



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

January 28, 2023

In the time before the Governor is set to give his State of the State address and introduce the two-year operating budget for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, the legislature will be mostly quiet. Members of the Ohio Senate are taking the week off with no session or committees scheduled, and the House has just organized itself so it can start the work of legislating.

Ideastream's Conor Morris is reporting, "Jim Renacci announces PAC to flip school boards in Ohio to counter 'woke' policy." Former Ohio Republican Congressman Jim Renacci Thursday announced a new political action committee to try to flip Ohio school boards with conservative-leaning candidates. Renacci said in a news release that the new **Save Our Schools Ohio PAC** will help candidates raise funds and will use data to identify "dozens" of key local school board races. "We have to fight for education and our children and grandchildren," he said. The former congressman argued local boards of education are doing little to combat "woke policies" and alleged, without evidence, that boards are focusing resources on weakening core educational standards for students. He did not define what "woke policies" the PAC would be seeking candidates to run against.

Budget Planning: While the budget outlines state spending for two years, Rep. Stephens said recent influxes of federal cash may make the state's fiscal position look rosier than it will be in coming years. Asked whether he intends to press for the continued phase in of the Cupp-Patterson school funding formula, Speaker Stephens said Gov. Mike DeWine, the House and the Senate will have to reach a decision on that matter together. "I support that plan and voted for it," he said of Cupp-Patterson. The school funding plan eventually would cost the state an additional \$2 billion annually if it is fully phased-in over three budget cycles as initially contemplated by policymakers. Studies of the cost of educating students with disabilities and English learners, among other groups, could boost the price tag higher. Calls by public education advocacy groups to continue the implementation of Cupp-Patterson have been matched by school choice backers support for establishing a system giving every student access to a state-funded private school voucher.

Senate Bill 1 News:

Just last week State Senator Bill Reineke's (R-Tiffin) provided sponsor testimony on his bill, **Senate Bill 1 (SB1)**.



If passed, SB1 removes authority of the State Board of Education & Superintendent of Public Instruction. The move comes after Democrats picked up more elected seats on the Board in the November election, a clear attempt by Republicans to change the rules when they don't like the outcome of an election. We should be focused on supporting our democratically elected officials and giving them the power to make decisions that benefit our students.

House Committee Chairs Announced, Edwards To Lead Finance

Speaker Jason Stephens has released his picks for chairmanships, confirming the expected appointment of Rep. Jay Edwards (R-Nelsonville) to lead the Finance Committee.

The list, distributed to the House on Monday, also names Rep. Darrell Kick (R-Loudonville) as chair of Energy & Natural Resources, Rep. Tom Young (R-Dayton) leading Higher Education and Rep. Adam Bird (R-Cincinnati) on Primary & Secondary Education.

HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIRS & VICE CHAIRS

135th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR
Higher Education	Tom Young	Dave Dobos
Primary & Secondary Education		

EDUCATION BILLS TO DATE:**SB 1 Department Of Education Reineke, B.**

To rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce, to create the position of Director of Education and Workforce and to reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

[Text & Analysis](#)

Committee Hearing in Senate (1/17/2023; CONTINUED (Education))

SB 5 Workforce Voucher Program Schuring, K.

To establish the Workforce Voucher Program, to terminate the provisions of the Voucher Program two years after the bill's effective date by repealing sections 122.157, 122.158, and 3313.473 of the Revised Code on that date, to authorize tax credits for graduates of the Voucher Program, and to make an appropriation.

[Text & Analysis Referred](#) in Senate (1/17/2023; Workforce and Higher Education)

SB 6 Governance Policies Schuring, K.

Regards environmental, social, and corporate governance policies with respect to the state retirement systems, Bureau of Workers' Compensation, and state institutions of higher education.

[Text & Analysis Referred](#) in Senate (1/17/2023; Finance)

SB 11 Education O'Brien, S.

To enact the Parent Educational Freedom Act to expand eligibility for Educational Choice scholarships, to cease the operation of the Pilot Project Scholarship Program on July 1, 2023, and to increase the income tax credit for homeschooling expenses.

[Text & Analysis Referred](#) in Senate (1/17/2023; Education)

SB 14 Teachers Without Licenses Hoagland, F.

To expand eligibility for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces to be employed as teachers without licenses.

[Text & Analysis](#)

Referred in Senate (1/17/2023; [Education](#))

SB 17 School Curriculum Wilson, S.

To incorporate free market capitalism content into the high school financial literacy and entrepreneurship standards and model curriculum.

[Text & Analysis](#)

Referred in Senate (1/17/2023; Education)

**SB 30 Minor Labor Laws
Schaffer, T.**

To allow a person under sixteen years of age to be employed after 7 p.m. during the school year.

[Text & Analysis](#)

Introduced in Senate (1/26/2023)

Education Monitor Report

January 28, 2023



Bill #	Summary	Status
SB1	Revise Education Law and Department duties; rename the Department	2023-01-17 / Introduced To Senate Education Committee
SB11	Enact the Parent Educational Freedom Act	2023-01-17 / Introduced To Senate Education Committee
SB14	Expand veteran eligibility to teach without license	2023-01-17 / Introduced To Senate Education Committee
SB17	Add capitalism to high school financial literacy standards	2023-01-17 / Introduced To Senate Education Committee
SB27	Ratify Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact	2023-01-23 / Introduced Introduced