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Legislative Update

Below is a list of legislation the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission is tracking. We encourage you to become familiar with these proposals, as they could affect Ohio's Latino community. To read a complete list of tracked legislation, [click here](#).

House Bill 1 - Dating Protection Orders

[HB 1](#) grants several new protections to victims of domestic violence in Ohio. Namely, the Court of Common pleas would be authorized to issue a civil domestic violence protection order for a dating partner of a person who commits domestic violence. Law enforcement agencies would be required to maintain an index of dating partner protection orders and consent agreements provided by the courts, which is crucial to enforcement of the protection orders. Under the bill, the Attorney General would be required to include in the crime victims' bill or rights pamphlet notice of the right of a dating partner who is a victim of domestic violence to a protection order. Dating partners who are victims of domestic violence would be provided access to domestic violence shelters. The legislation was introduced in the previous General Assembly and passed in the Ohio House, however the bill was not passed in the Senate during lame duck. HB 1 passed unanimously in the House this year and is currently under consideration in the Senate. It is expected to pass the Senate in the near future.

Related Articles:

Columbus Dispatch-- [Victims of dating violence could finally get legal protection in Ohio](#)



Upcoming Events:

Drug Abuse and the
Opiate Epidemic,
Columbus - April 21

LULAC Ohio State
Convention,
Dayton - April 22

How to Navigate the
American Health
System, Columbus -
April 28

Hispanic Leadership
Conference and Gala,
Lorain - April 29

[New American Forum](#),
Columbus - May 10

Free IEP Clinic for
Fairfield County Families
- May 11

Ohio Business and
Career Expo, Columbus
- May 17

Hispanic Legislative Visit
Day, Columbus - June
14

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complete list of events.](#)

Senate Bill 11 - Cesar Chavez Day

[SB 11](#) would formally recognize March 31st as Cesar Chavez Day in Ohio each year. The Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs is proud to have partnered with Senator Charleta Tavares to initiate this legislation.. Cesar Chavez is the most recognized Latino civil rights leader in the United States, and dedicated his life to improving the wages and working conditions for farm workers across America. Ohio is home to 43,250 migrant or seasonal farm workers that have helped make food production and agriculture the leading industries in Ohio. OCHLA is a strong proponent of this bill and will continue to advocate for its passage. SB 11 has been referred to the Senate Local Government Committee, and has received one hearing where Senator Tavares presented sponsor testimony.

House Bill 148 - Home Improvement Contractor Registration

[HB 148](#) would require the statewide registration of home improvement contractors and would create the Home Improvement Board. "Home Improvement" includes the repair, replacement, remodeling, alteration, and sandblasting of any residential building or structure adjacent to a building such as a garage or deck. All contractors, subcontractors and independent contractors would be required to register with the Home Improvement Board. The Home Improvement Board would be tasked with inspecting residential buildings and maintaining all information pertaining to contractor registrations. This legislation has been referred to the House Finance Committee where it awaits a hearing.

House Bill 60 - Enhanced Driver's License

[HB 60](#) would require the Director of Public Safety to enter into an agreement with the US Department of Homeland Security to obtain approval to issue an enhanced driver's licenses, enhanced commercial driver's licenses and enhanced ID cards. The enhanced IDs and licenses would facilitate land and sea border crossings between the U.S., and Canada and Mexico. Currently, states that

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issue enhanced driver's licenses include Michigan, New York, Vermont, and Washington. This legislation is currently being considered by the House Transportation and Safety Committee.

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