



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

August 22, 2016

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.

AUDITOR OF STATE

Auditor Dave Yost opened the second day of his charter school summit by imploring school choice advocates to hone their message and unify around it in order to be more effective in pursuing their goals. He also lamented the lower per-student funding available to charter schools, saying some of the weaknesses his audits of charters turn up flow from their lack of resources.

Rep. Andrew Brenner (R-Powell) joined the forum, offering his views on how the state ought to reform its school funding system. Brenner outlined a plan to scrap the current funding system in order to adopt a model that would allow money allocated to each student and travel with that pupil, creating "quasi-competition" among schools they might want to attend.

Eight Ohio community schools will share in about \$17 million in state facilities funding, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission announced last Thursday in announcing initial awards under a budget-funded building program for charters.

ELECTIONS

Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Copley) has taken up Secretary of State Jon Husted's call to reform the state's special election system after the withdrawal of a congressional candidate triggered a special election, even though only one candidate filed to replace him on the ballot.

ELECTIONS 2016

The campaign of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump announced locations of 16 regional campaign offices in Ohio, including the state headquarters on Bethel Road in Columbus.

Endorsements made over the week include the following:

- The Ohio State Medical Association Political Action Committee (OSMAPAC) named the following candidates as "OSMAPAC Champions," the higher of the group's endorsement levels: Robert Cupp, Nickie Antonio, Anne Gonzales, Heather Bishoff, Mike Duffey, Niraj Antani, Steve Huffman, Terry Johnson, Randy Gardner, Peggy Lehner, and Dave Burke. OSMAPAC endorsed the following candidates for Ohio House: Tim Ginter, Tom Patton, Nicholas Celebrezze, Dave Greenspan, Adam Miller, David Leland, Jim Hughes, Jonathan Dever, Bill Blessing, Bill Seitz, Anthony DeVitis, Fred Strahorn, Mike Henne, Jim Butler, Derek Merrin, Kirk Schuring, Nathan Manning, Dan Ramos, John Boccieri, Scott Lipps, Larry Householder, Sarah LaTourette, Tim Schaffer, Kyle Koehler, Robert McColley, Robert Sprague, Keith Faber, Wes Goodman, Cliff Rosenberger, Gary Scherer, Ryan Smith, and Jack Cera.

- OSMAPAC endorsed the following candidates for Ohio Senate: Lou Terhar, Bob Hackett, Joe Uecker, Stephanie Kunze, John Eklund, Troy Balderson, Larry Obhof, Matt Dolan and Lou Gentile.

ENERGY

Rep. Mike Duffey (R-Worthington) picked up support from the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) when he reintroduced legislation to halt the unregulated practice of utility sub-metering in the coming lame duck session.

GAMING

The Casino Control Commission took the first step in implementing its new authority to regulate games of skill, approving the initial filing of administrative rules to license skill-game businesses, vendors and employees.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY/STATEHOUSE

Rep. Tim Derickson (R-Oxford) will soon resign his seat to take over as executive director of the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

Sen. Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Heights) announced he has been diagnosed with cancer. On his Twitter page, Yuko announced that doctors told him he has "malignant neoplasm metastatic to lymph nodes of neck."

GOVERNOR

The governor made the following appointments during the week:

- Michael R. Bertolone of Concord (Lake County) to the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism for a term beginning Aug. 12, 2016, and ending April 21, 2018.
- John L. Habat of Beachwood (Cuyahoga County) to the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism for a term beginning Aug. 12, 2016, and ending April 21, 2019.
- Dr. Ronan M. Factora of North Royalton (Cuyahoga County) to the State Medical Board for a term beginning Aug. 12, 2016, and ending March 18, 2019.
- Mark J. Williams of Solon (Cuyahoga County) reappointed to the Venture Capital Authority for a term beginning Aug. 17, 2016, and ending Jan. 31, 2020.
- Steven R. Rench of Wadsworth (Medina County) to the Real Estate Appraiser Board for a term beginning Aug. 17, 2016, and ending June 30, 2019.
- Charles A. Patterson of Springfield (Clark County) reappointed to the State Board of Sanitarian Registration for a term beginning Aug. 17, 2016, and ending Aug. 14, 2019.
- Lara Baker-Morrish of Dublin (Franklin County) to the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission for a term beginning Aug. 18, 2016, and ending Aug. 21, 2018.

HOUSING

A new analysis titled "Where Are They Providing Housing for Families with Children?" finds the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) awarded increasingly fewer low-income housing tax credits (LIHTC) for properties designated for family housing over the past decade, while many LIHTC properties have been placed in high-poverty and racially-concentrated areas around the state.

MARIJUANA

The Kasich administration is seeking \$1.8 million from the Controlling Board to fund the Medical Marijuana Control Program (MMCP) in FY17.

TREASURER OF STATE

Treasurer Josh Mandel and Auditor Dave Yost announced that local governments and school districts will now be able to put spending information online more easily by using the auditor's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN).

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Ohio lawmakers this spring addressed near-term problems with the unemployment compensation system with a plan to pay off the state's debt to the federal government. Now, a new House-Senate panel will look at long-term reforms to make the system more stable. The Unemployment Compensation Reform Joint Committee will be chaired by Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) and Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton).

VETERANS

Those responsible for developing a state identification card for veterans met for the first time Monday, agreeing to a number of details. The Veteran ID Material and Design Standards Committee approved most of what will appear on the front of the card and that a magnetic strip will be required.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

Legislators have recessed for the summer.