

OHIO

SENATE

JOURNAL

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2025

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY
Senate Chamber, Columbus, Ohio
Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 1:30 p.m.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer was offered by Senator Terry Johnson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The journal of the last legislative day was read and approved.

The following guests were recognized by the Senate prior to the commencement of business:

Senator Landis recognized the Indian Valley High School Football Team as the OHSAA Division IV State Champions.

**REPORTS OF REFERENCE AND BILLS FOR SECOND
CONSIDERATION**

Senator McColley reports for the standing committee on Rules and Reference, recommending that the following bills and resolutions, standing in order for second consideration, be referred to committee as recommended:

H. B. No. 28-Representatives Mathews, A., Hall, T., et al.

To amend sections 319.301, 319.302, 523.06, 1545.21, 3316.041, 3316.06, 3358.11, 3505.06, 5705.03, 5705.218, 5705.2111, 5705.221, 5705.233, 5705.261, and 5705.412 and to repeal section 5705.192 of the Revised Code to eliminate the authority to levy replacement property tax levies.

To the Committee on Ways and Means.

H. B. No. 38-Representative Fowler Arthur, et al.

To enact section 5534.924 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 87 in Geauga County as the "Dr. Steven Takacs Veteran Memorial Highway."

To the Committee on Transportation.

H. B. No. 50-Representative King, et al.

To enact section 5533.106 of the Revised Code to designate a portion of State Route 47 in Darke County as the "PFC John Wayne Richard Memorial Highway."

To the Committee on Transportation.

S. R. No. 68-Senator Roegner

To support moving NASA headquarters to Ohio.

To the Committee on General Government.

S. R. No. 69-Senator Reynolds

To recognize the Kingdom of Bhutan as responsible for the oppression and forced eviction of more than 120,000 Bhutanese citizens during the late 1980s and 1990s.

To the Committee on Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.

S. B. No. 152-Senator Brenner, et al.

To amend sections 4729.01, 4729.531, 4729.532, 4729.54, and 4729.55 of the Revised Code to allow wild animal rehabilitation facilities to receive a limited license to administer euthanasia drugs.

To the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

S. B. No. 153-Senators Gavarone, Brenner

To amend sections 303.12, 303.59, 307.94, 3501.01, 3501.38, 3501.381, 3501.39, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.33, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.09, 3511.11, 3511.14, 3513.07, 3513.261, 3517.01, 3517.12, 3519.02, 3519.05, 3519.16, 3599.12, and 3599.21 and to enact sections 3503.201, 3503.202, and 3511.052 of the Revised Code to require verification of an elector's citizenship before the elector may vote and to modify procedures regarding voter registration, voter roll maintenance, absent voting, and election petitions.

To the Committee on General Government.

S. B. No. 154-Senator Ingram, et al.

To amend sections 3721.60, 3721.61, 3721.62, 3721.63, 3721.65, and 3721.66 of the Revised Code to make changes regarding electronic monitoring of a resident's room in a long-term care facility.

To the Committee on Health.

S. B. No. 155-Senators Brenner, Ingram

To amend sections 4735.18 and 4735.24 and to enact section 5301.95 of the

Revised Code to amend the law related to real estate wholesalers.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

S. B. No. 156-Senator Cutrona

To enact sections 3301.0717 and 3313.6025 of the Revised Code regarding the success sequence curriculum.

To the Committee on Education.

S. B. No. 157-Senator Lang

To amend sections 2305.06 and 2305.07 of the Revised Code to reduce the statute of limitations for bringing an action upon a written or oral contract.

To the Committee on Judiciary.

YES - 11: NICKIE J. ANTONIO, BRIAN M. CHAVEZ, JERRY C. CIRINO, HEARCEL F. CRAIG, THERESA GAVARONE, BETH LISTON, ROB MCCOLLEY, BILL REINEKE, MICHELE REYNOLDS, TIM SCHAFFER, KENT SMITH

NO - 0.

The question being, "Shall the report of the committee be accepted?"

The report of the committee was accepted.

Said bills and resolutions were considered a second time and referred to committee as recommended.

REPORTS OF STANDING AND SELECT COMMITTEES

Senator McColley submitted the following report:

The standing committee on Rules and Reference to which were referred the appointments by the Governor of:

Bales, S. Bradley, from Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, as a Member of the Ohio Board of Motor Vehicle Repair for a term beginning January 15, 2025, ending at the close of business January 1, 2028, replacing S. Bradley Bales, whose term expired.

Clough, Dennis, Republican, from Westlake, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, as a Member of the State Fire Council for a term beginning December 19, 2024, ending at the close of business November 1, 2029, replacing Dennis M. Clough, whose term expired.

Haydocy, Christopher, Democrat, from Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio, as a Member of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Board for a term beginning January 15, 2025, ending at the close of business October 4, 2027, replacing Christopher J. Haydocy, whose term expired.

Huser, Robert, Republican, from Lebanon, Warren County, Ohio, as a Member of the Motor Vehicle Dealers Board for a term beginning January 15, 2025, ending at the close of business October 4, 2027, replacing Robert B. Huser, whose term expired.

Jones, Charles, from Cardington, Morrow County, Ohio, as a Member of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission for a term beginning January 15, 2025, ending at the close of business September 19, 2027, replacing Charles A. Jones, whose term expired.

Poole, Todd, Independent, from Delaware, Delaware County, Ohio, as a Member of the State Fire Council for a term beginning December 19, 2024, ending at the close of business November 1, 2029, replacing Todd L. Poole, whose term expired.

Having had the same under consideration, reports back the recommendation that the Senate advise and consent to said appointments.

YES – 11: NICKIE J. ANTONIO, BRIAN M. CHAVEZ, JERRY C. CIRINO, HEARCEL F. CRAIG, THERESA GAVARONE, BETH LISTON, ROB MCCOLLEY, BILL REINEKE, MICHELE REYNOLDS, TIM SCHAFFER, KENT SMITH

NO – 0.

The question being, "Shall the Senate advise and consent to the appointments by the Governor?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antonio	Blackshear	Blessing	Chavez
Cirino	Craig	Cutrona	DeMora
Gavarone	Hicks-Hudson	Huffman	Ingram
Johnson	Koehler	Landis	Liston
Manchester	Manning	O'Brien	Patton
Reineke	Reynolds	Roegner	Romanchuk
Schaffer	Smith	Timken	Weinstein
Wilkin	Wilson		McColley-31

So the Senate advised and consented to said appointments.

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

The amendments of the House of Representatives to:

Sub. S. B. No. 1-Senator Cirino.

Cosponsors: Senators Brenner, Chavez, Cutrona, Johnson, Koehler, Lang, Manchester, O'Brien, Reineke, Roegner, Romanchuk, Schaffer, Wilkin, Huffman, Timken. Representatives Young, Williams, Barhorst, Bird, Click, Craig, Creech, Dean, Demetriou, Dovilla, Fischer, Fowler Arthur, Gross, Hall, T., Hiner, John, Jones, King, Lear, Lorenz, Mathews, A., Mathews, T., McClain, Miller, M., Newman, Plummer, Ritter, Robb Blasdel, Stewart, Thomas, D., Willis, Workman.

To amend sections 3335.02, 3335.09, 3337.01, 3339.01, 3341.02, 3343.02, 3344.01, 3345.45, 3350.10, 3352.01, 3356.01, 3359.01, 3361.01, 3362.01, 3364.01, 4117.14, and 4117.15; to enact new section 3333.045 and sections 3345.029, 3345.0216, 3345.0217, 3345.0218, 3345.0219, 3345.382, 3345.451, 3345.452, 3345.453, 3345.454, 3345.455, 3345.456, 3345.591, 3345.80, and 3345.88; and to repeal section 3333.045 of the Revised Code to enact the Advance Ohio Higher Education Act regarding the operation of state institutions of higher education, were taken up.

The question being, "Shall the Senate concur in the amendments of the House of Representatives?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 20, nays 11, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Chavez	Cirino	Cutrona	Gavarone
Huffman	Johnson	Koehler	Landis
Manchester	Manning	O'Brien	Reineke
Reynolds	Roegner	Romanchuk	Schaffer
Timken	Wilkin	Wilson	McColley-20

Those who voted in the negative were: Senators

Antonio	Blackshear	Blessing	Craig
DeMora	Hicks-Hudson	Ingram	Liston
Patton	Smith		Weinstein-11

So the Senate concurred in the amendments of the House of Representatives.

RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE

S. C. R. No. 5-Senator Koehler.

Cosponsors: Senators Schaffer, Lang, Brenner, Huffman, Wilson, Johnson, Romanchuk.

To urge the President of the United States to support the Ohio Department of Medicaid's request to implement work requirements for certain Medicaid recipients.

WHEREAS, H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly required the Medicaid Director to seek approval from the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to impose work requirements for

certain Medicaid recipients; and

WHEREAS, The Ohio Department of Medicaid and Medicaid Director submitted to CMS in April 2018 a "Group VIII Work Requirement and Community Engagement 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application" to authorize the state to require all new adult expansion group beneficiaries, ages 19 through 49, with certain exemptions, to participate in and timely report 80 hours per month of qualifying community engagement activities, such as employment, education, or job skills training, as a condition of continued Medicaid eligibility; and

WHEREAS, CMS approved the request in March 2019, but before the Section 1115 demonstration waiver could be implemented, CMS withdrew its approval in August 2021; and

WHEREAS, H.B 33 of the 135th General Assembly requires the Medicaid Director, between February 1, 2025, and March 1, 2025, to apply to CMS for a new approval to implement work requirements for the Medicaid expansion eligibility group; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Medicaid and Medicaid Director recently published a Public Notice and Request for Comment on a "Group VIII 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application" intended for submission to CMS in February 2025; and

WHEREAS, Governor Mike DeWine has stated that implementing Medicaid work requirements is consistent with the state's goal to empower all people to reach their full potential and its responsibility to ensure that as many Ohioans as possible are on a pathway to financial independence; and

WHEREAS, According to the Department of Medicaid, in addition to promoting economic stability and financial independence, implementing Medicaid work requirements will improve health outcomes by encouraging individuals to be engaged with their health and health care; and

WHEREAS, Adding work requirements to the Medicaid program would ensure that Medicaid recipients continue to maintain existing employable skills or develop and improve employable skills; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the President of the United States to support the Department of Medicaid's request to impose work requirements for certain Medicaid recipients; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Administrator of CMS, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

The question being, “Shall the concurrent resolution, **S. C. R. No. 5**, be adopted?”

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 21, nays 10, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Chavez	Cirino	Cutrona	Gavarone
Huffman	Johnson	Koehler	Landis
Manchester	Manning	O'Brien	Patton
Reineke	Reynolds	Roegner	Romanchuk
Schaffer	Timken	Wilkin	Wilson
			McColley-21

Those who voted in the negative were: Senators

Antonio	Blackshear	Blessing	Craig
DeMora	Hicks-Hudson	Ingram	Liston
Smith			Weinstein-10

So the concurrent resolution was adopted.

The title was amended as follows:

Add the names: "Cirino, Patton, Reineke, Reynolds, Roegner, Wilkin."

The question being, “Shall the motion be agreed to?”

The motion was agreed to and the title so amended.

S. R. No. 21-Senator Schaffer.

Cosponsors: Senators Brenner, Koehler, Liston, DeMora, O'Brien, Wilkin, Weinstein, Smith, Patton, Johnson, Craig.

To urge the U.S. Congress to support the provision of prompt and comprehensive mental health treatment to military personnel and veterans who are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and other service-related stress disorders.

WHEREAS, According to the National Institutes of Health, the most common mental health problems faced by returning troops are, in order, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use disorder, anxiety disorder, and serious mental illness such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder; and

WHEREAS, The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq were the longest combat operations since Vietnam, and the stress of being in a war zone or long-term naval deployment combined with the stress of being away from home for long periods of time can increase the chance of having PTSD or other mental health problems; and

WHEREAS, According to research conducted at Brown University's Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, 30,177 active duty personnel and veterans who served in the military after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks have died by suicide compared to the 7,057 service

members killed in combat in those same 20 years; and

WHEREAS, According to the United Service Organizations, Inc., suicide rates among active-duty military members in 2021 were at an all-time high since recordkeeping began after September 11, 2001, and had been increasing over the previous five years at an alarmingly steady pace; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Department of Defense, and many other entities are working to identify and address the issues of veterans and military personnel suffering from PTSD and other service-related stress disorders; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs has established the National Center for PTSD as a center of excellence for research and education on the prevention, understanding, and treatment of PTSD; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, each medical center within the Department has PTSD specialists who provide treatment for veterans with PTSD; and

WHEREAS, Mental trauma may not be as easily identifiable as the physical trauma suffered by military personnel and veterans, and may require additional resources to identify and treat; and

WHEREAS, Only qualified and licensed medical professionals with experience treating military personnel and veterans should have the authority to approve or disapprove mental health treatment of military personnel and veterans experiencing service-related stress disorders; and

WHEREAS, While support and treatment programs are available to veterans and military personnel suffering from PTSD or other service-related stress disorders, there are many service members who are still not receiving sufficient treatment; and

WHEREAS, Several recommendations made by the U.S. Government Accountability Office to the U.S. Department of Defense have not yet been fully implemented to ensure that PTSD and traumatic brain injuries are appropriately considered prior to separating certain service members from the military for misconduct, thereby placing both the earned benefits due to veterans and the mental health of some service members and veterans in jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, The service members who willingly sacrifice their safety for the freedom of all Americans deserve to have access to all the resources and support services necessary for them to reintegrate into society; and

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable may qualify for VA health care benefits including qualifying Reserve and National Guard

members; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio Senate of the 136th General Assembly, urge the United States Congress to support the provision of prompt and comprehensive mental health diagnosis and treatment to all military personnel and veterans who are suffering from PTSD and other service-related stress disorders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that each of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's recommendations is implemented to guarantee that PTSD and traumatic brain injuries are appropriately considered prior to separating certain service members from the military for misconduct; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we believe military personnel and veterans who had separation or discharge from military service related to mental health issues should have consideration to correct records to a more honorable discharge; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm that post-military service civilian income should not have any bearing on eligibility for healthcare-related benefits or treatment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Speaker and Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the U.S. Senate, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

The question being, "Shall the resolution, **S. R. No. 21**, be adopted?"

Senator Weinstein moved to amend as follows:

After line 21, insert:

"WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, in 2022 nationally an average of 17.6 veterans committed suicide per day, and in that year 232 Ohio veterans committed suicide, a rate that was nearly double the percentage of suicides committed by other Ohioans; and"

After line 87, insert:

"RESOLVED, That we believe it is crucial to preventing suicides among veterans that the Department of Veterans Affairs must commit to maintaining full staffing by halting the elimination of mental health providers and staff, including the Veterans Crisis Line, and reinstate those that have been fired; and be it further"

The question being, "Shall the amendment be agreed to?"

Senator Reineke moved that the amendment be laid on the table.

The question being, "Shall the motion be agreed to?"

A roll call was requested which was properly supported.

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 22, nays 9, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Blessing	Chavez	Cirino	Cutrona
Gavarone	Huffman	Johnson	Koehler
Landis	Manchester	Manning	O'Brien
Patton	Reineke	Reynolds	Roegner
Romanchuk	Schaffer	Timken	Wilkin
Wilson			McColley-22

Those who voted in the negative were: Senators

Antonio	Blackshear	Craig	DeMora
Hicks-Hudson	Ingram	Liston	Smith
			Weinstein-9

The amendment was laid on the table.

The question recurred, “Shall the resolution, **S. R. No. 21**, be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antonio	Blackshear	Blessing	Chavez
Cirino	Craig	Cutrona	DeMora
Gavarone	Hicks-Hudson	Huffman	Ingram
Johnson	Koehler	Landis	Liston
Manchester	Manning	O'Brien	Patton
Reineke	Reynolds	Roegner	Romanchuk
Schaffer	Smith	Timken	Weinstein
Wilkin	Wilson		McColley-31

So the resolution was adopted.

The title was amended as follows:

Add the names: "Antonio, Blackshear, Blessing, Chavez, Cirino, Cutrona, Gavarone, Hicks-Hudson, Huffman, Ingram, Landis, Manning, Reineke, Reynolds, Roegner, Romanchuk, Timken, Wilson."

The question being, “Shall the motion be agreed to?"

The motion was agreed to and the title so amended.

BILLS FOR THIRD CONSIDERATION

Am. S. B. No. 101-Senator Blessing.

To amend sections 3123.67, 4123.78, 4141.23, 5301.071, 5301.255, 5719.04, 5739.13, 5747.13, and 5749.07 of the Revised Code to require certain liens filed with the county recorder to set forth the last known address

of the lien debtor and to require a memorandum of trust or other qualifying instrument concerning real property to be recorded, was considered the third time.

The question being, "Shall the bill, **Am. S. B. No. 101**, pass?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antonio	Blackshear	Blessing	Chavez
Cirino	Craig	Cutrona	DeMora
Gavarone	Hicks-Hudson	Huffman	Ingram
Johnson	Koehler	Landis	Liston
Manchester	Manning	O'Brien	Patton
Reineke	Reynolds	Roegner	Romanchuk
Schaffer	Smith	Timken	Weinstein
Wilkin	Wilson		McColley-31

So the bill passed.

The title was amended as follows:

Add the names: "Antonio, Blackshear, Cirino, Craig, DeMora, Gavarone, Hicks-Hudson, Huffman, Ingram, Manning, Patton, Reineke, Schaffer, Smith, Timken, Wilkin."

The question being, "Shall the motion be agreed to?"

The motion was agreed to and the title so amended.

MOTIONS

Senator Gavarone moved that Senators absent the week of Sunday, March 23, 2025, be excused, so long as a written explanation is on file with the Clerk pursuant to Senate Rule No. 17.

The question being, "Shall the motion be agreed to?"

The motion was agreed to.

Message from the House of Representatives

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform you that the Speaker of the House of Representatives has signed the following bill:

Sub. S. B. No. 1-Senator Cirino – et al.

Attest:

Bradley J. Young,
Clerk.

The President signed said bill.

On the motion of Senator Reineke, the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Attest:

VINCENT L. KEERAN,
Clerk.