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Week in Review
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As a service to the clients and friends of Governmental Policy Group, Inc. and RH Resources we would like to extend the following weekly update of events happening around Capitol Square.

ADDICTION/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Senate Criminal Justice Committee Chairman John Eklund (R-Chardon) took the case for opiate bill SB 319 (Eklund) on the road to alert constituents about the problem of health care providers and pharmacy technicians who handle large amounts of painkillers and other prescription drugs with no regulation. Eklund joined Deputy Director Andrea Boxill of the Governor's Opiate Action Team and President Kilee Yarosh of the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy in Lake County in a joint press conference to expand on the ongoing prescription drug problem and the professional settings where "leakage" persists.

EDUCATION

The U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) is offering a new \$65 million grant pool for charter school management organizations to replicate or expand high-quality schools serving low-income

families. The federal education agency says it expects to award 10 to 20 grants in the Charter Schools Program Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools Competition.

The House Education Committee continued its evaluation last week of the value-added measurement for gauging student progress by hearing testimony from representatives of SAS, the analytics company that performs Ohio's value-added calculations. In interested party testimony on HB 524 (Cupp-R. Smith), SAS' John White and Nadja Young explained the mechanics of the Education Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS) that Ohio uses to measure academic progress at the classroom, building and district level.

ELECTIONS 2016

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman's (R-OH) campaign said this week that it has reserved \$15 million in advertising to run through the November election. The campaign said it is the first Senate campaign in the nation to reserve time. The campaign said it will place more than \$14 million in statewide television airtime and \$1 million in YouTube ads through Google's advertising network.

Gov. John Kasich gave his first interview since suspending his presidential campaign to CNN's Anderson Cooper, saying he's not interested in being a vice presidential or third-party candidate. He said he is undecided about endorsing presumed GOP nominee Donald Trump, saying he'll wait to see if Trump can become more positive and unifying.

ENERGY

Gov. John Kasich reaffirmed his opposition to a permanent "freeze" of alternative energy standards, as proposed by HB 554 (Amstutz).

ENVIRONMENT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced new standards to cut methane, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and toxic air emissions from the oil and gas sector.

GOVERNOR

Gov. John Kasich signed the \$2.6 billion capital appropriations budget last Tuesday. SB 310 (Oelslager) which contains funding for community projects, corrections, education, and green space, among other projects.

Other bills signed by the governor include the following:

- HB 151 (Anielski), which expands the offenses of menacing by stalking and telecommunications harassment and prohibits a person from knowingly causing another person to believe that the offender will cause physical harm or mental distress to a family or household member of the other person.
- HB 243 (Schaffer), which makes changes governing the architects board and the landscape architects board regarding continuing education requirements.
- SB 75 (Jones-Peterson), which limits the authority of a board of county commissioners or board of township trustees to prohibit agritourism through zoning, applies current agricultural use valuation to

land used for agritourism for property tax purposes, and establishes immunity in a civil action for agritourism providers.

The governor made the following appointments during the week:

- Ferzan M. Ahmed of Powell (Delaware County) to the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors for a term beginning May 13, 2016 and ending Sept. 24, 2016.
- Chief Scott M. Reinbolt of Blanchester (Clinton County) to the Ohio Private Investigation and Security Services Commission for a term beginning May 16, 2016 and ending Dec. 31, 2020.
- Lydia A. Lancaster of Columbus (Franklin County) as the student member of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees for a term beginning May 16, 2016 and ending May 13, 2018.
- Jessica L. Bumgardner of Scio (Harrison County) reappointed to the Belmont College Board of Trustees for a term beginning May 17, 2016, and ending May 12, 2019.
- Shawn M. Riley of Gates Mills (Cuyahoga County) to the Kent State University Board of Trustees for a term beginning May 19, 2016 and ending May 16, 2025.
- Elizabeth B. McCormick of Columbus (Franklin County) to the Ohio Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission for a term beginning May 19, 2016 and ending Dec. 3, 2017.
- David H. Coy of Poland (Mahoning County) to the Eastern Gateway Community College Board of Trustees for a term beginning May 19, 2016 and ending Oct. 16, 2018.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

All members of the Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus sent a letter to the Ohio Department of Medicaid to express their "strong opposition" to the Healthy Ohio Program, because they said "it will limit access to health care." Specifically, the letter asked that a federal waiver needed to establish the Healthy Ohio Program be rejected by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

MARIJUANA

A Senate committee made several changes last Wednesday to the medical marijuana legalization proposal HB523 (Huffman), moving regulatory power to the Board of Pharmacy, narrowing the pain diagnoses that could qualify a patient for marijuana use, and ensuring that involvement with medical marijuana cannot be the sole grounds for denying a concealed-carry handgun license, among other provisions of a new substitute bill.

MID-BIENNIUM REVIEW

Ryan Burgess, director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, gave an overview of the administration's proposed workforce development and education reforms to the higher education mid-biennium review bill last week during a meeting of the House Finance Subcommittee. Burgess described an amendment to HB 474 (Brown) that would expand education options in Ohio beyond the General Education Development (GED) certificate to include at least two other high school equivalency exams, while capping the state subsidy for first-time GED test takers at \$80 per student.

The Senate introduced SB333 (Hite) last Wednesday, a mid-biennium review proposal on water and environmental quality intended to supplement related proposals in HB 512 (Ginter).

STATE GOVERNMENT

The Sunset Review Committee continued its work last Tuesday, hearing testimony from seven more boards, councils and agencies.

UTILITIES

American Electric Power (AEP) of Ohio is moving forward with plans to develop 500 megawatts (MW) of wind energy and 400 MW of solar power under in its recently modified power purchase agreement (PPA). It is asking the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to reconsider parts of the agreement unrelated to the nine aging coal plants and associated subsidies, including AEP ownership of up to half of new wind and solar projects in Ohio. The utility issued a request for information (RFI) Friday to solicit partners in a future request for proposal (RFP) on individual wind installations producing at least 20 MW and totaling 500 MW statewide.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Gov. John Kasich announced that Sarah Morrison will be the new administrator and CEO of the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, removing the interim tag from her current title. Morrison has been serving as interim administrator and CEO since former Administrator Steve Buehrer stepped down from the post in mid-April.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

HOUSE

PASSED BY HOUSE

- HB63** CHILD ABUSE-NEGLECT REPORTING (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda, Rep. Cheryl Grossman) To require mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect to notify the county public children services agency when an attorney in fact under a document that purports to grant parental rights requests services from them.
Amended on Floor, Bill Vote 96-0
- HB130** PUBLIC RECORDS-DATA BOARD (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Mike Duffey) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make an appropriation.
Vote 96-0
- HB172** CRIMINAL RECORDS LAW (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information.

Vote 96-0

HB334 GYM MEMBERSHIP-TAX EXEMPT (Rep. Jim Buchy) To exempt memberships to gyms or other recreational facilities operated by nonprofit organizations from sales and use taxation.

Vote 92-2

HB341 TOWING FEES (Rep. Ron Young, Rep. Martin Sweeney) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index.

Vote 92-4

HB388 OVI OFFENDERS-IGNITION INTERLOCK (Rep. Gary Scherer) To authorize a court to grant unlimited driving privileges with an ignition interlock device to first-time OVI offenders, to expand the penalties related to ignition interlock device violations, to modify the law governing the installation and monitoring of ignition interlock devices, to extend the look back period for OVI and OVI-related offenses from six to ten years, and to modify the penalties for OVI offenses.

Vote 87-6

HB421 PHARMACISTS-INJECTION DRUGS (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To authorize a pharmacist to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs.

Vote 94-1

HB423 PUBLIC RECORD-MILITARY SERVICE (Rep. Rick Perales) To specify that an order for active military service or other documentation regarding the call to order of an individual in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Ohio organized militia is not a public record.

Vote 96-0

HB432 DECEDENT-ESTATE (Rep. Bob Cupp, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To revise the law governing decedent's estates by making changes in the Ohio Trust Code, the Probate Law, the Uniform Principal and Income Act, the Transfers to Minors Act, and the Uniform Simultaneous Death Act.

Vote 92-4

HB435 REVENUE OBLIGATIONS-LOANS (Rep. Jeffrey McClain) To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities.

Vote 95-1

HB438 WEEK DESIGNATION (Rep. John Patterson) To designate the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving Day as "Ohio Public Education Appreciation Week."

Vote 95-1

HB447 POLICE DOG (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Stephen Slesnick) To prohibit a person from intentionally killing a police dog in the line of duty.

Vote 71-24

HB449 DAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Mark Romanchuk, Rep. Ron Amstutz) To designate February 3 as "Charles Follis Day."

Vote 95-0

HB455 BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone.

Vote 95-0

HB490 DAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Louis Terhar, Rep. Terry Johnson) To designate January 31 as "Omphaloccele Awareness Day."

Vote 95-0

SB188 MONTH NAME DESIGNATION (Sen. Bill Seitz, Sen. Charleta Tavares) To enact section 5.256 of the Revised Code to designate the month of April as "Genocide Awareness Month."

Vote 96-0

SB213 COSMETOLOGY LICENSING LAW (Sen. Kris Jordan, Sen. Charleta Tavares) To make changes to the Cosmetology Licensing Law.

Amended on Floor, Bill Vote 96-0

SB215 IMMUNITY-FORCIBLE VEHICLE ENTRY (Sen. Jim Hughes, Sen. Frank LaRose) To grant a person immunity from civil liability for any damage resulting from the forcible entry of a motor vehicle for the purpose of removing a minor or an animal.

Vote 95-0

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB37 BEER-LIQUOR MARKET PERMIT (Rep. Michael Stinziano, Rep. Mike Duffey) To allow a person to possess beer or intoxicating liquor on the premises of a market if the beer or intoxicating liquor has been purchased from a D liquor permit holder that is located in the market.

House Does Concur, Vote 88-9

ADOPTED BY HOUSE

HCR10 CANADA CEMENT PLANT FUNDING (Rep. Tony Burkley) To urge the Office of the United States Trade Representative to ensure that no World Trade Organization rules are violated in regard to government funding of the McInnis cement and the Port-Daniel-Gascons cement plant in Quebec, Canada.

Vote 92-3

HCR28 TOXIC EXPOSURE RESEARCH ACT (Rep. Doug Green) To urge the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign into law the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015.

Vote 95-0

HCR29 OPPOSITION-CLEAN POWER PLAN (Rep. Brian Hill) To oppose the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

Vote 71-22

HCR33 UNESCO HERITAGE SITE (Rep. Gary Scherer) To express support for the nomination of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks as a United Nations

Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site.

Vote 93-1

SENATE

PASSED BY SENATE

- HB305** UNIVERSITY OF AKRON-OPERS MEMBERS (Rep. Kirk Schuring) To include new nonteaching employees of The University of Akron as members in the Public Employees Retirement System and to make an appropriation for the University's School Employees Retirement System employer surcharge payments.
Amended on the floor, Vote 30-1
- HB317** PROTECTED CONSUMER-CREDIT FREEZE (Rep. Ron Maag) To enable the parents or guardian of a protected consumer to freeze that consumer's credit to protect the consumer from identity theft.
Vote 31-0
- HB431** DAY DESIGNATION (Rep. Michael Sheehy, Rep. John Patterson) To designate February 17th as "Annie Glenn Communication Disorders Awareness Day."
Vote 31-0
- SB231** LICENSE PLATE DESIGNATION (Sen. Peggy Lehner) To create the "Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies" license plate.
Vote 31-0
- SB257** RECORDED REAL PROPERTY INSTRUMENTS (Sen. Bill Seitz, Sen. Michael Skindell) To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments.
Vote 32-0
- SB311** INFLUENZA VACCINE INFORMATION (Sen. Tom Patton) To require the Ohio Department of Health to prepare an influenza vaccine information sheet pertaining to older adults.
Vote 32-0
- SB312** DAY DESIGNATION (Sen. Shannon Jones) To designate May 1 as "Fanconi Anemia Awareness Day."
Vote 32-0
- HB5** PUBLIC OFFICE-STATE AGENCY EFFICIENCY STUDIES (Rep. Stephanie Kunze, Rep. Kyle Koehler) To allow the Auditor of State to conduct business case studies regarding the efficiency of local public offices and state agencies.
Vote 30-0
- HB166** LOCAL TAX-FISCAL REVISIONS (Rep. Doug Green) To extend the deadline for filing an application for the homestead exemption or 2 1/2% property tax rollback to the end of the tax year, to require that auditors certify Local Government Fund allocations to subdivisions by regular or electronic, rather than

certified mail, and to repeal laws requiring county auditors to issue permits for traveling shows, issue licenses for new merchandise public auctions, certify the annual state tax interest rate to local courts, and provide certain certifications related to the repealed personal property tax.

Vote 30-0

HB187 FIRST RESPONDERS-INJURED ANIMALS (Rep. Tim Ginter) To authorize a first responder, emergency medical technician-basic, emergency medical technician-intermediate, emergency medical technician-paramedic, or volunteer firefighter to stabilize an injured animal in an emergency.

Vote 30-0

HB219 THYROID HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To designate January as "Thyroid Health Awareness Month."

Vote 30-0

HB240 CORONERS' LAW (Rep. Stephen Huffman, Rep. Terry Johnson) To define the legal residence of a dead person for purposes of the body's disposal; to recognize that coroners include medical examiners; to change the qualifications for holding office as a coroner of a charter county; to require, under certain conditions, and to authorize, under other conditions, supplemental compensation for coroners who are forensic pathologists.

Vote 29-0

HB303 DOLLAR DEED PROGRAM (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Robert McColley) To create the D.O.L.L.A.R. Deed Program.

Vote 29-0

HB352 OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE RECOGNITION MONTH (Rep. Terry Johnson) To designate April as "Osteopathic Medicine Recognition Month."

Vote 29-0

SB273 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ANNUAL DISCLOSURE ACT (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act.

Vote 29-0

ADOPTED BY SENATE

SR358 RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHEMICAL DISTRIBUTORS (Sen. Frank LaRose) To recognize the National Association of Chemical Distributors'.

Vote 30-0