



OHIO ALLIANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Arts Online Newsletter Week of December 18, 2023

135th OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Ohio House and Senate approve bills and adjourn until January 2024

Both the Ohio House and Senate held voting sessions on December 13, 2023, as lawmakers worked to finalize a number of bills before adjourning for the holidays.

One of the most **controversial bills of this session, Sub. HB68 Gender Services for Minors, Single-Sex Sports Teams** (Gary Click), is the **only education-related bill that passed both chambers and will be sent to Governor Mike DeWine to sign into law.**

Sub. HB68 **prohibits physicians and mental health professionals from providing certain gender transition services for minors. It also requires schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex, and prohibits transgender women and girls from participating on women's sports teams in institutions of higher education and in schools.**

According to some news reports, Governor DeWine has said in the past that he doesn't support banning people from participating in sports, because athletic associations, like the **Ohio High School Athletic Association, already have rules and procedures to address the participation of transgender students.** He told reporters that he was taking the weekend to review the testimony on HB68 before he takes any action on this legislation. The governor has 10 days after officially receiving a bill to sign the bill into law; veto the bill; or let it become law without his signature. If the bill becomes law, Ohio will become the 24th state since 2020 to enact a sports ban and the 23rd state to enact a minor medical care ban.

Another controversial bill, SB83 the Higher Education Enhancement Act (Jerry Cirino), **was not brought to a vote in the House**, although the House Workforce and Higher Education Committee reported the bill out favorably by a vote of 8 to 7 on December 6, 2023.

Sub. SB83, sponsored by Senator Jerry Cirino, is a complex and controversial bill that **would greatly expand state government oversight** over Ohio's 14 public universities and 23 community and technical colleges. Most of the testimony on the bill in both the House and Senate committees opposed the bill.

House Speaker Jason Stephens told reporters after the House adjourned that while SB83 is a priority, some House members have concerns about certain provisions, and **work will continue on the bill next year. SB83 would do the following:**

- Prohibit collective bargaining regarding tenure, tenure review, retrenchment, and faculty evaluations, which are fundamental components of faculty employment and union negotiations.
- Broaden the definition of “retrenchment” which could lead to the dismissal of tenured faculty for reasons other than fiscal emergencies, which is currently the case.
- Eliminate tenure by authorizing post-tenure reviews.
- Inhibit free speech and academic freedom by imposing vague and contradictory language about expanding intellectual diversity and prohibiting indoctrinating students regarding controversial issues, such as climate policies, electoral politics, foreign policy, immigration policy, marriage, or abortion. The ambiguity of the bill could leave faculty open to frivolous complaints and discourage faculty candidates from seeking jobs in Ohio.
- Impose a statewide system to evaluate faculty when colleges and universities in Ohio have already created effective evaluation systems based on the unique characteristics of institutions across the state. Arbitrarily requires that 25 percent of faculty evaluation consist of student evaluations. Opponents of the bill believe this provision will lead to grade inflation across the state, and harm students, who will no longer experience challenging course work.
- Require course syllabi to be posted online along with contact information of faculty and a calendar indicating when course topics to be discussed. Opponents of the bill have testified that this provision is dangerous for faculty and students because it could give trolls information to disrupt classes on controversial issues.
- Require institutions of higher education to publish a commitment statement to ensure intellectual diversity.
- Restrict collaborations with scholars in China unless certain safeguards are in place.
- Restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) training, unless required by federal or state laws, professional licensure requirements, or to get accreditation.
- Prohibit political and ideological litmus tests in hiring, promotion, and admissions.
- Require students to complete a course in civics; and more.

While the Senate seemed to be in a hurry to make HB101 a budget corrections bill, the Ohio House didn't seem to be interested.

HB101 (Adam Bird and Jean Schmidt) **as introduced, modified laws about dissolving a village government.** After the Senate Finance Committee approved Substitute HB101, the number of pages in the bill increased from 34 to 354 pages, because it had become a corrections bill for HB33 FY24-25 Operating Budget (Jay Edwards), including corrections for some education provisions. While not as extravagant as most omnibus bills passed during hectic December sessions of the Ohio General Assembly, *Hannah News Service* did refer to Sub. HB101 as a “four-foot version” of a Christmas Tree bill!

According to *Hannah News Service*, House Speaker Jason Stephens told reporters that the House needed more time to consider the provisions included in HB101.

Source: Henry, Megan, “**Ohio law banning gender-affirming care and trans athletes heads to Gov. Mike DeWine’s desk**,” Ohio Capital Journal, December 15, 2023 [HERE](#).

Source: Callahan, Carey, “**By vetoing HB 68, Gov. DeWine will keep our state’s exemplary gender-affirming health care as a national model**,” December 14, 2023, Cleveland.Com [HERE](#).

Source: Hannah News Service, “**DeWine Undecided about HB68, HB201**, Administration Working on the Capital Budget,” December 15, 2023 [HERE](#).

Source: Hannah News Service, “**Stephens Talks Marijuana, Term Limits in End of Year Roundtable**,” December 14, 2023 [HERE](#).

Source: Hannah News Service, “**Budget Corrections Bill Clears Senate**,” December 13, 2023 [HERE](#).

Bills passed by the Ohio House and Senate

HB68 Gender Services for Minors, Single-Sex Sports Teams (Gary Click): To enact the *Saving Ohio Adolescents from Experimentation* (SAFE) Act regarding gender transition services for minors, and to enact the *Save Women’s Sports Act* to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex.

The Senate **approved HB68 by a vote of 24-8, mostly along party lines, with Democrats and Republican Nathan Manning voting against the bill**. The House concurred with the Senate changes to the bill by **a vote of 61 to 27, again along party lines, with Democrats voting against the bill**.

The bill will be sent to Governor Mike DeWine to sign into law. According to some reports, Governor DeWine has said in the past that he doesn’t support banning people from participating in sports, because athletic associations, like the Ohio High School Athletic Association, already have rules and procedures to address the participation of transgender students. **The governor told reporters that he would be reviewing testimony on the bill and talking to experts over the weekend**. If the bill becomes law, Ohio will become the 24th state since 2020 to enact a sports ban and the 23rd state to enact a minor medical care ban.

Source: Hancock, Laura and Jeremy Pelzer and Andrew Tobias, “**Legislature sends Gov. DeWine bill combining bans on transgender sports and health care**,” Cleveland.com, December 14, 2023 [HERE](#).

The Ohio House passed the following education related bill

HB147 Teacher Licensure Revocation (Sarah Fowler Arthur and Adam Miller): **Regarding teacher licensure revocation, teacher hiring practices, and conduct unbecoming to the teaching profession**. The House approved the bill by a vote of 86 to 4. Voting no were Democratic Representatives Elliot Forhan, Dani Isaacsohn, Michele Grim, and Mary Lightbody.

The bill does the following:

- Includes pupil services personnel registration, private provider registration under the Autism Scholarship Program, and the authorization for certain unlicensed individuals to teach in high-

performing school districts within the definition of a “license” for purposes of the laws regarding school employee misconduct.

- Requires school districts, educational service centers, and chartered nonpublic schools to file a report with the Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding a licensed employee who retires during a disciplinary investigation for misconduct.
- Requires school districts, educational service centers, and chartered nonpublic schools to file a report when a licensed employee is removed from the list of eligible substitute teachers because it has reasonably been determined the employee committed an act unbecoming to the teaching profession.
- Requires the State Board of Education to revoke the license of an individual who is convicted of prostitution unless the individual was coerced into committing the offense.

The Ohio Senate passed the following bills

SB162 Academic Intervention Services (Andy Brenner): **With regard to academic intervention services** at each public school and to amend the version of Section 3314.03 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2025, to continue the changes on and after that effective date. The Ohio Senate approved the bill by a vote of 31 to 0.

SB162 requires school districts, community schools, and STEM schools to provide evidence-based academic intervention services, free of cost, to students who demonstrate a limited level of skill in state assessments in math or English language arts.

Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, and each school year thereafter, the bill requires the Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) to randomly select 5 percent of districts and schools for a review of their academic intervention services.

Sub. Bill SB168 Education Law Changes (Michele Reynolds): **Regarding education reforms, including changes in law that would impact standards for hiring educators, teacher evaluations, professional development, dyslexia intervention training, nonteaching staff reductions, and obsolete laws. The Senate approved the bill** on December 13, 2023, by a vote of 24 to 7 **along party lines, with Democrats opposing the bill.**

The intent of the bill is to provide schools with more flexibility to hire educators and staff. Proponents include the business community, school superintendents, administrators, school business officials and school board members.

Opponents believe that the proposed changes in law could undermine student access to high-quality educators and services, by weakening the educational requirements to become a licensed teacher, and could lead to teachers working longer hours without pay.

Sub. SB168 does the following:

- Exempts districts from certain statutory requirements.

- Modifies employment, evaluation, and licensure requirements for teachers and other school employees.
- Codifies an administrative rule that permits the State Board to issue an educator license to certain qualified out-of-state educators.
- Eliminates seniority as a preference when making reductions in nonteaching staff positions.
- Makes corrective or clarifying changes to provisions of H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly pertaining to unlicensed employee RAPBACK requirements.
- Changes certain professional development requirements related to dyslexia training and the coordination of continuing education and professional development.
- Eliminates a requirement that districts enter into supplemental contracts with teachers assigned to teach classes outside the normal school day.
- Clarifies that a school district is not required to hold a separate, individual public hearing on a proposed school calendar, but that the calendar may be addressed as part of another public hearing or meeting.
- Requires that the record of proceedings of a board of education meeting be read at the board's next regular meeting, instead of at the next succeeding meeting.
- Permits public schools that use an online learning model to complete most statewide achievement and diagnostic assessments remotely in an online format.
- Modifies payment and tutor registration procedures for the Tutoring and Remedial Education Program.
- Requires a school district that conducts an intradistrict enrollment lottery to engage in certain deadline and notice procedures.
- Creates an exception to the 30-minute timeframe within which students must be picked up following the end of school day if students are provided academic services provided by a school employee and limits those services to up to one-half hour.
- Permits a community school sponsor that was rated "exemplary" on its most recent evaluation to sponsor up to 200 community schools.
- Eliminates the requirement that community schools conduct monthly reviews of the residency of enrolled students.
- Eliminates e-school enrollment limits.
- Eliminates the requirement that each sponsorship contract include a provision requiring the sponsor to report annually the results of the academic and fiscal performance evaluation.
- Modifies the notice requirements for certain reemployed STRS and SERS retired members.

- Removes a number of policies and programs from the laws governing the Department of Workforce and Education and the State Board of Education.

Sub. HB101 Appropriations, State Program Operations (Adam Bird): It was just last week that Senator Andy Brenner announced in the Senate Education Committee that **HB101 would be a corrections bill to amend parts of House Bill 33, the FY24-25 Operating Budget**. Sub. HB 101 also eliminates one provision from the original version of HB101 that would have permitted one county to use lodging tax revenues for a purpose other than hotels and tourism

The substitute bill received bipartisan support in both the Senate Finance Committee and on the Senate floor, which approved the bill by a vote of 31-0 on December 13, 2023. The bill was not brought up in the House before it adjourned on December 13, 2023, and Speaker Jason Stephens told reporters that the House needed more time to study it and there was no hurry to get it done.

As introduced, HB101 modified laws about dissolving a village government. Sub. HB101 now makes appropriations and provides authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs, and amends the versions of sections 2950.11, 3301.53, and 3301.55 of **the Revised Code that are scheduled to take effect January 1, 2025, and continues** the provisions of this act on and after that effective date.

The following are provisions in Sub. HB101 that relate to education and Ohio's film industry:

- Clarifies that the new Department of Children and Youth will administer licensure for preschool/school age childcare
- Corrects an engrossing error and raises the minimum state share percentage from 5 percent to 10 percent for Joint Vocational School Districts (JVSD).
- Clarifies the Autism Scholarship application process to make sure that students can apply in the first year they are eligible.
- Clarifies that preservice teacher permits are under STRS not SERS.
- Clarifies the budget language that extends the window to secure local share for a school facility renovation/construction project by indicating that the provision also applies to the five districts already in the window.
- Clarifies budget language that the State Board of Education is responsible for RAPBACK and criminal record checks, and other makes other corrective changes for the implementation of the new Department of Education and Workforce.
- Corrects an erroneous cross reference for community school transportation payments from 134-HB110.
- Clarifies the conflicting effective dates for teacher grade band assignments enacted in the operating budget.
- Moves \$4 million in GRF funding from HB33 for the Center for Civics, Culture, and Society at the University of Cincinnati (UC) to the Wright State University Center for Civics, Culture and Workforce Development, which will "conduct teaching and research in the historical ideas, traditions, and texts that have shaped the American constitutional order and society and the

United States armed forces.”

- Changes budget language from “individual” to “taxpayer” for the film production company capital improvement project tax credit.
- Corrects budget bill cross references for non-existent sections dealing with the motion picture and Broadway theatrical production tax credit.
- Clarifies that transcript access and debt relief resource notifications apply to public schools but not private schools.

Ohio Senate approves trustees

The Senate voted 25-7 along party-lines on December 13, 2023, to **approve appointments to the newly created “intellectual diversity centers” at the University of Toledo (UT) and Ohio State University (OSU)**. These centers are the work of Senator Jerry Cirino, who has championed the spread of conservative ideology across Ohio’s public universities and colleges through SB117 (Cirino and McColley), which the Senate added to HB33 FY24-25 Operating Budget (Jay Edwards).

HB33 also includes funding for centers at Miami University, Cleveland State University, and the University of Cincinnati. Each university’s board of trustees is required to appoint a seven-member academic council for the center with the advice and consent of the Senate. Each center is independent from the university and is supported by state funds. The Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture and Society at OSU will receive \$5 million in both fiscal years. The Institute of American Constitutional Thought and Leadership at the University of Toledo will receive \$1 million in each fiscal year. The other three centers will receive \$2 million in each fiscal year.

The Senate approved the following University of Toledo Board of Regents **appointments** to the Institute of American Constitutional Thought and Leadership:

- Lee Strang, a constitutional law expert, the John W. Stoepler Professor of Law and Values at UT and director of the Institute of American Constitutional Thought and Leadership.
- Joel Alicea, an associate professor of law and co-director of the Project on Constitutional Originalism and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.
- Nicole Garnett, an education and property law scholar who is associate dean for external engagement and the John O. Murphy Foundation Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame.
- Paul Milazzo, an associate professor of history specializing in 20th century U.S. history at Ohio University.
- Darrell Miller, a constitutional law scholar and the Melvin G. Shimm Professor of Law at Duke University.
- Bradley Smith, an election and campaign finance law scholar and the Josiah H. Blackmore II/Shirley M. Nault Professor at Capital University.

- Richard Walinski, a graduate of the UT College of Law who is a scholar of the Ohio Constitution.

The Senate approved the following appointments to The OSU Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture and Society:

- Robert George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, professor of politics and James Madison Program director at Princeton University.
- Vladimir Kogan, a professor of political science at OSU.
- Lucas Morel, John K. Boardman, Jr. Professor of Politics and head of the Politics Department at Washington and Lee University.
- Colleen Sheehan, professor in the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership at Arizona State University.
- Bradley Smith, Josiah H. Blackmore II/Shirley M. Naully Professor of Law at Capital University Law School.
- Jean Yarbrough, Gary M. Pendy Sr. Professor of Social Sciences at Bowdoin University.
- David Van Slyke, dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

Source: **Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee Meeting** on December 13, 2023, [HERE](#).

Source: **Ohio Channel Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee** on December 13, 2023, [HERE](#).

House and Senate Committee hearings held last week

Senate Education Committee

The Senate Education Committee, chaired by Senator Andy Brenner, met on December 12, 2023, and received testimony and took action on the following bills:

SB162 Academic Intervention Services (Andy Brenner): **With regard to academic intervention services** at each public school and to amend the version of Section 3314.03 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2025, to continue the changes on and after that effective date. The committee reported the bill favorably.

SB162 requires school districts, community schools, and STEM schools to provide evidence-based academic intervention services, free of cost, to students who demonstrate a limited level of skill in state assessments in math or English language arts.

Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, and each school year thereafter, the bill requires the Department of Education and Workforce to randomly select 5 percent of districts and schools for a review of their academic intervention services.

Sub. Bill SB168 Education Law Changes (Michele Reynolds) SB168 is a comprehensive education reform bill that includes changes in law that would impact standards for hiring educators, teacher evaluations, professional development, dyslexia intervention training, nonteaching staff reductions, and obsolete laws.

The committee accepted a substitute bill with objections from Ranking Member Senator Catherine Ingram and Senator Vern Sykes. Chair Brenner explained that **these amendments had been agreed to by the DEW.**

Changes included in Sub. SB168:

- Creates a new option for boards of education to provide a 30-day notice of intent to rehire a retiring employee, rather than 60 days in current law. The board is required to provide an explanation for an urgent need to hire as part of the public notice. The 60-day notice remains otherwise unchanged.
- Adjusts the date for an intra-district open enrollment lottery to be held; establishes a range for that lottery to be held on a date between April 1 and the second Monday in June; and requires school districts to provide advance notice and an explanation of the lottery process to parents.
- Specifies that an e-school or online school is responsible for making the decision to administer tests remotely.
- Specifies that e-school students should not be charged for any equipment necessary to conduct a remote assessment.
- Clarifies that the Rapback process shall be conducted by the State Board of Education rather than the Department of Education and Workforce.
- Permits a community school sponsor rated “exemplary” on its most recent evaluation to sponsor up to 200 community schools rather than the 100 schools in current law. Exemplary rated sponsors will be permitted to sponsor an unlimited number of schools once they have been rated exemplary on two consecutive evaluations.
- Eliminates restrictions on e-school enrollment limits. However, current limits have not been triggered by any e-school.
- Removes an annual community school report requirement, already included within the state sponsor evaluation system.
- Clarifies the funds that a school may use to pay for tutoring services provided through the Tutor Ohio Program.

Ranking Member Senator Catherine Ingram **offered five amendments, which addressed aspects of the bill that** Democrats oppose, including provisions that weaken the educational requirements to become a teacher; ease the requirements regarding issuing supplemental contracts; and eliminate seniority preferences in certain cases. The amendments were tabled.

There was no testimony. The bill was reported favorably by the committee with objections from Democratic Senators Catherine Ingram and Vern Sykes.

Am. HB8 Parental Notification Requirements (Douglas Swearingen and Sara Carruthers): To enact the *Parents' Bill of Rights* to **require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification about student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexuality content.**

This is a controversial bill that proponents believe protects the rights of parents to make decisions about curriculum and expect transparent communication from staff about their child's health and well-being, while opponents believe it violates the rights of LGBTQ+ students and their parents. Am. HB8 requires boards of education to adopt a policy on parental notification about student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexual content, including content about LGBTQ+ people. [HERE.](#)

The committee received opponent and proponent testimony and Chair Brenner limited testimony to five minutes, due to the number of in-person witnesses. Out of the 63 witnesses about five were proponents and the remainder were opponents of the bill. Many opponents had testified against the bill when it was in the House.

Some opponents described their personal experiences as transgender and warned that the bill would endanger young people who are struggling to find themselves and someone to give them support in schools.

Opponents also raised questions about how the bill, if it became law, would be interpreted by boards of education, teachers, administrators, parents, and students. The bill prohibits school personnel from "encouraging a student" to withhold from a parent information concerning the student's health or well-being, but witnesses said that the bill would cause teachers and school counselors to second guess their actions, out of fear that they could lose their jobs because the definition of "well-being" is so broad.

Heather Fairs with the Ohio School Counselor Association told the committee that most of the issues that students bring to her fall into the "well-being" category, including things that students tell her about the disagreements that they have with their parents, including disagreements about academic and career choices.

She also explained that the language of the bill is ambiguous about when a counselor would need to report "parental abuse" to the authorities. In some cases failing to protect a students' confidence would violate a counselor's professional code of conduct.

One of the proponents of the bill, Lisa Chaffee with *Parents Rights in Education*, said that the bill is needed because schools are withholding important information that parents need to know about the health of their child, and in some cases, students have been harmed. The bill just increases transparency.

The bill is **expected to be voted out of committee when hearings resume next year.**

SB112 Ohio Childhood Safety Act (Rulli): To require school buildings to comply with national life safety standards and to name this act the *Ohio Childhood Safety Act*.

The committee received proponent testimony from Jayson Karas with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and Jason Pappas of the Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio.

Both proponents told the committee that the bill would increase safety, security, and collaboration with law enforcement, and improve emergency responsiveness, because it would tie directly to the Ohio School Safety Center's Emergency Management Plan.

Source: **Senate Education Committee, Hearing** on December 12, 2023, [HERE](#).

Source: **Ohio Channel Senate Education Committee, Hearing** on December 12, 2023, [HERE](#).

The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee

The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, chaired by Representative Adam Bird, met on December 12, 2023 and received testimony on the following bills:

HB312 Regional Partnership Program (Andrea White and Tom Young): The bill establishes the *Prenatal-to-Five Early Childhood to Post-Secondary Regional Partnership Program* to support existing and establish new early childhood to post-secondary regional partnerships throughout Ohio. Each partnership must work collaboratively to increase education attainment and economic mobility outcomes for children and adults. The partnerships are coordinated by the Department of Education and Workforce working with the Department of Higher Education and the Department of Children and Youth. The bill also appropriates \$2.5 million to support the program.

The committee amended the bill without objection. **The amendment clarifies that the bill is permissive and not a mandate.** Representative Joe Miller thanked Chair Bird for the amendment, because in previous hearings he had asked if school districts would be required to participate in a regional partnership and was concerned about the cost of participating.

There was no testimony. The committee favorably reported the bill with one no vote from Representative Beth Lear.

HB266 Evacuation Plans for Students with Disabilities (Scott Wiggams): To require school districts and schools to update emergency management plans to include evacuation procedures for individuals with disabilities and to amend the version of Section 3314.03 of the ORC that is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2025, to continue the changes on and after that effective date.

Representative Wiggam presented sponsor testimony, saying that the bill would require schools to update their emergency service plans to include evacuation procedures for students with disabilities. He told the committee that this bill was suggested by one of his constituents because of an incident in which a child with a disability was left behind during an evacuation drill.

HB171 Migration in Social Studies Curriculum (Mary Lightbody): To include instruction on the migration, experiences, and contributions of a range of communities in the social studies model curriculum.

About 80 people submitted proponent testimony on the bill. According to testimony provided by Arianna Kelawala, a student from Ohio State University, more students would like the opportunity to share their stories about why passing HB171 is so important.

Only three individuals were invited to the hearing to present their testimony, while nearly 3,200 Ohioans have written to committee members in support of HB171. Kelawala asked Chair Bird to schedule another proponent hearing in January 2024 so that more witnesses could testify.

Source: **House Primary and Secondary Education Committee** on December 12, 2023 [HERE](#).

Source: **Ohio Channel House Primary and Secondary Education Committee** December 12, 2023 [HERE](#).

Senate Government Oversight Committee

The Senate Government Oversight Committee, chaired by Kristina Roegner, met on December 13, 2023 to consider Sub. HB68 (Gary Click): To enact sections 3109.054, 3129.01, 3129.02, 3129.03, 3129.04, 3129.05, 3129.06, 3313.5319, and 3345.562 of the Revised Code; **to enact the *Saving Ohio Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act* regarding gender transition services for minors; and to enact the *Save Women's Sports Act* to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex.**

Before the bill was reported out favorably it was **amended to include the following additional provisions:**

- Includes a grandfather clause to allow a physician to continue to prescribe hormones or puberty-blocking drugs to a minor after the bill's effective date under specified circumstances.
- Removes a section delaying the bill's provisions for six months after the effective date.
- Requires a mental health professional to obtain permission from at least one parent or guardian, rather than "each" parent or guardian, before diagnosing or treating a minor's gender-related condition.
- Removes the definition of gender from the bill.
- Removes language from the legislative findings section of the bill referencing American Psychiatric Association data on the percentage of the U.S. population that experiences distress at identifying with their biological sex.

Sub. HB68 *Saving Ohio Adolescents from Experimentation Act* (SAFE) (Gary Click) was referred to the House Public Health Policy Committee. **HB6 *Save Women's Sports Act*** (Jena Powell) was added to Sub. HB68 Gender Services for Minors (Gary Click) in the House Public Health Policy Committee on June 14, 2023. **The Ohio House passed HB68 on June 21, 2023 by a vote of 64 to 28.**