



THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JUNE 22, 2018

The list of bills on the legislative table will occupy the attention of the House and Senate for the next weeks. The November election will also be on their minds. As a side note, there are very few working days left in the legislative calendar.

1. HB 58: **CURSIVE HANDWRITING** (Brenner, A., Slaby, M.) To require the State Board of Education to develop and adopt a model curriculum in cursive handwriting instruction, which may be used by public schools. 87-4. Goes to Senate.
2. HB 477: **SCHOOL OPERATIONS** (Koehler, K.) To eliminate various provisions and programs related to the Department of Education and the operation of primary and secondary schools. 88-0 Goes to Senate

TUESDAY, JUNE 26 House Education & Career Readiness (Testimony & Documents). (Chr. Brenner, A., (614) 644-6711), Rm. 121, 3:30 pm

1. SB 216: **SCHOOL REGULATIONS** (HUFFMAN, M.). To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs. --5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote
2. HB 591: **SCHOOL REPORT CARDS** (DUFFEY, M.). To revise the state report card rating system for school districts and public schools. --4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

Other bills of interest:

1. HB 628: **EDUCATOR LICENSES** (Stein, D., Retherford, W.) With regard to qualifications for obtaining a resident educator license. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)
2. SB 246: **STUDENT REMOVAL** (Lehner, P., Manning, G.) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades pre- kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27. Senate Education (Chr. Lehner, P., (614) 466-4538), South Hearing Rm., 9:00 am

1. SB 34: **ACADEMIC YEAR** (MANNING, G.). To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. --7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote
2. HB 87: **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** (ROEGNER, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. --4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27: Joint Education Oversight Committee (Testimony & Documents) (Chr. Manning, G., (614) 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 9:00 am.

1. Presentations by Connie Shriver (Coordinator of Career & Academic Readiness Education at the Mid-East Career and Technology Centers), Mary Murphy (Manager of Adult Success Initiatives at Lorain Community College), and Greg Harp (Vice President of Graduation Alliance) on Adult Graduation Pathways
2. Presentations by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services on Early Childhood Programs
3. Update on progress of other research projects (tentative)

State Board Panel Delays Decision On Third-Grade Reading Benchmark: A State Board of Education committee Tuesday balked at recommending approval for a higher Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion score, as members asked for more time to consider the change and discuss it with local school districts officials. The Achievement and Graduation Requirements Committee debated the possibility of raising the score students would need to achieve on Ohio State Test for third grade English and language arts from 672, the benchmark for last school year, to 677 for the 2018-19 school year.

! House Bill 703 NOTE: This would apply to schools, colleges, and to teachers: Short Title: Expand concealed carry rights. Long Title: To amend sections 9.68, 2923.12, 2923.121, 2923.122, 2923.123, 2923.126, 2923.1212, and 4117.10 and to enact sections 2923.22 and 3345.90 of the Revised Code to enact the "Decriminalization Effort For Ending Notorious Deaths -- Teachers With Options (DEFEND-TWO)" to allow a concealed handgun licensee or qualified military member to carry a concealed handgun in certain public premises, to reduce the penalty for a concealed handgun licensee who carries a concealed handgun in a prohibited place, and to prohibit public employers and universities from disciplining employees or students who lawfully carry a concealed handgun on the premises. Primary Sponsor: Representative Becker. Committee Hearing in House Federalism & Interstate Relations: Scheduled.

Foxx Statement on Proposed New Department of Education and the Workforce

WASHINGTON – Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), chair of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, issued the following statement after President Donald J. Trump announced a reorganization plan for the executive branch that includes a proposed merger of the Departments of Education and Labor into a new Department of Education and the Workforce:

“The federal government is long overdue for a serious overhaul. The proposed Department of Education and the Workforce is recognition of the clear relationship between education policy at every level and the needs of the growing American workforce. At the Committee on Education and the Workforce, we make these connections in everything we do. We welcome the administration’s focus on education and workforce issues together, and as we continue our oversight over the Department of Education and the Department of Labor, we look forward to working with the administration on the proposal and how the new department could function to best serve American students, workers, job creators, and families.”

The CAEP class of spring 2018 is listed below.

1. Ashland University—Ohio
2. Bluffton University—Ohio
3. Hiram College—Ohio
4. Heidelberg University—Ohio
5. Marietta College—Ohio
6. Muskingum University—Ohio
7. The College of Wooster—Ohio
8. University of Akron—Ohio
9. University of Rio Grande—Ohio

Congratulations to our colleagues!

Online Western Governors University Notes Launch of Ohio Affiliate

After years of discussion and planning, the state officially welcomed Western Governors University's Ohio affiliate into the fold Thursday at a Statehouse ceremony. Ohio is the eighth state to partner with the nonprofit, online-only school to establish a branch. Although Ohio students have already been able to attend the online university - which offers **degree programs in business, education, information technology and nursing** - the university's formal debut will further expand higher education opportunities in the state, according to officials.

WGU President Scott Pulsipher said his goal is to "expand access to high-quality post-secondary education" in the state. He added that the university opens up a new pathway for the about 1 million adults in the state who attended college but left without a degree. "We believe that fundamentally education is the single greatest catalyst for people to change their lives," he said. **The Department of Higher Education officially approved the university's programming in February**, which allowed its students to apply for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant. WGU Ohio currently has about 2,200 students and about 2,700 graduates, according to a news release from the school. The average age of the school's students is 36 and the university charges about \$6,500 per year for tuition for its undergraduate programs and about \$7,500 per year for the majority of its master's degree programs. At the ceremony, ODHE Chancellor John Carey signed a proclamation of endorsement for the affiliate that stated the school can help Ohio reach its goal of 65% of working-age adults holding a certificate, degree or postsecondary credential by 2025. Jack Hershey, president and CEO of the Ohio Association of Community Colleges, said that goal is unattainable unless the state makes significant improvements. He said the state's community colleges have formed a partnership with WGU as part of an effort to help the state reach that benchmark. "Since we formed the partnership, which included a reduced tuition rate for our graduates, over 1,000 students have transferred to WGU from an Ohio community college," he said. Mr. Hershey said about 40% of WGU Ohio's students started at a community college in the state. He said he expects that number to grow because the nontraditional students who enjoy the flexibility community colleges offer enjoy a similar environment at the online school.

Former Congressman Pat Tiberi, the president and CEO of the Ohio Business Roundtable, said he views the university's focus on in-demand careers as beneficial to the state. "We need to be constantly matching skilled workers and employers and helping Ohioans who currently have jobs continue to improve their skills," he said.

At the ceremony, WGU also announced Rebecca Watts would serve as the Ohio affiliate's chancellor. Most recently the executive director of the University of Wyoming's Trustees Education Initiative, Ms. Watts previously served as the ODHE's associate vice chancellor for P-16 initiatives. Although the university itself is not new to the state, Ms. Watts said, the official launch of the new affiliate is important because it creates new connections between the school and its students. "Yes, WGU has been available to Ohioans all along since its inception," she said. "What's important is that now we're here. Now we're faces and we're people." GONGWER ARCHIVES

Bill	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
HB477	Eliminate general and primary and secondary school provisions	2018-06-20 Passed House
SB246	Revise student expulsion procedures	2018-06-05 To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
HB628	Regards qualifications for a resident educator license	2018-05-15 To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
HJR15	Require free universal preschool education	2018-05-15 To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
HB591	Revise report card rating system for schools	2018-05-15 [Hearing: Jun 26 @ 3:30 pm] To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
SB287	Develop health ed standards for K-12; limit GA approval	2018-04-11 To Senate Education Committee
SB216	Enact Public School Deregulation Act-primary/secondary ed-testing	2018-04-10 [Hearing: Jun 26 @ 3:30 pm]

Bill	Summary/Title	Last Action ▼
		To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
SB240	Regards teacher evaluations	2018-03-21 To Senate Education Committee
HB512	Restructure education agencies and their duties	2018-02-20 (on hold) To House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee
HB66	Require tenured faculty to teach minimum load	2018-02-06 To Senate Education Committee
HB176	Address school assessments and curricula and teacher evaluations	2017-05-01 To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
HB181	Address academic content standards and assessments	2017-05-01 To House Education and Career Readiness Committee
SB34	Open schools after Labor Day (comparable HB)	2017-02-08 (hearing Wednesday) To Senate Education Committee
SB58	CURSIVE HANDWRITING	Passed House