

POLICY PRIORITIES: OHIO

JOINT RESOLUTION

Joint Resolutions to Require Voter Photo ID

H.J.R. 9

Status: House General Government Committee. Third hearing 6.2.26

S.J.R. 10

Status: Senate General Government Committee; Fourth hearing 6.3.26

Details: Would enshrine voter photo ID laws in state constitution. In 2022, lawmakers passed a law requiring voter photo ID. This proposed amendment would make no change to current law. Joint resolutions require $\frac{2}{3}$ support from House and Senate to be placed on November 2026 ballot. Vote is expected 6.10.26.

OHIO SENATE

SB 127 – Regards closure requirements for poor-performing public schools

Sponsor: Sen. Andrew Brenner (R, SD19)

Status: Senate Education Committee; Fifth hearing on 5.19.26

Details: Allows the state to close certain public schools. Prohibits the Department of Education and Workforce from considering report cards issued prior to the 2024-2025 school year in determining whether a school is subject to closure or remedial action requirements established by the bill.

Position: Opposed by OFT

SB 241 – Regards specified workers' compensation employer appeals

Sponsor: Sen. Tom Patton (R, SD24)

Status: Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance, & Technology Committee; Second hearing 6.2.26

Details: Would impose a fine of \$50,000 against an employer who appeals specified awards of workers' compensation related to cancer incurred while performing official duties as a firefighter if the employer loses the appeal.

SB 415 – Regulate sale procedures at certain retail establishments

Sponsor: Rep. Tom Patton (R, SD24)

Status: Referred to Senate General Government Committee 4.15.26

Details: Would mandate certain requirements for retail food establishments and pharmacies that operate self-service checkouts, including: having at least one staffed checkout available, at least one employee staffed for every three self-checkouts, and limit self-checkout to 15 items.

Position: Supported by UFCW

OHIO HOUSE

House Concurrent Resolution 29

Sponsor: Reps. Sean Brennan (D, HD14), Justin Pizzuli (R, HD90)

Status: Introduced to House Government & Oversight Committee on 5.19.26

Details: Recognize 250th anniversary of the United States Postal Service

HB 698 – Enact S.B.1 Compliance Act

Sponsor: Rep. Tom Young (R, HD-37)

Status: House Workforce & Higher Education Committee. Third hearing 5.19.26.

Details: Requires the Chancellor to withhold the set-aside portion of state share of instruction (SSI) funds for a fiscal year from any state institution that fails to comply with the bill's requirements regarding S.B. 1 compliance certifications, employee reassignment, and retrenchment policies in that year.

Position: Oppose

HB 523 – Enact Future Educators Support Act

Sponsor: Rep. Sean Brennan (D, HD14), Gayle Manning (R, HD52)

Status: Passed House Education Committee 5.20.26

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 a student teacher

Position: Support

HB 719 – Return Control of the State Teachers Retirement (STRS) Board to Active and Retired Educators

Sponsor: Rep. James Hoops (R, HD81)

Status: House Public Insurance & Pensions Committee; First/sponsor hearing 3/25/26

Details: Reverses provisions in the state budget that restructured the STRS board: restores elected active and retired teacher member seats, repeals the automatic abolition of certain educator-elected seats scheduled under the budget bill, and discontinues the expansion of appointed investment positions created in the budget.

Position: Supported by OFT

POLICY PRIORITIES: FEDERAL

S.844/H.R.5408: FASTER LABOR CONTRACTS ACT

Status: Discharge petition in the House reached 218-signature threshold to advance bill to floor vote, expected in early June.

Details:

- Requires employers to begin negotiating with a new union with 10 days of vote.
- If no agreement is reached after 90 days, the dispute is referred to mediation.
- If mediation fails after 30 days, the dispute is referred to binding arbitration.

Position: Support

Take Action: Urge Rep. David Joyce (R, CD-14) to support and co-sponsor the Faster Labor Contracts Act. DC Office: (202) 225-5731
Mentor Office: (440) 352-3939

H.R. 928/S. 3903 – RAILWAY SAFETY ACT OF 2026

Status: Added to House Infrastructure & Transportation Committee's Surface Transportation Reauthorization legislation via a bipartisan amendment. Passed Committee on 5.21.26.

Details: Aims to prevent catastrophic freight derailments and strengthen hazardous material oversight. Would mandate stricter railcar inspections, minimum two-person crew sizes, and increased penalties for safety violations

Position: Supported by IAFF, BLET, and SMART-TD

H.R.5267 – AMERICAN FRANCHISE ACT

Status: Referred to Committee on Education & Workforce. 124 cosponsors as of 5/27/26.

Details: Narrowly defines a franchisor as a "joint employer" only when it has direct, hands-on control over workers' pay, hiring, firing, or scheduling. Undermines workers' rights to good faith bargaining and the effective enforcement of their rights under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Position: Oppose

H.R.2550/S.2837 – PROTECT AMERICA'S WORKFORCE ACT

Status: After a discharge petition forced a vote, the House passed H.R. 2550 on 2/11/26 with bipartisan support by a 231-195 vote.

Details:

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

Position: Support

Take Action: Tell Sen. Moreno 202-224-2315 and Sen. Husted 202-224-3353 to stand with workers and co-sponsor the Protect America's Workforce Act.

H.R. 6960 – THOMAS M. CONWAY ACCESS TO VETERANS RESOURCES IN THE WORKPLACE ACT

Status: Referred to House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity

Details: requires the Department of Labor and the Department of Veterans Affairs to create a standardized, printable notice detailing federal and state benefits available to veterans. Mandates employers to display this notice.

Take Action: UWUA National Veterans Committee Call to Action – ask members of Congress to support this bipartisan legislation.