



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 impact Ohio's Latino community. To read a complete list of tracked legislation, [click here](#).

News Impacting the Community

The Washington Post
[Supreme Court to review Obama's power on deportation policy](#)

La Prensa
[OCHLA releases Year-End Report, calls for continued change](#)

La Prensa
[Latino Families can learn about Catholic School Scholarships](#)

Toledo Blade
[Editorial: Register Ohio voters online](#)

Columbus Dispatch
[Students continue to struggle in Ohio's high-poverty school districts](#)

HB 394 - Overhaul of Ohio's Unemployment Compensation System

[House Bill 394](#)-- Introduced by Representative Barbara Sears of Monclova Township, HB 394 would provide a major overhaul of the state's unemployment insurance system. Among many provisions, the bill would increase the taxable wage base for employers and reduce workers' eligibility for benefits from 26 weeks to as few as 12 weeks. According to the Legislative Service Commission, the legislation would reduce unemployment benefit payments by an average of \$475 million each year between 2018 and 2025. The bill's sponsor says that an overhaul of the unemployment system is urgent, as unemployment rates are falling, thus allowing the state to pay off its debts to the federal government. According to the sponsor, cutting unemployment benefits is appropriate, and that most Ohioans collect unemployment benefits for an average of 14 weeks. Opponents of the legislation claim that it overwhelmingly favors employers at the expense of employees, whom the "system was designed to help". Multiple hearings have been held in the House Insurance Committee, where the bill is expected to be approved in the near future.

Toledo Blade - [Ohio House bill would cut benefits for unemployed](#)
Plain Dealer - [Ohio unemployment benefits would be slashed under new legislation](#)

SB 158 - Automatic Voter Registration

Plain Dealer

[National marijuana group plans Ohio medical marijuana amendment for 2016 ballot](#)

Associate Press

[Ohio sets new guidelines for short-term pain prescribing](#)



Upcoming Events:

Workshop: Students with Undocumented Immigration Status, Columbus - January 28

Arepas Fundraiser for Nuestra Gente, Toledo - January 31

Community Focus Group on Diversity, University of Toledo - February 1

Trauma and Dissociation Part II, Columbus - February 5

NAMI Hispanic/Latino Leadership Breakfast, Toledo - February 5

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group (en Español), Call-in -

[Senate Bill 158](#) - Introduced by Sen. Kenny Yuko of Cleveland, SB 158 would automatically register eligible individuals in certain government and school databases to vote. Individuals would have their registrations updated automatically unless they decline to do so. The legislation would also create an online voter registration system in Ohio. Six Democratic legislators have signed on to the bill, which awaits a hearing in the Government Oversight and Reform Committee.

HB 359 - Address Confidentiality for Domestic Violence Victims

[House Bill 359](#) - Introduced by Representatives Mike Duffey and Anne Gonzales of Central Ohio, HB 359 would create an address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence, menacing by stalking, human trafficking, rape, sexual battery and other crimes. Currently, the addresses of individuals who have registered to vote or have registered a vehicle through the DMV are public record and can be accessed by anyone. This bill would shield a victim's home address and establish an alternate mailing address with the secretary of state that participants could use for government transactions. Last week, the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee unanimously approved the measure which is expected to be brought to the House floor for full consideration.

Related Articles:

Columbus Dispatch- [Ohio House bill would protect privacy of domestic-violence victims](#)

HB 380 - Criminal Investigations for Officer-Related Homicides

[House Bill 380](#) - A bipartisan bill introduced by Representatives Jonathan Dever and Alicia Reece, HB 380 would require law-enforcement agencies to adopt a written policy regarding the investigation of firearm-related deaths by a police officer. Among

February 9

How to Start a Business,
Columbus - February 11

Leadership Conference
for HIV Positive Young
Adults, Columbus -
February 19-21

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

other provisions, the bill would set-up a criminal investigation by a panel of investigators that is separate from the internal affairs probe. This effort stems from recommendations from the Ohio Task Force on Community Police Relations, which was established by Governor Kasich. Thus far, the Judiciary Committee has held one hearing on HB 380.

Related Articles:

Columbus Dispatch - [More police training, scrutiny](#)

Let us know about your
upcoming events, so we may
feature it on our calendar!

Did you miss a Legislative
Update?

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

Copyright © 2016 Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs, All rights reserved.

This message and any response to it may constitute a public record and thus may be available to anyone who requests it.

Our mailing address is:

Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs
77 S. High St.
Columbus, Oh 43215

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

The MailChimp logo is displayed in a white, cursive font on a dark grey rectangular background.