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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 380 - Prohibiting Undocumented Workers from Collecting Worker's Comp Benefits

This month, the Ohio House of Representatives passed a bill that would prohibit undocumented immigrants from collecting workers' compensation benefits if they are injured on the job. Employers would be granted immunity from liability for damages suffered by reason of personal injury sustained or occupational disease contracted in the course of employment caused by the wrongful act or omission or neglect of the employer. The bill, which was passed along party lines, has been referred to the Senate where it awaits consideration. During the bill's debate on the House floor, Rep. Dan Ramos said the legislation could be "perceived as racist" and that not one proponent testified in support of the bill in committee. The bill's sponsor said that it's ridiculous to say the bill is a shield for unscrupulous employers and that it's time to finally put Ohio workers first.

Related Articles:

Columbus Dispatch-- [Ohio House passes bill blocking "illegal aliens" from workers' comp](#)

The Plain Dealer

[State report cards need to be re-examined, says state school board member Lisa Woods](#)



Upcoming Events:

Cocktails for a Cause,
Columbus - December
21

Hispanic Coalition
Fundraiser at Chipotle,
Columbus - January 2

Dia de Los Reyes
Magos, Columbus -
January 6

How to Teach a Cooking
Class, Columbus -
January 6

Summit Victim
Assistance Academy,
Akron - January 8

Ohio Human Trafficking
Awareness Day,
Columbus - January 11
& 12

Mentoring 4 Reading
achievement, Pickaway -
January 17

Trauma Informed

House Bill 214 - Banning Down Syndrome Abortions

This month, the Ohio legislature passed a bill that would prohibit doctors from performing an abortion on a pregnant woman who is seeking the abortion because an unborn child has or may have Down Syndrome. Performing an abortion for these women would be a fourth-degree felony, punishable with up to 18 months in prison and a \$5,000 fine. Women who have abortions in violation of this law would face no penalties. The bill passed largely among party-line votes in the Senate, with three Republican senators joining Democrats against the measure. The bill now awaits Governor Kasich's signature.

Related Articles:

Cleveland Plain Dealer - [Ohio Senate sends Down syndrome abortion ban to Gov. John Kasich](#)

Senate Bill 216 - Ohio Public School Deregulation Act

The Senate Education Committee held numerous committee hearings over the past few months regarding SB 216, which would make major changes related to school assessments, the teacher evaluation system and the reporting of student performance on the state report card. Main provisions of the legislation would eliminate the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, and increase from 15 to 30 the minimum number of students ("N"-size) in a group for student performance data to be reported. The latter provision would be especially impactful on English Learners, as their performance would not be reported as a cohort if the school has fewer than 30 students who are English Learners. Jesús Sánchez of the Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center and John Monteleone of Oberlin City Schools testified against the "N" size proposed changes stating that "raising the "N" size would only make for a further reduction in the number of schools held accountable for certain groups of students." Further committee hearings on the proposal may be forthcoming in the new year.

Supervision Training,
Cincinnati - January 31

[Click here to view a complete list of events.](#)

Did you miss a Legislative Update?

[Click here to access a list of all our updates.](#)

House Bill 164 - Commercial Roofing Licensure

This month, the Ohio House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor Committee held a hearing on legislation that would require commercial roofing contractors to have a license. Ezra Escudero of the LIBRE Initiative testified against the bill stating that the bill "will only enrich special interest groups at the expense of everyone else...This is a real tax, especially on the poor and the middle class, restored citizens, Latinos in Ohio, entrepreneurs with dreams and many others." Shane Allyne, president of Heartland Construction, further underscored Escudero's claims stating that the legislation is an "unfair burden that adds unnecessary requirements", and that it lacks specific details on "how the governing body plans to arrive at these requirements." The Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce submitted written testimony in opposition of the measure. Further committee hearings on the proposal may be forthcoming in the new year.

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