

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Ohio State Organization - DKG

Legislative Liaison Blog

By Pamela Henney, Legislative Advocate

More on Ohio's school start plans with downloadable guides and essential links, Congress's efforts for women and diversity, Ohio's income tax deduction for teachers as well as progress on the "Pink Tax", and a follow up to Advocacy that Works! Round Table hosted by DKG International's U.S. Forum in this month's legislative report.

On September 13, the Ohio Department of Education released their Reset and Restart Education guidelines and website with tools and resources available to administrators, teachers, and parents, as the battlefield against COVID-19 moves into the classroom. The guide tackles more than simply health and safety issues and general operations with subjects like addressing potential flare-ups, student educational experience and learning, educator readiness, and social-emotional health. Download the guidelines here: [Reset and Restart Planning Guide](#) Learn more from the State Superintendent Paulo DeMaria here: [Reset and Restart Education video link](#) and visit the website here: [Ohio Department of Education/Reset and Restart Educational Planning site](#)

Congress, back from vacation, continues to introduce bills to encourage diversity, including a proposal to develop a Strength in Diversity program promoting women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations and several similar or related measures for pregnant worker fairness. An End Pandemic Hunger for College Students Act has been introduced, along with a bill to give states the flexibility to have federal education funds follow the child. The Ohio Legislature made the final round of concurrences and amendments authorizing a standing state income tax (business) deduction for teachers' professional development and classroom supplies. Additionally, the "Pink Tax," discussed in this column earlier this year, exempting feminine hygiene products and some incontinence products from sales tax has passed both the Senate, House, and both Concur on Amendments, so this is off to the governor.

In other news, DKG International U.S. Forum hosted a Round Table: Advocacy that Works! Best Practices for Successful Legislative Programs on Sept. 29th a recording of which should be available on the DKG International website now.