

POLICY PRIORITIES: OHIO

OHIO SENATE

SB 8 – Ban on Union Release Time

Sponsor: Sen. M. Huffman (R)

Status: Received two hearings in Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee

Details: Voids contract provisions that allow union leave, overriding negotiated agreements between workers and employers. Forces workers to use personal leave for union advocacy, weakening worker power and participation.

SB 69 – Public Pension Reform

Sponsor: Sen. M. Romanchak (R)

Status: Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance, and Technology Committee

Details: Placeholder bill. Sponsor wants to reduce the number of years systems have to pay down unfunded liabilities from 30 years down to 20. Likely to include provisions giving system board authority over cost-of-living-adjustments (COLA)

OHIO HOUSE

HB 150 – Clock Out Kids Act

Sponsor: Rep. L. McNally (D), Rep. E. White (D)

Status: First hearing in House Commerce and Labor Committee 11.5.25

Details: Prevents schools from excusing students for work. Protects child labor standards.

HB 288 – Requires Construction Project Owners to Pay Contractors on Time

Sponsor: Rep. B. Roemer (R), Rep. B. Sweeney (D)

Status: Passed House Small Business Committee 6.18.25 with a 8-4 vote, all Dems in support and GOP splitting votes.

Details: Requires private owners of construction projects to pay contractors within 30 days after receiving a request for payment, with certain exemptions. Applies an 18% annual interest to payments that are not made in a timely manner.

HB 321 – Unemployment Compensation

Sponsor: Rep. Peterson (R)

Status: Received 3 hearings in House Public Insurance and Pensions Committee

Details: Increases employee and employer contributions. Would increase Taxable Wage Base (TWB) to \$9,500 from \$9,000 per employee. Requires payments from workers of employers who take more out of the system than they pay into it.

HB 376 – Reduce the Maximum Number of Weeks an Individual May Receive Unemployment

Sponsor: Rep. Teska (R)

Status: House Public Insurance & Pensions Committee
Details: Reduces the number of weeks an individual can receive unemployment benefits from 26 to 20.

HB 473 – End “Pension Pickups”

Sponsor: Rep. Thomas (R)

Status: Third hearing in House Public Insurance & Pensions committee 10.29.25

Details: Would ban public employers from covering any portion of their workers’ pension contributions in future contracts.

HB 574 – Create Political Subdivision Consolidation Incentive Grant Pilot

Sponsor: Rep. J. Daniels (R), Rep. M. Dovilla (R)

Status: House Local Government Committee

Details: Creates pilot financial incentive program to consolidate local municipalities. Appropriates \$50M to the program to be administered by the SOS. Awards \$2.5M to any twp, village, or city that completes the merge.

HB 510 – “Right to Work”

Sponsor: Rep. L. Dean (R)

Status: Introduced; referred to House Commerce & Labor Committee 10.15.25

Details: Would enact a so called “Right to Work” law, interfering with unions ability to collect dues from workers.

HB 512 – Anti-Project Labor Agreements

Sponsors: Rep. T. Claggett (R), Rep. H. Workman (R)

Status: Introduced; referred to House Commerce & Labor Committee 10.15.25

Details: Bans Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) on public construction projects in jurisdictions that don't have home-rule authority.

HB 513 – Anti-Prevailing Wage

Sponsors: Rep. B. Lear (R), Rep. M. Craig (R)

Status: Introduced; referred to House Commerce & Labor Committee 10.15.25

Details: Allows local governments and state colleges to opt into the prevailing wage law and raise its threshold.

POLICY PRIORITIES: FEDERAL

H.R. 2550: PROTECT AMERICA'S WORKFORCE ACT

Sponsor: Rep. Jared Golden (D-ME)

Status:

- The discharge petition reached the required threshold of 218 signatures on 11.17.25, forcing the bill to the floor for a vote.
- Passed the House 231-195 on 12.11.25, with support of 20 GOP members, including Reps. D. Joyce (OH-14) and M. Turner (OH-10).
- The Senate's companion bill introduced on 9.17.25 has 48 co-sponsors. 60 votes are needed to pass the Senate.

Details:

- Overturns the Executive Order issued in March that eliminated bargaining rights for select federal workers.
- Ensures that any collective bargaining agreement in effect as of the EO remains in full force.

Take Action:

Call Senators Moreno and Husted. Ask them to stand with working people and co-sponsor the Protect America's Workforce Act: 844.994.4554

H.R. 1834: BREAKING THE GRIDLOCK ACT

Sponsor: Rep. James McGovern (D-MA)

Status:

- Forced to a floor vote through a discharge petition.
- Passed House 230-196 on 1.8.26, with support of 17 GOP members, including Reps. Miller (OH-7), Joyce (OH-14), & Balderson (OH-12).
- A clean three-year extension is unlikely to pass Senate.

Details:

- A clean three-year extension of the Affordable Care Act tax subsidies which lapsed at the end of 2025.

H.R. 2262: FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKERS EDUCATION ACT

Sponsor: Rep. Ashley Hinson (R-IA)

Status:

- Failed the House 209-215 vote on 1.13.26, with 6 GOP members in opposition.
- Failure of this legislation forced the House Education & Workforce Committee to pull two other anti-worker bills from the agenda

Details:

- Would have allowed employers to deny overtime pay to workers for time classified as job training or education.

S. 3012: SHUTDOWN FAIRNESS ACT

Sponsor: Sen. R. Johnson (R-WI)

Status:

- 13 cosponsors (all Republican)

Details:

- Provides appropriations to pay federal exempted employees who work during a government shutdown.
- Under current law, excepted employees are not paid until the government shutdown is over.
- Companion bill: H.R. 5801

Take Action:

- Ask Sen. Moreno to support federal workers and sign on to S.3012 as a cosponsor.

FEDERAL FUNDING DEADLINE

Details:

- A \$1.2 trillion spending bill funds the departments of Homeland Security; Defense; Treasury; State; Health & Human Services; Labor; Housing & Urban Development; Transportation; and Education.
- The House passed the final outstanding appropriations bill on 1.22.26. Now in the Senate, 60 votes are required to avert the filibuster.
- Democrats signaled they will not vote for the package unless funding for DHS is stripped.
- Should the Senate fail to advance the spending measure or the House fail to reapprove changes, a partial federal shutdown will begin 1.31.26.