

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

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

H.R. 7296/S. 3792: SAVE AMERICA ACT

Status: House passed on 2/11/26 by 218-213 vote

Details:

- amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993
- effectively ends most online and voter registration, as requiring in-person documentation of U.S. citizenship to register to vote (i.e. passport, birth certificate along with matching government-issued photo ID)
- requires government-issued photo ID to vote in person in federal elections
- and a copy of an eligible photo ID both when requesting and submitting an absentee ballot
- establish criminal penalties for election officials who mistakenly register an applicant to vote without proof of citizenship

H.R. 1065/S. 463: PROTECT OUR LETTER CARRIERS ACT

Sponsors: Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-OH); Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Josh Hawley (R-MO)

Status: Referred to House Judiciary Committee

Details: Deters crimes and assaults against letter carriers by securing keys and collection boxes, directing U.S. attorney offices to prioritize cases involving assaults against letter carriers, and strengthening sentencing guidelines for those found guilty of these crimes

H.R. 3170/S. 3296: IMPROVING ACCESS TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR INJURED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ACT

Sponsors: Reps. Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Joe Courtney (D-CT); Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

Status: Referred to House Education & Workforce Committee

Details: Would expand the role of nurse practitioners and physician assistants to allow them to treat injured federal workers under the federal workers' compensation program

POLICY PRIORITIES: OHIO

OHIO SENATE

SB 77 – Prohibit employment application question re: criminal background

Sponsor: Sen. Hearcel Craig (D-Columbus), Sen. Louis Blessing III (R-Colerain Twp)

Status: Senate Workforce Development Committee; Fifth hearing 3/3/26

Details: Aims to ban private employers from including any question concerning the criminal background of the applicant on an employment application. Specifies a process that a private employer must follow if the employer intends to deny an applicant a position of employment because of the applicant's criminal background.

OHIO HOUSE

HB 523 – Enact the Future Educators Support Act

Sponsor: Rep. Sean Brennan (D-Parma), Rep. Gayle Manning (R-Avon)

Status: House Education Committee; Third hearing 3/3/26

Details: Requires the Department of Education and Workforce to provide a cost-of-living stipend and the State Board of Education to provide test fee reimbursements to student teachers. Requires the Department of Job and Family Services to add teachers to the list of in-demand jobs in Ohio.

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

Sponsor: Rep. Michelle Teska (R-Clearcreek Twp)

Status: House Public Insurance and Pensions Committee; Second/proponent hearing 3/3/26

Details: Reduces the maximum time an individual may receive unemployment from 26 weeks to 20 weeks

HB 473 – End “Pension Pickups”

Sponsor: Rep. David Thomas (R-Jefferson Twp)

Status: House Public Insurance & Pensions Committee; Fourth hearing 2/25/26

Details: Aims to ban public employers from covering any portion of their workers' pension contributions in future contracts

HB 671 – Regards School Districts That Challenge Founding Foundation

Sponsor: Rep. Jamie Callender (R-Concord)

Details: Withhold state funding from school districts who have signed onto the lawsuit against the state's private school voucher program, in the amount of money the district has spent on the lawsuit.

HB 674 – Let Schools Transport Students by Transportation Network Company

Sponsor: Rep. Kevin Miller (R-Newark)

Status: Referred to House Education Committee

Details: Authorizes a school district to contract with a transportation network company for student transportation. Exempts a TNC driver providing services under that contract from the rules governing student transportation and driver qualifications adopted by the Department of Education and Workforce and Department of Public Safety.

HB 689 – Enact the S.B. 1 Compliance Supplemental Appropriation Act

Sponsor: Rep. Tom Young (R-Washington Twp)

Status: House Workforce & Higher Education Committee; First hearing 1/24/26

Details: Aims to tie state funding to compliance by withholding a portion of "State Share of Instruction" (SSI) funds from colleges not in compliance with SB 1 (effective as of June 2025; prohibits faculty strikes, blocks unions from negotiating on tenure, bans diversity and inclusion efforts, and more).

HB 689 would:

- require universities to do an inventory of all employees who performed diversity, equity, and inclusion roles on 1/1/25 and were reassigned on or before 9/25/25
- require universities to come up with a “justification report” explaining the employee's reassignment, their new responsibilities, salary, and “proof that the employee's reassignment consists of substantially different duties from diversity, equity, and inclusion functions”