



Honesty Lunch and Learn

Inside the Ohio Statehouse: How a Bill Becomes a Law

Friday, December 1, 2023

Featuring: Rachel Coyle, Founder of How Things Work at the Statehouse

RESOURCES

Take Action:

- Tell these legislators why SB 83 is bad for students, bad for workers, and bad for Ohio:
 - Rep Pizzulli: 614-466-2124 or Rep90@OhioHouse.gov
 - Rep Pavliga: 614-466-2004 or Rep72@OhioHouse.gov
 - Rep Manning: 614-644-5076 or Rep52@OhioHouse.gov
 - Rep Santucci: 614-466-5441 or Rep64@OhioHouse.gov
 - House Speaker Stephens: 614-466-1366 or Rep93@OhioHouse.gov

Join "How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse":

These accounts regularly post calls to action, bill updates, upcoming events, and answers to common questions about Ohio legislative advocacy!

- Facebook: [How Things Work at the Statehouse](#)
- Twitter: [HowThingsWorkOH](#)
- TikTok: [RachelCoyleOhio](#)
- Email: HowThingsWorkOH@gmail.com

Materials:

- [Slideshow — How a bill becomes a law in Ohio](#)
- [Slideshow — SB 83 testimony training](#)
- [SPREADSHEET: State House and Senate CONTACT Information](#)
 - Check out the different tabs to find contact info for each committee — Remember how important committee chairs are!
- [Testimony toolkit and template from Honesty For Ohio Education](#)
- [Testimony template from How Things Work at the Statehouse](#)
- [Testimony Witness slip](#)

- Copy/paste this into a new document and email it to the committee chair with your testimony!
- Go to the "[Lists](#)" section of the [@HowThingsWorkOH](#) Twitter account for lists of Ohio political reporters, legislators, and groups to follow.

Website Links:

- [OhioHouse.gov](#)
- [OhioSenate.gov](#)
- [Legislature.Ohio.gov](#)
- [OhioChannel.org](#) (Watch Ohio House and Senate committees and Session live online, for free!)
- [HonestyForOhioEducation.org](#) → [Join Mailing List](#)
- Facebook: [Honesty For Ohio Education](#)
- Twitter/X: [@Honesty4OhioEd](#)
- Instagram: [@Honesty4OhioEd](#)

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions:

- **HOW TO find your state senator and/or state representative:**
 - Type your address below the maps on this page:
<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/members/district-maps>
- **HOW TO search for a bill:**
 - [Legislature.Ohio.gov](#) --> "Legislation" tab --> "Search Legislation"
 - You can search by bill number, sponsor, chamber, even keyword (keyword option isn't 100% effective).
- **HOW TO follow bills moving through the Statehouse:**
 - <https://www.Legislature.Ohio.gov/>
 - "Committees" tab
 - Click the House & Senate committees that interest you.
 - Contact the Chair of each interesting committee (click their picture for contact info).
 - Ask to be placed on the committee's "notice list"!
 - You'll get email updates about bills in that committee!
- **OR, for House committees,** there should be a "mailing list" option on the committee webpage

- **HOW TO find shareable bill descriptions ("bill analyses"):**
 - Once you find a bill that interests you, **click on it!**
 - You'll be taken to the bill's page.
 - Then click the **"documents" tab.**
 - You see the bill's text is available for download.
 - Any time the bill has been changed or amended, they will upload a new version, so you can reach each one.
 - **BUT below the text, you'll see the bill's ANALYSIS is also available!**
 - The analysis is a plain English, bullet point description of what the bill will do.
 - It's written by the nonpartisan Legislative Service Commission (LSC). It's wonderful!
- **See what your legislators are up to:**
 - <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/search?start=1&pageSize=25&sort=Number&generalAssemblyNumber=135>
 - Click "Primary Sponsor" and select your legislator
 - These are bills your legislator had drafted and introduced. They are leading the charge on these bills.
 - Click "Cosponsor" and select your legislator
 - These are bills your legislator did not introduce, but liked enough to add their name.
- **Information about ALEC:**
 - [What is ALEC? 'The most effective organization' for conservatives, says Newt Gingrich](#)
 - https://www.alecexposed.org/wiki/ALEC_Exposed
- **See who's donating** — Visit the Ohio Secretary of State's website to [search campaign finance reports](#) and see who has donated to Ohio politicians.
- **Track the lobbyists** — Visit the "Joint Legislative Ethics Committee" (JLEC) website to [track Ohio lobbyists](#) and see who they lobby for.

Just SOME of Ohio's Incredible Advocacy Orgs:

- [Innovation Ohio](#)
- [Progress Ohio](#)
- [Ohio AFL-CIO](#)

- [Red Wine & Blue](#)
- [ACLU Ohio](#)
- [CAIR Ohio](#)
- [The Freedom Bloc](#)
- [Ohio Families Unite for Political Action and Change \(OFUPAC\)](#)
- [Equality Ohio](#)
- [All In For Ohio](#)
- [UUJO](#)
- [Honesty For Ohio Education](#)
- [Ohio Organizing Collaborative](#)
- [Ohio Federation of Teachers \(OFT\)](#)
- [Ohio Education Association \(OEA\)](#)
- [We Are Ohio](#)
- [Policy Matters Ohio](#)
- [Common Cause Ohio](#)
- [One Ohio Now](#)
- [NASW Ohio](#)
- [Advocates For Ohio's Future](#)
- [Groundwork Ohio](#)
- [Center For Community Solutions](#)
- [Plunderbund](#)
- [Ohio Women's Public Policy Network](#)

News outlets with especially strong Statehouse coverage (*Not all of these require subscriptions, but they are worth a subscription if necessary!*):

- [Ohio Capital Journal](#)
- [WOSU — Ohio Statehouse News Bureau](#)
- [Cincinnati Enquirer](#)
- [Dayton Daily News](#)
- [News 5 Cleveland](#) has a dedicated Statehouse reporter (Morgan Trau)
- [Cleveland.com](#) (Which is oddly separate from the Plain Dealer now)
 - Especially the [Capitol Letter newsletter](#)
- [Columbus Dispatch](#)
- [Spectrum News 1](#) has a dedicated Statehouse reporter (Samana Sheikh)
- [ABC 6 in Columbus](#) has a Statehouse reporter

More Information on SB 83:

- [Bill page](#)

- [Current version of the bill](#)
- [Testimony for and against this bill](#) (Note there have been several versions of the bill since it was introduced)
- [Opposition to this bill](#) #1
- [Opposition to this bill](#) #2
- REMINDER: Email Rep Young's office (Rep37@OhioHouse.gov) and ask them to add you to "the House Higher Education Committee Notice List"
- OR [Go to this link to sign up](#) for the House Higher Ed Committee List

REMEMBER, you have real power to influence policy at the state level. You just have to use it!

Anything you do, any action you take, is likely more than was happening at the Statehouse before. That means **your individual voice is very loud at the Statehouse level!**