Governmental Policy Group and RH Resources wanted to inform you that last week both the House and Senate held their last legislative session for 2015 and legislators will now break for the holidays. Session will resume in mid-January and, according to leaders in both chambers, legislators are likely to take on an aggressive legislative agenda when they return.

This past year was highlighted by the passage of the state operating budget (HB 64). As with most operating budgets, HB 64 touched nearly every facet of state government and included major tax reforms, healthcare overhauls, and substantial changes to Ohio's education policy. At the federal level we saw the legislative career of Speaker John Boehner come to a close as he resigned from Congress in October. Replacing Boehner as speaker is Congressman Paul Ryan, who was elected as the 54th Speaker of the House after he received enough votes of the full House of Representatives. The 8th Congressional District seat is still vacant and two current state legislators (Representative Tim Derickson and Senator Bill Beagle) are competing to fill it.

We look ahead to 2016, the second and final year of the legislative session, with much anticipation. Not only do we expect hundreds of bills to be introduced, but the 2016 election will determine the course of the nation for years to come. Ohio, which is always critical in presidential elections, will play a special role this time as Cleveland will host the Republican National Convention in July. On the state level, all 99 House seats will appear on the ballot as well as 16 seats in the Ohio Senate. Ohio's lawmakers will return from the election in November and begin the hectic period known as lame duck session. During this busy time of the legislative calendar legislators attempt to finalize as much pending legislation as possible before the General Assembly comes to a close. With Ohio being center stage in the political world and state legislators

needing to put the finishing touches on important policy proposals, 2016 will certainly be an exciting time for us!

From all of us at Governmental Policy Group and RH Resources we would like to thank you for a great year and wish you the best this holiday season.

Sincerely,

Andrew Huffman
Manager of Public Affairs
Governmental Policy Group, Inc.
Phone: (614) 461-9335