



GOVERNMENTAL POLICY GROUP, INC.

RH RESOURCES

17 SOUTH HIGH STREET – SUITE 245

COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3413

PHONE: 614-461-9335

FAX: 614-461-9336



Week in Review

July 27, 2018

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

The opioid addiction epidemic is real and has a death toll, but for many people, it's not personal until it's too late. That was the message carried by a three-person panel highlighting the "Denial Ohio" anti-opioid campaign at the Columbus Metropolitan Club on Wednesday.

AGRICULTURE

Hoping to avoid another fatal ride malfunction at the Ohio State Fair, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODAg) and ride operator Amusements of America are stepping up their safety protocols in 2018, state officials and industry representatives said Monday.

Those attending the Ohio State Fair will have the opportunity to experience a number of new attractions and food options in 2018, including the Ohio State Fair Drone Racing Cup. The Ohio State Fair runs until Sunday, Aug. 5.

Ohio farmers need a quick resolution to ongoing trade disputes, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) told reporters Tuesday, shortly after President Donald Trump's administration announced that \$12 billion in emergency relief would be offered to help farmers affected by tariffs. The agriculture and tariffs issue was the dominant topic of the conference call, with Portman acknowledging that recent years have been hard on farmers, who don't like to depend on the government, but that it may be better to help them in the short term until something is worked out with China. If the dispute runs too long, though, it may not be possible to recover markets that were lost, he cautioned.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will authorize up to \$12 billion in farming subsidies to help agricultural producers affected by countries retaliating to President Donald Trump's tariffs, USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced Tuesday. "This is a short-term solution to allow President Trump time to work on long-term trade deals to benefit agriculture and the entire U.S. economy," Perdue said.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) authorization of \$12 billion in subsidies for agricultural producers harmed by President Donald Trump's tariffs is a "blatant political operation" to "mollify" an important constituency before the 2018 general election, Gov. John Kasich said Wednesday. "You have to wonder, is this about vote buying? Is this about the fact that you don't want farmers turning against you in the mid-terms when they're suffering the consequences of trade?" Kasich told reporters during his tour of the Ohio State Fair on opening day.

ARTS, SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Kent State University Museum announced the appointment Thursday of Sarah J. Rogers as its new director. Rogers has been active in the arts and nonprofit arena for more than 25 years in a variety of roles, which include curating, museum management, fundraising, communications and marketing, donor relations and community engagement. She goes to Kent State University (KSU) from the Columbus Museum of Art where she has served as executive deputy director since 2012.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) who conduct business with state agencies should prepare for litigation, Attorney General Mike DeWine said Monday. He said an investigation by his office regarding PBMs and their contracts with Ohio agencies such as the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, the Ohio Department of Administrative Services and the state's numerous pension systems has made it "clear that the conduct by PBMs in these areas remains a major concern"

BALLOT ISSUES

A proposed constitutional amendment intended to reduce criminal penalties for some drug offenses and promote rehabilitation over incarceration will appear on the November ballot as Issue 1, but a separate proposal on dialysis clinic regulations needs several thousand more valid signatures before it can be certified. Secretary of State Jon Husted's office said Monday the campaign supporting the Kidney Dialysis Patient Protection Amendment, which would require regular inspection of clinics and cap their profits, collected 296,080 valid voter signatures, versus the 305,591 required to qualify for the ballot. Supporters have until Thursday, Aug. 2, to make up the difference.

The Ohio Renal Association, a group that represents dialysis clinics around Ohio, filed a lawsuit in the Ohio Supreme Court on Wednesday challenging the proposed constitutional amendment that would place new restrictions on clinics and limit their profits. However, supporters of the amendment called the lawsuit "a desperate attempt to derail a highly popular ballot measure." They added that opponents are seeking to use a "minor technicality" to keep the amendment off the ballot.

With Ohioans set to weigh in on a constitutional amendment that among other things would reduce penalties for certain drug crimes, Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) and House Speaker Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) said they don't believe Issue 1 should be in the Ohio Constitution.

ECONOMY

Using data recently published in a national report from the Economic Policy Institute, Policy Matters Ohio produced a statewide analysis detailing income inequality in Ohio, finding it to be the 29th most unequal state in the country.

EDUCATION

A Franklin County judge approved payments for a technology consultant to conduct a full back up of data from computer servers holding the data of Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow (ECOT). Common Pleas Judge Michael Holbrook also ordered the school, the attorney he appointed to oversee the school, the state auditor and the Ohio Department of Education to reach agreement within 60 days on procedures for accessing that data.

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is soliciting public feedback through mid-August on a draft of new academic content standards for computer science instruction. Lawmakers enacted a requirement to develop computer science standards at the end of last year in HB 170 (Carfagna-Duffey). Per that law, ODE is to finalize the standards by December of this year. The standards are available for review at <https://tinyurl.com/y84eevdv>.

Franklin County Common Pleas Judge Michael Holbrook is giving Attorney General Mike DeWine's office the go-ahead to seek recovery of funds from Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow

(ECOT) and affiliated companies. Holbrook approved an order Wednesday granting a motion from attorney Myron Terlecky, whom the judge named to oversee affairs for the defunct online charter school, to assign claims for collection to DeWine's office. DeWine's office "has full authority and discretion to commence proceedings in any court or other forum, to prosecute, settle, compromise or take any other action he deems appropriate regarding the assigning claims."

Ohio will observe its fourth annual back-to-school sales tax holiday soon, with exemptions for qualifying clothing and school supplies in effect for all of Friday, Aug., 3 through Sunday, Aug. 5. Lawmakers enacted another one-time tax holiday in the state budget, HB49 (R. Smith), and later followed up with enactment of SB226 (Bacon), which will give the tax holiday a permanent place on the calendar for 2019 and beyond. The tax holiday exempts clothing items up to \$75 each and school supply items and instructional materials up to \$20 each. There is no limit on the total of exempt purchases, so long as individual items qualify.

ELECTIONS

Secretary of State Jon Husted and state legislative leaders are asking a federal judge to throw out a recent lawsuit seeking to invalidate congressional boundaries adopted in 2011, while Republicans representing Ohio in Congress are seeking to intervene in the lawsuit. The ACLU of Ohio filed the lawsuit in May, arguing the current congressional map is an unconstitutional, partisan gerrymander.

Secretary of State Jon Husted announced the release Wednesday of \$760,000 in funding for Ohio's 88 counties to help offset the cost of mandatory poll worker training for boards of elections.

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley) introduced two bills Thursday that would allow voters to request an absentee ballot online and codify a court ruling on when 17-year-olds can vote in presidential primaries. LaRose, who is also the Republican nominee for secretary of state, said his SB318 would simplify absentee voting by allowing Ohio voters to go online and request a vote-by-mail ballot while SB319 addresses when a 17-year-old can vote in a presidential primary.

Gov. John Kasich told Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper to "keep fighting" for the Medicaid expansion Monday, following a press conference outside the Statehouse where Pepper told reporters that would be the party's number one issue in the November election. Kasich was walking by during a post-event discussion with Statehouse candidates streamed live on Facebook when Pepper told him they were talking about the expansion.

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced Monday that, if elected governor, he would work with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) to provide protective vests for all Ohio peace officers subject to shooting risk. The program would cost \$5.75 million, the campaign said, and would help agencies whose budgets have been strained by the opioid crisis. BWC already helps provide fire departments with protective clothing, and the campaign said the BWC program would include replacing older vests currently in use.

Steve Dettelbach, Democratic candidate for attorney general, said Monday that he would allow workers' compensation for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), regardless of whether there was a related physical injury, as part of the second element to his public safety platform.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Richard Cordray and running mate Betty Sutton Tuesday unveiled their proposed health care platform, dubbing it the "Reduced Costs, Reliable Coverage" plan and saying it will save Ohioans money, improve health outcomes and increase transparency in health care pricing. The plan includes retaining the Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and leveraging it to help ensure health care access for more Ohioans. The campaign said the expansion would be used to keep rural hospitals open and lower uncompensated care costs for taxpayers. Maintaining the expansion would also be used to keep insurance premiums low for middle-class Ohioans. The Cordray campaign also said the Medicaid payment system would be reformed to incentivize primary and preventive care in physical and behavioral health.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown's (D-OH) re-election campaign announced the launch of "Veterans and Military Families for Sherrod." The Brown campaign noted he is the only Ohioan to have served a full term on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rich Cordray and former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said Thursday that Ohio must set aside "soft-on-crime" worries and embrace criminal justice reform -- including treatment in lieu of prison for drug addicts -- while maintaining incarceration of violent felons. Cordray joined Holder, currently National Democratic Redistricting Committee (NDRC) chair, in downtown Columbus for a roundtable discussion with state and local leaders.

Surrogates for U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) including Rep. Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus) gathered at the Ohio Statehouse Thursday to urge continued support for Medicaid expansion, protections for people with pre-existing conditions and those enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Boggs was joined by Cathy Levine, former director of the Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN), as well as advocates Crystal Lett and Kim Kelly to urge U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci (R-Wadsworth), who is running against Brown, to support the expansion and the beneficiaries of health programs.

The following endorsements were made over the week:

- The Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio endorsed Sherrod Brown for U.S. Senate; Richard Cordray for governor; Steve Dettelbach for attorney general; Frank LaRose for secretary of state; Zack Space for auditor; Rob Richardson for treasurer; and Melody Stewart and Michael Donnelly for Ohio Supreme Court.
- Former U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords endorsed Danny O'Connor and Betsy Rader for Congress.
- The Ohio Restaurant Association endorsed Troy Balderson for Congress.
- The Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund PAC endorsed Zack Space for auditor of state.

- Gov. John Kasich and President Donald Trump endorsed state Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) for Congress.

EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT

Ohio's unemployment rate rose slightly in June 2018 despite the fact that Ohio employers added 7,900 jobs, according to figures released Friday by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). The jobless rate rose to 4.5 percent in June from 4.3 percent in May 2018, a 17-year low. The number of unemployed workers was up to 259,000 in June, compared to 250,000 in May. The unemployment rate has decreased from 5.1 percent in June 2017.

ENERGY

The Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) announced that a hearing on Republic Wind's proposed wind farm in Seneca and Sandusky counties will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 2, at the VFW Post, 5900 State Route 778, Green Springs 44836. Comprising 58 turbines with a total generating capacity of 200 megawatts, the proposed generation facility would sit on approximately 24,000 acres of leased private land in Adams, Pleasant, Reed, Scipio and Thompson townships in Seneca County and York Township in Sandusky County.

ENVIRONMENT

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (Ohio EPA) recent charge that Rover Pipeline LLC violated state law by inappropriately dumping materials containing low-level tetrachloroethylene (PCE) is unfounded, pipeline officials told the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Earlier this month, the Ohio EPA had issued a notice of violation (NOV) against Rover for disposing industrial waste without an approved plan from Ohio EPA.

FEDERAL

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) supports tariffs on China that are "legitimately" in the interest of national security but told reporters that President Donald Trump's administration needs a long-term strategy that does not pit farmers against steelworkers and should have coordinated them better with allies. Brown's comments Wednesday came on a call celebrating the signing of the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act, with reporters asking about the tariff issue a day after the Trump administration announced it would spend \$12 billion to aid farmers hurt by the tariffs.

Former U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi donated his official papers from his time in Congress to Ohio State University (OSU), the university announced Thursday. Tiberi, an OSU graduate who was a member of the Ohio State Marching Band, retired in January to lead the Ohio Business Roundtable after serving for 18 years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Urbana) announced Thursday that he will run for speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in the next term. Jordan made the announcement on social media, citing President Donald Trump's efforts to change how Washington works. He said Congress has not held up its end of the deal, but that he hopes to change that by running for speaker.

A project to build a new 2.5 million gallon per-day water treatment plant for the city of Logan is receiving a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant (USDA) and loan, the federal agency announced. The project is one of 103 that received a portion of \$267 million in funding through the Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program.

GAMING/GAMBLING

Members of both chambers of the General Assembly plan to work on language legalizing sports gambling over the summer and into the fall, Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) and Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) told *Hannah News*. Introduced this month, both "placeholder" bills, SB 316 (Eklund-O'Brien) and HB 714 (Greenspan), simply read, "It is the intent of the General Assembly to develop and enact legislation legalizing sports wagering." The U.S. Supreme Court declared the federal ban on sports betting to be unconstitutional in May. Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) has also expressed an interest in introducing legislation legalizing sports gambling at Ohio's casinos and racinos.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

Besides concurring on the payday loan bill, HB 123 (Koehler-Ashford), the House Tuesday unanimously approved Senate changes to H B34 (Hambley-Ryan), allowing some agencies to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail; and HB 254 (Wiggam), requiring the POW/MIA flag to be displayed at certain buildings operated by the state on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans' Day.

Tuesday's House session also featured a goodbye to Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Dayton), who was recently appointed a Montgomery County juvenile court judge, and the seating of Jeffery Todd Smith as Rezabek's replacement, after he won the Republican primary in May.

House Assistant Minority Leader Nick Celebrezze (D-Parma) will forgo re-election but intends to keep his seat and leadership position through the end of this term, he said Tuesday. Celebrezze told *Hannah News* that because of "business opportunities" for both him and his wife, he will be moving out of the 15th House District in 2019. Celebrezze is supporting Parma Councilman Jeffrey Crossman as his replacement on the ballot, though he acknowledged others are interested in a bid and said the local precinct committee of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party will make the final decision.

A total of 21 bills were sent to Gov. John Kasich this week for his signature. Among them were HB 87 (Roegner) which makes revisions of charter schools; HB 263 (Lanese) which permits dogs on restaurant patios; HB 318 (Patterson-LaTourette) which provides for school resource officers, among other education changes; SB 1 (LaRose) which addresses penalties for drug violations; and SB66 (Eklund-Tavares) which revises the state's criminal sentencing laws.

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) will host the "Statehouse Special Events Showcase" on Tuesday, July 31 from 4 to 7 p.m. The event, which is free and open to the public, will feature the approved caterers and event planners to highlight the Ohio Statehouse as an event/wedding venue.

GOVERNOR

Gov. John R. Kasich Wednesday announced the appointment of Judge Albert E. Davies of St. Clairsville (Belmont County) to serve as a judge on the Belmont County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile and Probate Division. Davies will assume office on Monday, Aug. 6 and must run in the November 2018 election to complete the remainder of the unexpired term which ends Feb. 8, 2021. He replaces Judge J. Mark Costine who retired.

Appointments made during the week include the following:

- Craig W. Anderson of Columbus (Franklin County), William W. Harding of New Philadelphia (Tuscarawas County), Kevin W. Lutz of Delaware (Delaware County), and Marian K. Schuda of Dublin (Franklin County) reappointed to the Medical Quality Foundation Board for terms beginning July 21, 2018 and ending July 20, 2021.
- Vicki S. Giambrone of Beavercreek (Greene County) to the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council for a term beginning July 20, 2018 and ending June 1, 2019.
- Jennifer R. Justice of Westerville (Delaware County) reappointed to the Children's Trust Fund Board for a term beginning July 23, 2018 and ending July 2, 2021.
- Susan M. Rogers of Jackson (Jackson County) to the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism for a term beginning July 24, 2018 and April 21, 2019.
- Meghan P. Kaskoun of Cincinnati (Hamilton County) to the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism for a term beginning July 24, 2018 and April 21, 2021.
- Christin M. Godale of Amelia (Clermont County) to serve as a student member on the University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees for a term beginning July 26, 2018, and ending May 13, 2020.
- Angel L. Mumma of New Albany (Franklin County) to the Ohio Retirement Study Council for a term beginning July 26, 2018, and ending June 30, 2021.
- Yonathan M. Kebede of Dayton (Montgomery County) to the Central State University Board of Trustees for a term beginning July 26, 2018, and ending June 30, 2027.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Long-time Kasich appointee and chief architect of the wide-ranging reform of the state's Medicaid program and other state health services, Greg Moody, announced his resignation as executive director of the Governor's Office of Health Transformation (OHT) effective Tuesday, July 31. He begins his new duties as an executive in residence at Ohio State University's (OSU) John Glenn College of Public Affairs on Wednesday, Aug. 1.

A 71-year-old Lake County man has been hospitalized with the state's first human case of West Nile virus in 2018, according to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). So far this year, 20 Ohio counties have reported West Nile virus activity in mosquitoes collected and tested as part of statewide surveillance, the department said. Last year, ODH reported 34 human West Nile virus cases, including five deaths. In Ohio, diseases transmitted by infected mosquitoes most often occur from May through October.

HOUSING/HOMELESSNESS

Home sales in June were down 0.4 percent from activity seen a year earlier, according to the Ohio Association of Realtors. But prices for the quarter were up slightly compared to last year. June sales totaled 149,278, compared to 149,809 in the same month of 2017. The average sales price of \$197,866 represented a 6.5 percent increase from June 2017's average.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) doubled down on urging the next governor and General Assembly to restore local government funding Monday following the recent briefing by the Ohio Mayors Alliance. Fresh off the CCAO board's meetings with gubernatorial candidates Richard Cordray and Attorney General Mike DeWine, association leaders said Ohio counties are at a tipping point without major intervention by the new governor and Legislature.

MARIJUANA

Congress should move to legalize marijuana and provide resources to help Americans harmed by the nation's failed "War on Drugs," U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles) said Friday. "We have ignored the social and economic toll of our marijuana laws for too long. I believe no person should be sentenced to a lifetime of hardship because of a marijuana arrest. It is morally wrong, economically nonsensical, and an unnecessary strain on our already strained law enforcement officials," Ryan said.

In addition to operating its provisionally-licensed medical marijuana testing laboratory, Hocking College plans to offer a "cannabis lab technician" degree in the near future. The first-of-its-kind associate's degree is awaiting approval from the state and the Higher Learning Commission, Hocking College spokesperson Timothy Brunicardi told *Hannah News*.

MEDICAID/MEDICAID REFORM

The state's ability to release a report on pharmacy benefit managers' (PBM) business and pricing practices will remain in question for now, after a county judge delayed a hearing on the matter until Tuesday, Aug. 7. Caremark, the PBM for most of Ohio's Medicaid managed care plans, sued the Ohio Department of Medicaid earlier this month over its plans to release the full details of a report on PBMs by HealthPlan Data Solutions. Caremark argues the report contains trade secrets that are exempt from disclosure under Ohio public records law. ODM released an executive summary of the report in June.

MENTAL HEALTH

Staff members were physically abusive and children lived in unsanitary conditions at The Heritage Hannah Neil child residential treatment facility in Columbus, according to a new report from Disability Rights Ohio (DRO). DRO announced that a nine-month investigation into Hannah Neil revealed a harmful environment for children, some of whom are as young as five- or six-years-old, at the 40-bed facility.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Fairgoers are able to get up close and personal with Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) vehicles and wildlife K-9s during the 2018 Ohio State Fair. Located in the southeast corner of the state fairgrounds, the Natural Resources Park is open to all attendees of the Ohio State Fair, which runs through Aug. 5.

A number of Ohio fire crews are assisting with wildfires in Crater Lake National Park, Texas, Colorado and Utah.

Recreational shooters both young and old are invited to Ohio's public shooting ranges on Saturday, Aug. 11, during Ohio's Free Range Day, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). On this day, the shooting range permit requirement will be waived at all ODNR Division of Wildlife Class "A," "B," and "C" shooting ranges.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

The now-former Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Cincinnati & Columbus announced its relaunch as Epilepsy Alliance Ohio, a state-based organization dedicated to providing support, care and service to Ohioans with epilepsy, their families, caregivers and communities. This move follows in the wake of the Epilepsy Foundation of America's July 22 disaffiliation with several state affiliates, following disagreements about that organization's direction.

PAYDAY LENDING

The Ohio House sent payday loan legislation HB123 (Koehler-Ashford) to the governor's desk Tuesday after agreeing to Senate amendments by a vote of 60-24, though some Republicans argued that the legislation needed more work. All 24 "No" votes on the bill came from Republicans.

PEOPLE

Tracy Plouck, until recently director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), is joining Ohio University as executive in residence for population health, the university announced Thursday.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Through Saturday, July 28, the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) and other members of the 6-State Trooper Project are focusing on enforcing the "Move Over" law. According to OSHP, this initiative began on Sunday, July 22. Besides OSHP, the high-visibility enforcement includes the Indiana State Police, Kentucky State Police, Michigan State Police, Pennsylvania State Police and the West Virginia State Police.

STATE GOVERNMENT

The Controlling Board convened Monday to consider a 43-item agenda with members having questions for the Ohio Development Services Agency (DSA) about two economic development programs facilitated by Ohio Third Frontier.

Inspector General Randall Meyer's office referred Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) employee Kimberly Williams, a health systems administrator, to the Columbus city attorney's office and the Ohio Ethics Commission after an investigation concluded she was running her personal business with state resources while on the clock at ODM.

VETERANS

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) recently called for entries for art made by veterans to be displayed in a juried exhibition in the lobby of the Vern Riffe Center. The exhibition will be held from Monday, Oct. 15 through Thursday, Nov. 15. A collaboration between the Ohio Arts Council and ODVS, the art show will be accepting mostly 2D art, with some exceptions made for 3D pieces created by past or present members of the U.S. armed forces. ODVS requests digital art samples be sent by email to vetsvcs@dvs.ohio.gov by Friday, Aug. 31 to be considered for the showing.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison is drawing high praise from the administration and BWC directors as she awaits U.S. Senate confirmation following her nomination for a federal judgeship by President Donald Trump. Morrison, who has earned high marks as a "very approachable," "exceptional team builder" who "encourages collaboration" and a "high level of operational efficiency" in what could be her final evaluation as BWC administrator, exceeded expectations with a leadership style ranging from "commendable" to "distinguished," the board's highest performance rating.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY:

SENATE:

No legislative activity to report.

HOUSE:

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB34 OFFICIAL NOTICE DELIVERY (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Scott Ryan) To authorize certain state agencies, local governments, and other boards, commissions, and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail.

House Does Concur, Vote 85-0

HB123 MODIFY LOAN LAWS (Rep. Kyle Koehler, Rep. Michael Ashford) To modify the Short-Term Loan Act, to specify a minimum duration requirement for loans made under the Small Loan Law and Mortgage Loan Law, and to limit the authority of credit services organizations to broker extensions of credit for buyers.

House Does Concur, Vote 61-24

HB254 POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE (Rep. Scott Wiggam) To enact the POW/MIA Remembrance Act requiring the POW/MIA flag to be displayed at certain buildings operated by the state on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Veterans' Day.

House Does Concur, Vote 85-0