

BILLS of INTEREST to TOWNSHIPS PENDING the 131st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
H.B. 375 SNOW & ICE ON SIDEWALKS (Brown, Arndt)	To authorize townships to require the removal of snow and ice from sidewalks abutting property and to impose a fine for failure to do so.	The full House passed the bill 79-12. The bill is now pending the Senate State and Local Government Committee.
H.B. 378 TOWNSHIP POLICE ARRESTS (Hambley, Rezabek)	To authorize law enforcement officers of township police districts and joint police districts, and township constables, serving a population of 50,000 or less to make arrests for motor vehicle-related violations committed on national highways that are not part of the interstate highway system.	The House passed the bill 77-15 and is pending committee referral in the Senate.
H.B. 531 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENTS (Hill)	To require townships to provide mileage reimbursement to a member of a board of trustees and to a township fiscal officer for travel within the township that is necessary in the performance of the member's or fiscal officer's duties.	Pending before House Local Government Committee.
S.B. 27 FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton)	To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the law governing worker's compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter.	Pending before House Insurance Committee.
S.B. 123 TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS (Hughes)	To allow emergency personnel in public safety vehicles to report traffic law violations under certain circumstances.	Signed 6/14/16 Effective
S.B. 321 PUBLIC RECORDS (Faber)	To create a procedure within the Court of Claims to hear complaints alleging a denial of access to public records and to modify the circumstances under which a person who files a mandamus action seeking the release of public records may be awarded court costs and attorney's fees, and to expand the infrastructure record exemption under Public Records Law.	Signed Effective
H.B. 523 MEDICAL MARIJUANA (Huffman)	To authorize the use of marijuana for medical purposes and to establish the Medical Marijuana Control Program.	Effective 9/8/16
H.B. 413 TOWNSHIP LAWS (Brinkman)	Makes several changes to township law including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - add to the purposes for which a board of trustees may go into executive session; - permit a township to charge for recycling services; - authorize a township to purchase, lease, or provide underwater rescue and recovery equipment for fire and rescue purposes; - authorize board of township trustees to pay for group life insurance for any employee; - clearly authorizes townships to use general or park fund monies for community events; - clarify time frames for notification and hearing when the township deems a structure is unsafe; - expand the cemetery purposes for which such boards may levy a tax or expend township funds to include mausoleums; - permit a township to charge "up to" \$50 for a permit to excavate in the right-of-way as opposed to requiring a permit fee of \$50; - allow taxing units to use the proceeds of a fire, police, or emergency services tax levy to pay costs, including CBA costs, related to the services for which the tax is levied. 	Effective