

# OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# ACCOMPLISHED POLICY PRIORITIES

## 135TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### ✓ **JobsOhio Extension Language (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- A budget amendment conceived by the Ohio Chamber to eventually extend JobsOhio's liquor franchise by 15 years.
- Equips JobsOhio with increased capacity to compete for more economic opportunities, longer-term agreements, and more aggressive incentives.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Taxes & Costs, Pg. 52, Recommendation 1.2*

### ✓ **Senate Bill 1 / House Bill 12 (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- Restructuring of both the Ohio Department of Education and the State Board of Education to provide stronger emphasis on workforce skills and career readiness.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Education & Workforce, Pgs. 28-30, Recommendations 2 & 4*

### ✓ **Innovation Hubs (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- \$125 million to convene Innovation Hubs (modeled after Innovation Districts) in multiple mid-sized Ohio metropolitan centers, and in cooperation with regional business, higher education, and economic development partners, fully unlocking the potential of unique high-growth opportunities in various key industries.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Innovation and Collaboration, Pg. 56 & Pg. 61, Recommendation 2.1*

### ✓ **Ohio Workforce Housing State Tax Credit Program (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- Creation of a state low-income housing tax credit program to develop approximately 4,700 affordable housing units over four years and allow Ohio to potentially draw down federal bond volume cap for multifamily development.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Sense of Place, Pg. 41, Recommendation 1.1.2*

### ✓ **Streamlining of Ohio's Administrative Code (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- Reduction of up to 1/3rd of Ohio Administrative Code through the targeting of duplicative provisions, outdated sections, and unnecessary requirements.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Business Friendliness, Pgs. 65 & 69, Recommendations 1 & 2*

### ✓ **Promotion of Computer Science/STEM Offerings at the K-12 and Post-Secondary Education Levels (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- Adoption and funding of key recommendations by the State Committee on Computer Science to make Ohio a national leader in Computer Science education and create a technological workforce pipeline.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Education & Workforce, Pg. 30, Recommendation 4.2*

### ✓ **Age Extension for Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities (MBIWD) Program (Enacted through House Bill 33 – State Operating Budget)**

- Removal of the age cap for the Medicaid Buy-In for Workers with Disabilities Program.
- Addressing this benefit cliff allows disabled Ohioans 65 and older to continue working, earning a living, and paying a monthly amount to receive their needed Medicaid coverage.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Education and Workforce, Pg. 27, Recommendation 1.3*

### ✓ **State Mineral Leasing Within Tier I & Tier II Lands (Enacted through Ohio Administration Rule 1501:155-1-01)**

- Adoption of an administrative rule to create a standard lease agreement allowing mineral leasing on state lands, with most projects involving no surface impact to public lands, unleashing more economic opportunities for Ohioans and providing additional energy security for Ohio and the United States.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Infrastructure, Pg. 77 & 83, Recommendation 1.2*

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## 135TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### ✓ **Establish New Identity Theft Protections for Ohio Businesses (Senate Bill 98)**

- Creates 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.
- Cracks down on misleading mailers that imitate official governmental entities and charge exorbitant amounts of money for public services that are typically free or at a very low cost.
- Reduces the ability of thieves to reinstate and exploit old businesses for illegal purposes.
- Stops fraudulent businesses from using false address information or a PO Box address or a commercial mailbox address to hide their identities.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Innovation & Collaboration, Pg. 61, Recommendation 2.2*

### ✓ **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*

### ✓ **Certified Mental Health Assistant Program (Senate Bill 60/House Bill 97)**

- New licensure concept to grow Ohio's behavioral health workforce and improve access to behavioral health and recovery services. Certified Mental Health Assistants would have limited prescriptive authority, but not have the ability to diagnose. Amended into Senate Bill 95 and approved into law.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Sense of Place, Pg. 42, Recommendation 2.3*

### ✓ **Limiting Overnaming of Defendants in Asbestos Lawsuits (Senate Bill 63)**

- Requires 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.
- Stops businesses from incurring legal fees to remove themselves from asbestos lawsuits they never should have been brought into in the first place.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Business Friendliness, Pg. 69, Recommendation 1.3*

### ✓ **Authorize the Operation of Remote Dispensing Pharmacies (House Bill 136/Senate Bill 95)**

- Gives Ohioans the ability to fill their prescriptions at a pharmacy where the supervising pharmacist is operating remotely.
- Provides expanded access to pharmacies and pharmacists, which addresses health disparities and improves health outcomes.
- **Blueprint reference:** *Sense of Place, Pg. 41, Recommendation 2.1*