



STATEHOUSE REPORT

Published by the County Commissioners Association of Ohio

209 East State Street · Columbus OH 43215-4309 · Phone: 614-221-5627 · Fax: 614-221-6986 · www.ccao.org

July 2, 2026

Governor DeWine receives more bills, clock for action begins

On July 1, the General Assembly formally delivered 15 bills that it had passed last month. The official reception starts the ten day clock for gubernatorial action established in Article II, Section 16 of the Ohio Constitution. The ten day timer began on July 1 and excludes Sundays. Governor DeWine has until July 14 to sign or veto the bills. If he does not take any action, the bills become law without his signature.

The three bills of note to counties that Governor DeWine officially received this week are discussed below.

Senate Bill 315, SNAP EBT Chip Cards

[SB 315](#) (Senators Tim Schaffer and Hearcel Craig) includes provisions regarding Medicaid oversight, but of particular note to counties is the requirement that the Department of Job and Family Services begin phasing-in chip-enable SNAP EBT cards.

House Bill 497, signed by DeWine last week, included the appropriation to fund this program.

House Bill 251, Law Enforcement Drone Usage

[HB 251](#) (Representative Bernard Willis) concerns law enforcement utilization of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and would require the discontinuance of acquisition and use of drones by law enforcement agencies within 48 months of the bill's effective date, if the drone is made by or manufactured in a country designated a "foreign adversary."

Several law enforcement and public safety agencies and organizations, citing the lack of domestic drone producers, warned that the transition timeline and a lack of funding from the state could result in agencies entirely discontinuing the usage of drone programs.

The bill also generally brings evidentiary standards for drone usage in line with more conventional law enforcement practices.

House Bill 297, Memorial Day Expenses

[HB 297](#) (Representatives Kevin Ritter and Johnathan Newman) increases the amount that veterans organizations can request from the board of county commissioners to defray the costs of Memorial Day expenses from up to \$500 to up to \$1,000. It also increases the amount that a civic organization can request for the same purposes from up to \$100 to up to \$200.

As under current law, the appropriation is mandatory if requested, and any unexpended funds must be returned to the county.