



Ohio Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

December 30, 2022

LAME DUCK is over at the Ohio Statehouse! It was another busy week of the lame duck Ohio legislature. Note HB 554 – our hard work of previous years erased in one late amendment!

Bills that DID NOT PASS:

- [HB 322](#), [HB 327](#), [HB 616](#) - Educational gag orders, "don't say gay, don't say race"
- [SB 178](#) - State takeover of public education
- [HB 529](#) - Online posting of curricula
- [HB 722](#) - Parents' Bill of Rights
- [SB 361](#) - Unlicensed veterans as teachers
- [SB 365](#) - "Free market capitalism" concepts in high school curriculum
- [HB 151](#) - Ban on transgender student-athletes
- [HB 454](#) - Ban on gender-affirming care for minors

Bills that DID Pass:

- **HB 554 – (The House has approved of the Senate amendments and it has gone to the Governor for signing.) Of particular interest:**
Educator Standards Board :
 - Requires the Chancellor of Higher Education to appoint to the Educator Standards Board (ESB) one representative each from the State University Education Deans and the Ohio Association of Private Colleges for Teacher Education.
 - Removes the requirement that the Chancellor appoint to the ESB two members respectively employed by a college of education and a college of arts and sciences.
 - Removes the requirement that the ESB maintain a standing subcommittee on higher education.
 - Eliminates the ESB subcommittee on the standards for teacher preparation.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Incoming State Board Members

Terms: January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2026

5 Newly Elected Members

Sen. Teresa Fedor, District 2

President Charlotte McGuire, District 3 (incumbent)

Katie Hofmann, District 4

John Hagan, District 9 (incumbent)

Tom Jackson, District 10

4 Newly Appointed Members

Mark Lamoncha (reappointed)

Paul LaRue (reappointed)

Walt Davis (reappointed)

James Mermis (new) - ***Mike Toal was up for reappointment and NOT reappointed***

FYI:

American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)...position on education:

“ALEC Honors Public Servants Who Defend Limited Government, Free Markets and Federalism.

An excellent education has long been recognized as key to the American Dream. Unfortunately, the current monopolistic and expensive K-12 education system is failing our students, leaving them unprepared for college, careers, or life. Similarly, our higher education system is leaving students with higher debt burdens and fewer career guarantees than ever before.

Instead of throwing more money at the problem, it's time to let parents take back control over their children's educations by allowing them to apply competitive pressure to schools and educational providers. Innovative, parent-empowering choices such as charter schools, voucher programs, tax credit scholarships, homeschool, and education savings accounts allow each child the opportunity to reach his or her potential. In higher education, greater transparency is needed to ensure that students and parents know what they are paying for, and with what prospects they are likely to graduate.

Instead of endless top-down mandates, these revolutionary inroads into the education system are coming from the states. Forty-two states and the District of Columbia have laws on the books allowing charter schools to operate, while half the states have some

form of private school choice program. The states should continue to expand parent choice and push educational institutions to compete with each other to provide the best product, just like providers of any other service.”

- **Ohio State Chairs**
 - [Sen. Robert McColley](#)
 - [Rep. Scott Wiggam](#)

Delivered to Governor:

Thursday, DeWine’s office received a raft of 24 bills. The deadline for action on those is January 3.

HB 353: Ohio’s “Testing Your Faith Act” which directs higher ed institutions to develop accommodations for students who need to be absent for religious reasons.

HB 554: Allowed state board of education to issue temporary licenses to teachers with expired certificates or licenses. *And a lot more – see above.*

HB 569: Allows higher ed institutions to offer scholarships to people serving as family caregivers.

SB 131: Required the issuance of certain occupational licenses if a person has experience in that field in a different state.

HB 509: Updated numerous occupational licensing provisions.

HB 364: Changed application process for sewer and water infrastructure surcharges

Veto calls

Already, forces are gearing up inside the statehouse and out urging Gov. DeWine to veto certain measures.

FYI: HB 458: Began as a measure eliminating August special elections except for Congress. The Senate amended the bill to include [strict new photo-ID requirements](#) for voters as well as tighter limitations on returning absentee ballots.