



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

POLICY PRIORITIES FALL 2023

135TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Work and Learn Ohio

- Creation of a public–private partnership connecting Ohio college students with Ohio-based employers to facilitate Ohio-based internships, externships, and co-ops.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Education & Workforce, Pg. 29, Recommendation 2.5*

2. Manufacturing Technologies Assistance Program (House Bill TBA)

- Adoption of a grant program targeting small and medium-sized manufacturers otherwise lacking the capital and capability to modernize their machinery and facilities.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Innovation and Collaboration, Pg. 61, Recommendation 3.2*

3. Certified Mental Health Assistant Program (House Bill 97/Senate Bill 60)

- New licensure concept to grow behavioral health workforce without creating scope of practice issues. Certified Mental Health Assistants would have limited prescriptive authority, but not have the ability to diagnose.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Sense of Place, Pg. 42, Recommendation 2.3*

4. Enact Balanced and Comprehensive Data Privacy Legislation (House Bill TBD)

- Equip Ohioans with consumer rights and recourse related to their personal data.
- Promote a business environment that incentivizes implementation of cybersecurity protections of sensitive information with liability protections.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Innovation & Collaboration, Pg. 60 and 62, Recommendation 4*

5. Limiting Overnaming of Defendants in Asbestos Lawsuits (Senate Bill 63)

- Require plaintiff attorneys to disclose the evidentiary basis for each claim against each defendant and provide supporting documentation about the connection between the plaintiff's exposure and the named defendant.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Business Friendliness, Pg. 69, Recommendation 1.3*

6. Establish New Identity Theft Protections for Ohio Businesses (Senate Bill 98)

- Create a process for Ohio businesses and individuals to report when a bad actor has formed a new business fraudulently using someone else's address or personal info or has taken over a legitimate business filing to leverage it for fraud.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Innovation & Collaboration, Pg. 61, Recommendation 2.2*

7. Third Party Litigation Financing (Senate Bill 19)

- Require companies engaged in litigation financing to register with the Department of Commerce and obtain a corporate surety bond of at least \$50,000.
- Restrict the fees allowed to be charged to 10% of the original amount provided to the consumer and cap annual interest, protecting consumers from exorbitant fees and interest payments.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Business Friendliness, Pg. 69, Recommendation 1.3*

8. Authorize the Operation of Remote Dispensing Pharmacies (House Bill 136/Senate Bill 95)

- Authorizes the operation of remote dispensing pharmacies and requires the State Board of Pharmacy to regulate them.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Sense of Place, Pg. 41, Recommendation 2.1*

9. Adding Capitalism to High School Financial Literacy Standards (Senate Bill 17)

- Requires the State Board of Education to incorporate academic concepts of free market capitalism into the standards and model curriculum for financial literacy and entrepreneurship for grades 9-12.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Education & Workforce, Pg. 28, Recommendation 2*

10. Curtailing the Use of Public Nuisance Lawsuits (House Bill TBD)

- Require municipalities to inform the Ohio Attorney General when filing public nuisance lawsuits and allowing the AG the first right of refusal to act.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Business Friendliness, Pg. 69, Recommendation 1.3*