

Ohio ACTE Legislative Update

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Introduction

- Lawmakers and the DeWine Administration continue to focus on COVID-19 as they finalize reopening plans for all private industry sectors, state / local governments and schools.
- The state's fiscal outlook remains grim, with an expected 2.5B FY21 State Operating Budget Shortfall
 - Decreased revenue from State Sales Tax, Income Tax, and Commercial Activity Tax (CAT)
 - Increased spending on Medicaid, Unemployment
 - \$775M of cuts already made to FY 20 budget
 - Billions in CARES Act Relief (\$500M to Ohio k-12 schools)
 - \$2.7B in Rainy Day Fund

Executive Update: Reset / Restart Ohio

- Over the last few months, the three CTE associations have engaged in dozens of discussions / conferences with DeWine Administration and ODE staff regarding wide-ranging COVID-19 concerns.
- ODE is finalizing its “Reset and RestartOhio” guidance for the Fall reopening of k-12 schools
 - Update on discussions with ODE / Governor
 - Timeline / dynamics moving forward

Brief Legislative Update

- Legislative Environment
- Pending Issues
 - Addressing COVID-19
 - EXAMPLES: Relaxing regulatory restrictions on restaurants / bars; addressing collection / reporting of COVID-19 data
 - Addressing racism and related public health issues
 - Police Reform
 - Broadband Access
 - Firearm reform
 - Sports Betting
- Legislative Schedule

Amended House Bill 164

- Originally addressed religious expression, but amended heavily with SB 319 provisions (COVID-19 response measure).
- Passed expeditiously by both chambers and awaiting Governor's signature.
- Includes provisions that address the following:
 - Payment for districts with decreases in utility TPP value
 - Funding adjustment for districts with utility TPP value increases
 - Quality Community School Support Program
 - Teacher and principal evaluations
 - Third-Grade Reading Guarantee
 - Reading improvement plans
 - Academic assessment records for home instructed students
 - Community school sponsor ratings
 - Services to special needs students
 - Remote learning
 - Grade band flexibility
 - Community school governing authorities
 - Storm shelters
 - Online bus driver training
 - Qualify for high school diploma using final course grades in lieu of end-of-course exam scores

Link to HB 164 & Analysis

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA133-HB-164>

Other Pending Education-Related Legislation

- Senate Bill 89
- Senate Bill 320: 20-21 School Year Reopening
- House Bill 123: School Security and Youth Suicide Awareness Training
- House Bill 322: Ohio Teacher Residency Program
- House Bill 367: Job Description for School Counselors
- House Bill 696: Career Technical Education