# Navigating Ohio Legislation and the Ohio General Assembly

Whether you are a patient, provider, healthcare organization, etc., it is important to be aware and engaged with the legislative side of healthcare.

This is a guide to help users locate and utilize information on the Ohio General Assembly website, aiding them in being more informed and engaged in state laws about healthcare.

### How does a bill become a law?

- An idea for a bill is proposed
- A legislator in the house or senate sponsors it
- A draft of the bill is written
- The draft is assigned to a committee
- The bill must pass three readings in the originating chamber (house or senate)
- When all three are passed, it goes to the other chamber to be reviewed.
- When both house and senate have a majority vote, the bill is passed.
- It goes to the governor to be signed, not signed and passed in seven days without action, or vetoed.
- When vetoed, it can be passed without signature with a majority vote in both chambers

OhioSenate.gov - bills becoming law

# How does the General Assembly operate?

The Ohio General Assembly operates the whole year from the first Monday in January to the last Friday in December.

If it is thought to be necessary, the governor has or the presiding officers have the ability to call a special session.

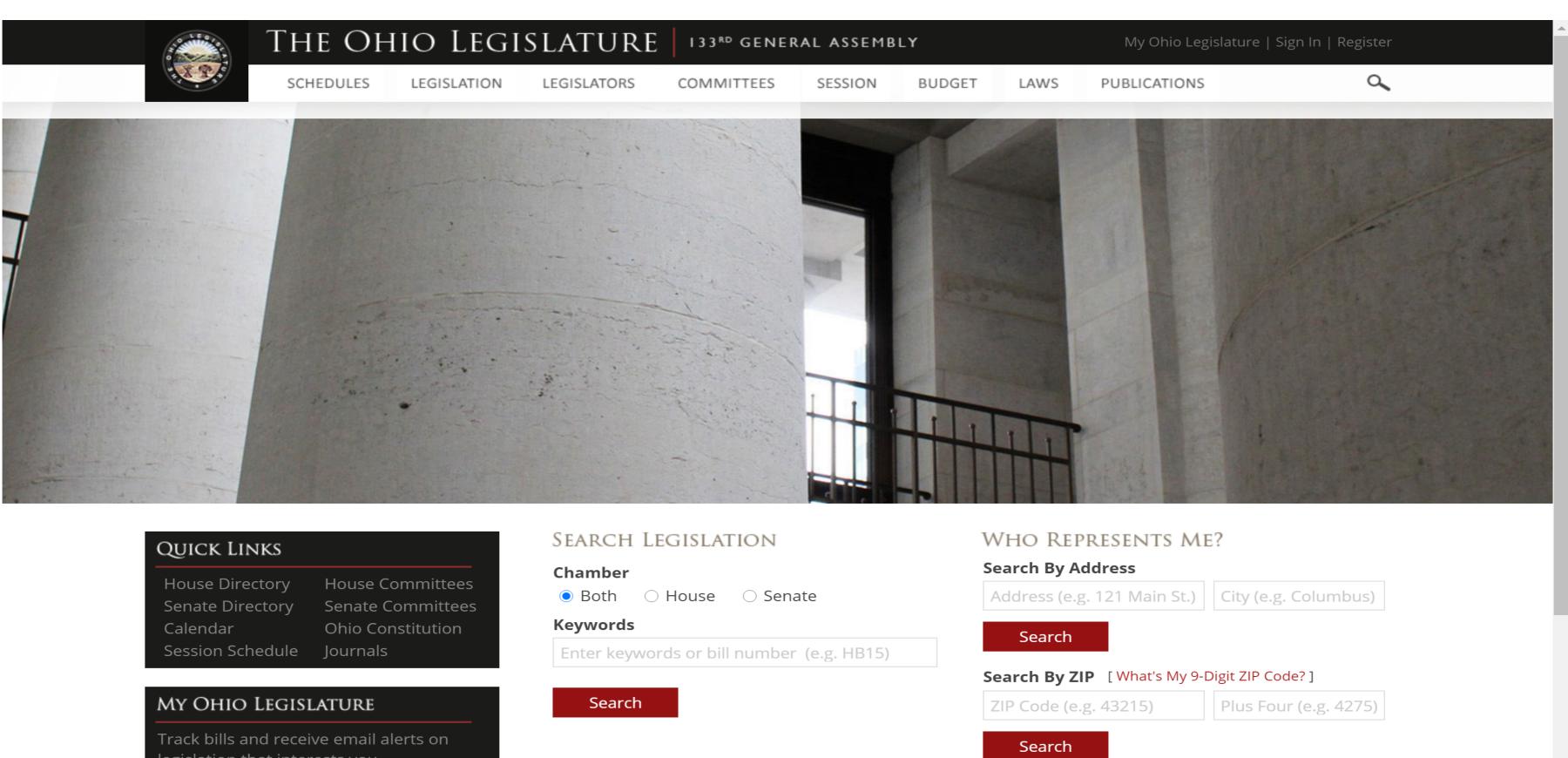
There are 33 legislators who make up the Senate and 99 legislators make up the House of Representatives. Senators server 4 year terms while House Representatives serve 2 year terms. Term limits are set at 8 consecutive years.

Bills can be drafted by either the House or Senate but it must pass both houses to become law.



### Welcome to the Ohio General Assembly Website

There are numerous tabs and resources that can be navigated within the site that can be useful. There are a select few of those that are going to be focused on here. At any time, you can select the seal in the top left to return to the home page.



#### legislation that interests you. Create Account Sign In About

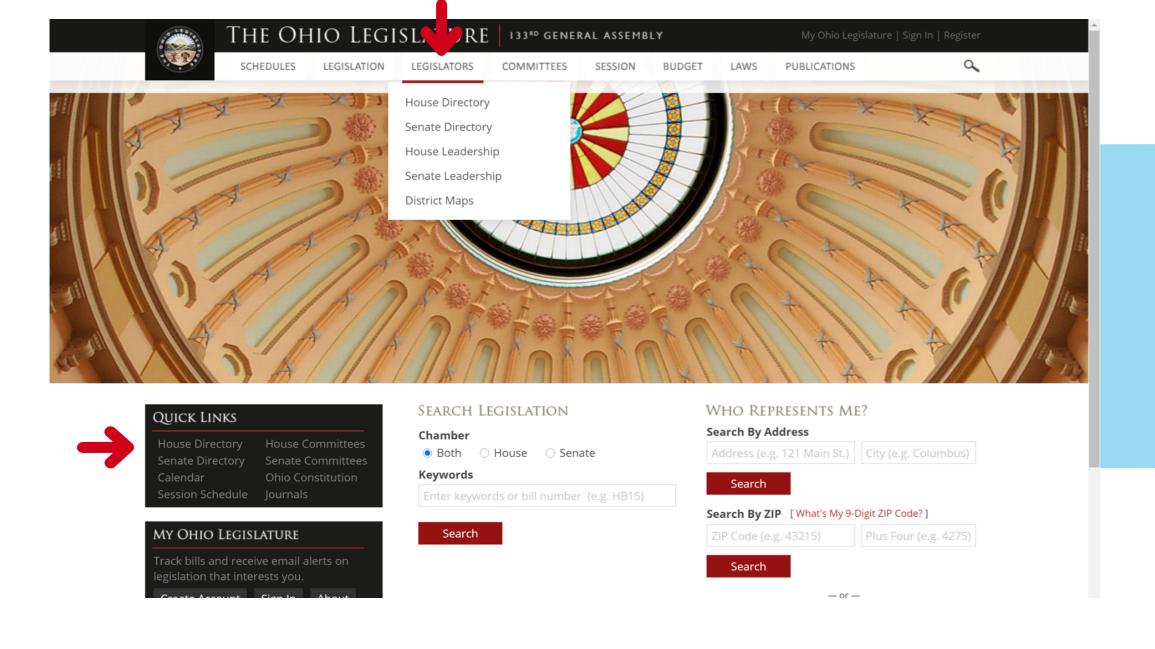
### Who are my legislators?

— or —

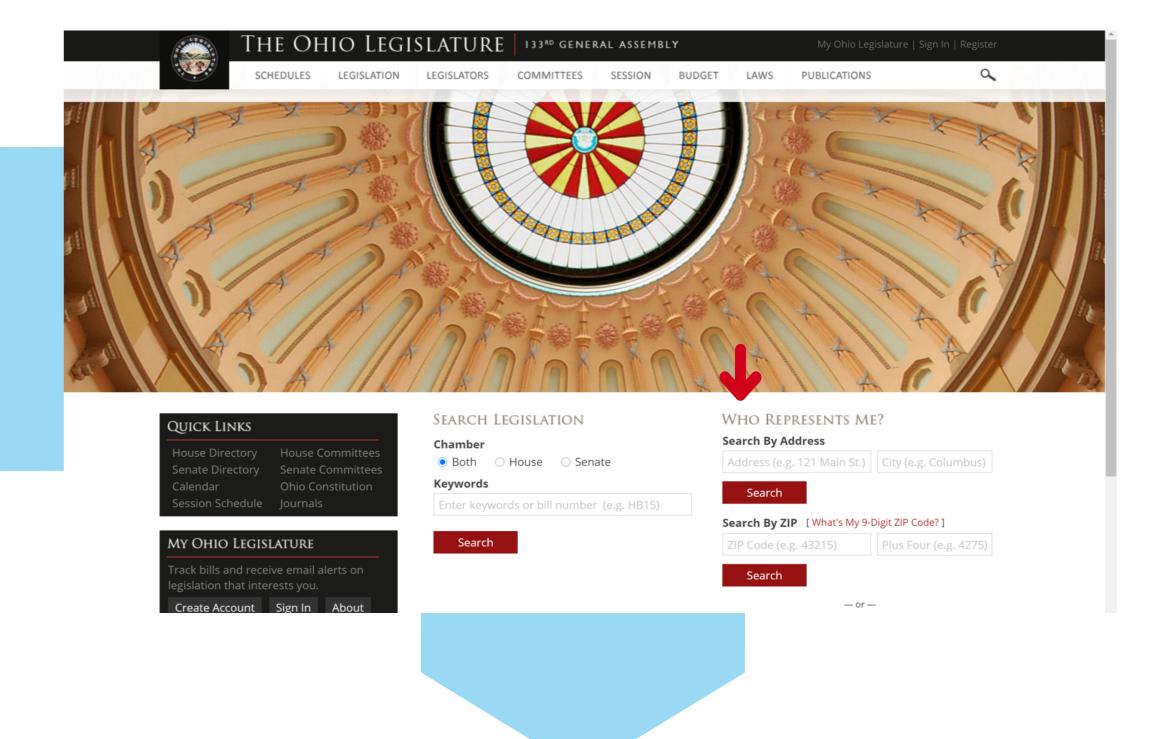
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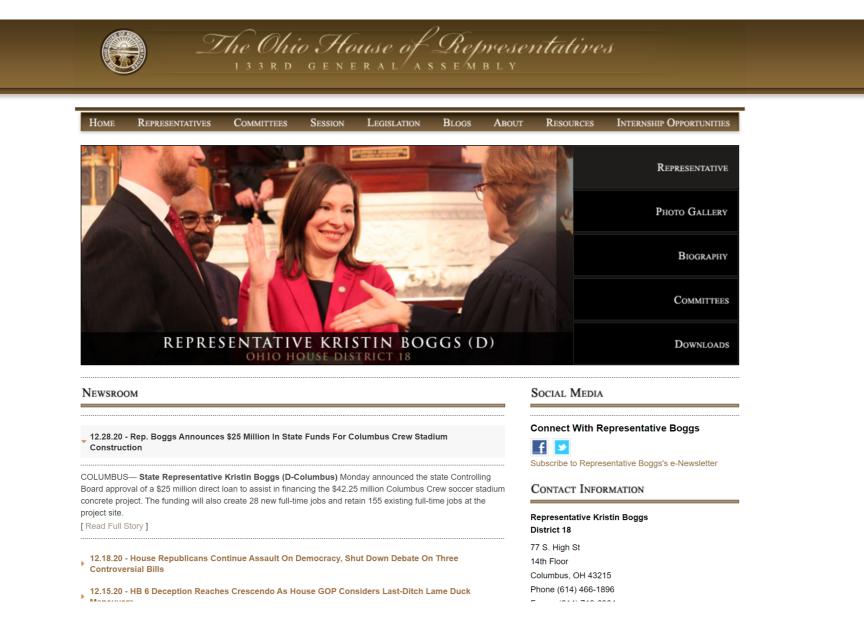
Knowing who your legislators are is a big step in following policy. Ohio's website allows you to search who your representatives are.

**>For lists** of legislators, select the legislators tab at the top and choose either directory, or use the quick links at the bottom left. Then you can use the tool bars to find legislators.

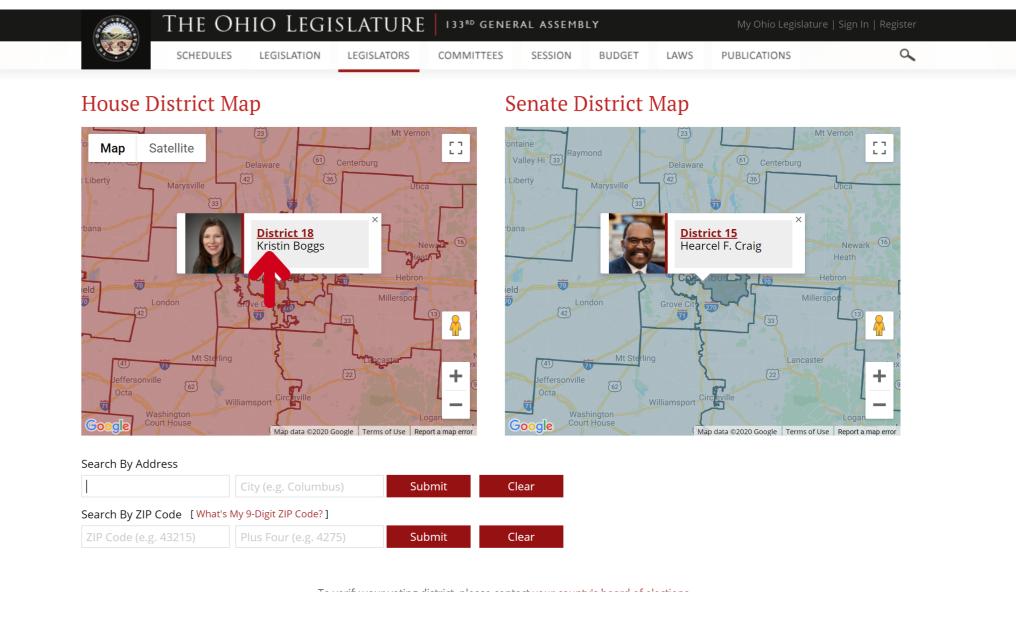


>Entering your address in the bottom right will show you your state senator and your state representative, as well as display interactive district maps.





**>The house** and senate websites are laid out differently but you can find much of the same information on them



>Here you can select either the house or senate representative where you can get more information on both.



**>For the** house, you can scroll down on the legislators page and find their contact information in the bottom right. For the senate, their information can be found on the left after scrolling down.



>You can also send senators a message directly through the website by selecting the "Contact" tab. Sending letters in the mail to your representatives is a good way of being heard.

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Enter Your Email Addres SUB				
Senator Hearcel F. Craig Senate Building				
1 Capitol Square Ground Floor				
Columbus, OH 43215 Hometown: Columbus				

**>To find** bills about healthcare go to the "Legislation" drop down and select "Search Legislation." By going to "Status Reports" in the drop down instead, you can open a PDF that shows the actions taken on each bill.

**>Choose the** General Assembly year that you want in the top left before searching. Then filter by committee to find the health committees of the house or senate. Under status, as enrolled are bills that have passed.

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	Search Legislation	Who Represents Me?	<u>S. B. N</u>	<u>No. 6</u> 133	Regulate temporary child hosting with host families	<ul><li>Civil Justice</li><li>Commerce and Labor</li></ul>	assed by the Senate
QUICK LINKS House Directory House Committees	Chamber     O Both O House O Senate	Search By Address Address (e.g. 121 Main St.) City (e.g. Columbus)	<u>S. C. R.</u>	<u>R. 7</u> 133	Support screening Asian-Americans for type 2 diabetes	Criminal lustice Sen. Craig Sen. Antonio	• As Adopted by the Senate
Senate DirectorySenate CommitteesCalendarOhio Constitution	Keywords						
Session Schedule Journals	Enter keywords or bill number (e.g. HB15)	Search	<u>H. B. N</u>	<u>No. 8</u> 133	Regards foster caregiver training	Rep. Manchester Rep. Galonski	As Enrolled
		Search By ZIP [What's My 9-Digit ZIP Code?]					
My Ohio Legislature	Search	ZIP Code (e.g. 43215) Plus Four (e.g. 4275)	<u>H. B. N</u>	<u>No. 10</u> 133	Establish Governor's Office of Drug Policy	Rep. Brown Rep. Stoltzfus	As Re-referred to the Senate Finance Committee
Track bills and receive email alerts on legislation that interests you.		Search	<u>S. C. R.</u>	<u>R. 10</u> 133	Approve rules establishing local public health standards	Sen. Lehner	As Adopted by the Senate
		— or —	<u>H. B. N</u>			Rep. Manning	As Enrolled
Create Account Sign In About							

### What are they voting for?



Once you know who is representing you, it is key to know how they are voting on different bills. This helps you to identify what bills they are supporting and if you would like to keep them in office.

**>When you** find the bill you want, select the bill number on the left and it will bring you to a summary page. This will give you all of the general information about the bill and access the current PDF version of the bill.

>Under the status page you can see the current status of the bill and review the previous actions that have been taken on the bill.

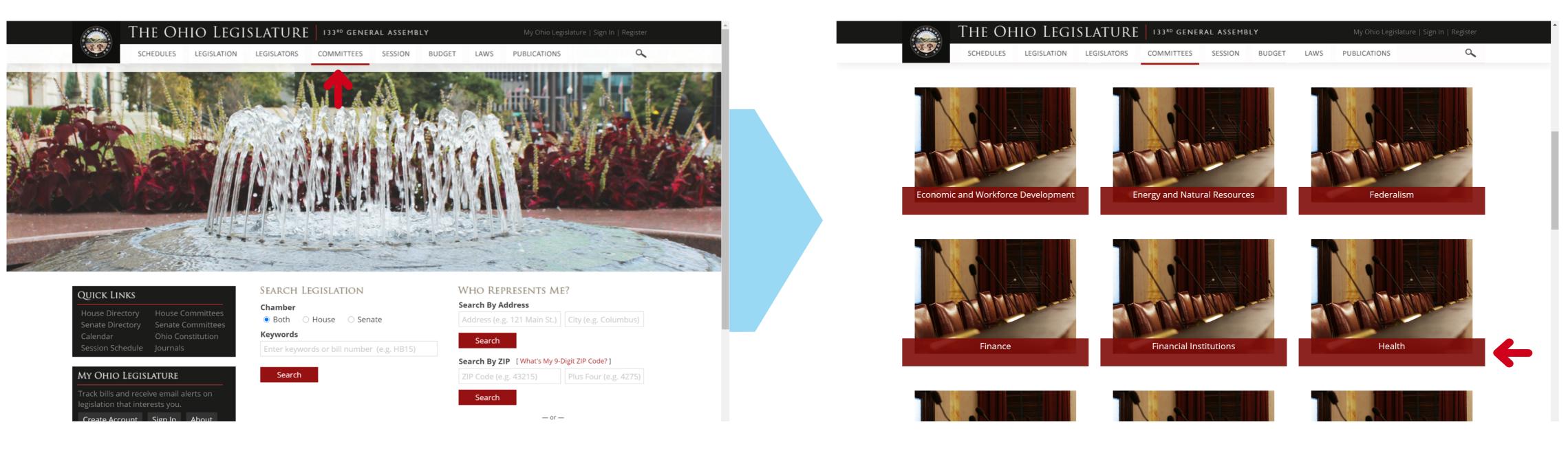
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Gayle Manning Stephanie Howse	Short Title Regards tobacco cessation and prenatal initiatives Sho	w Long Title	Gayle Manning Stephanie Howse	9/18/20		Effective 9/18/20 Appropriations effective 06	6/19/2020	
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R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S	Legislation Text		REPRESENTATIVES	6/10/20	enate	Passed - Amended		
Steven Arndt Brian Baldridge	View Current Version		Steven Arndt	6/9/20	enate	Reported - Substitute		Health, Human Services and
Gil Blair	Effective Date		Brian Baldridge Gil Blair					Medicaid
Louis W. Blessing III Kristin Boggs	September 18, 2020		Louis W. Blessing III	9/11/19	Senate	Refer to Committee		Health, Human Services and
Janine R. Boyd	Appropriations effective 06/19/2020		Kristin Boggs Janine R. Boyd					Medicaid
Juanita Brent Richard Brown	Subjects		Juanita Brent Richard Brown	6/24/19	enate	Introduced		
Rick Carfagna	Commerce : Insurance Health and Human Services : Health Car	Health and Human Services : Medicaid	Richard Brown Rick Carfagna	6/20/19	louse	Passed		
Sara Carruthers Jack Cera	Committees Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committe	26	Sara Carruthers Jack Cera	6/19/19	louse	Reported		Finance
Randi Clites	House Finance Committee		Randi Clites		louse	Re-referred		Finance
Erica C. Crawley Jeffrey Crossman	House Rules and Reference Committee House Health Committee		Erica C. Crawley Jeffrey Crossman					
Sedrick Denson	House Health Committee		Sedrick Denson	6/11/19	louse	Re-referred - Substitute		Rules and Reference
Jay Edwards			Jay Edwards	5/21/19	louse	Refer to Committee		Health
Tavia Galonski			Tavia Caloncki					
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**>Going back** to the home page, you can sign up for a My Ohio Legislature account. Here you can track bills and legislature that interests you and be notified of committee meetings and cancellations. **>Going to** the votes page you can see all of the voting that has taken place and see how votes were cast. To see how the legislators voted on each bill, click on the show breakdown.

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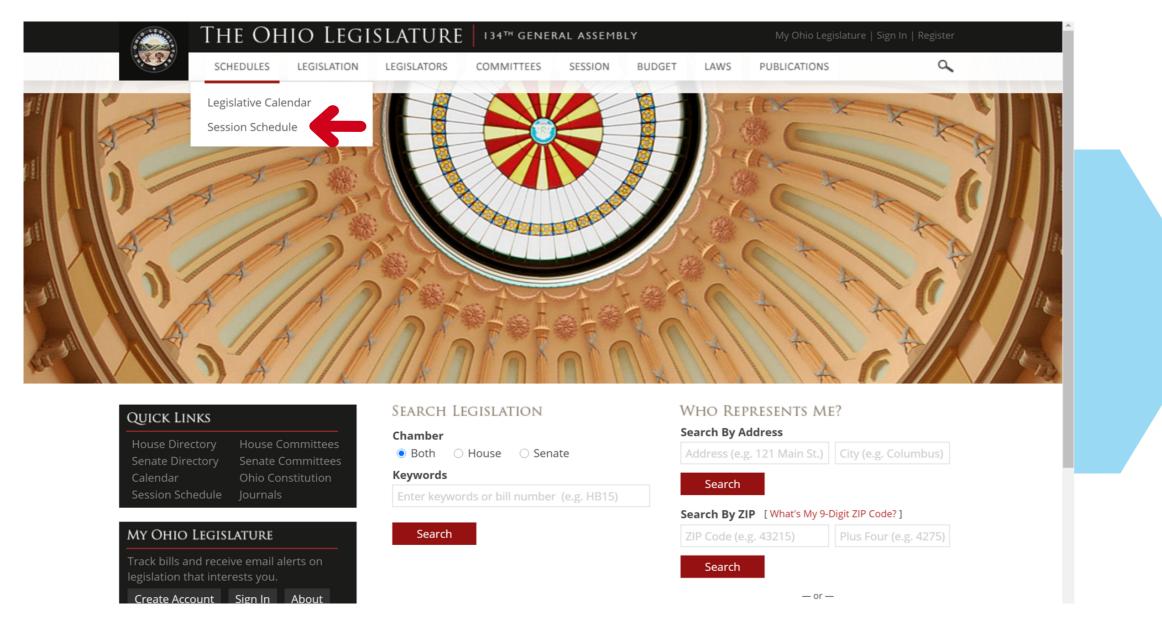
# What health committees are there?

**>Under the** "Committees" tab select either house or senate committees and then scroll down to the H's. The house and the senate committee names change from assembly to assembly, but will have "Health" in the name. **>Under these** committees you can see the legislators that make up the committee and at the bottom of the page, you can find the schedule for that committee.



#### When do the House and Senate meet?

**>To see** the Assembly's schedule, you can navigate the "Schedules" tab at the top to find the session schedule for both houses.



**>This will** pull up the scheduled sessions for both branches of the Assembly. The "Legislative Calendar" also displays other session information.

THE OH	io Legislature	134 <sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEME	LY	My Ohio Legislature   Si	gn In   Register
SCHEDULES	LEGISLATION LEGISLATORS	COMMITTEES SESSION	BUDGET LAWS	PUBLICATIONS	٩
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Session Schedule					
		JANUARY 2021			
DATE	SENATE		HOUSE		
Tuesday, January 26	Committee Heari	ngs			
Wednesday, January 27	Committee Heari	ngs			
		FEBRUARY 2021			
DATE	SENATE		HOUSE		
Tuesday, February 2	Committee Heari	ngs			
Wednesday, February 3	Session at 1:30 p.	m.	Session at 1:0 (If Needed)	00 p.m.	
Tuesday, February 9	Committee Heari	ngs			
Wednesday, February 10	Session at 1:30 p.	m.	Session at 1:0 (If Needed)	00 p.m.	
		ngs			

It is important for your voice to be heard and for you to be engaged in decisions that can impact your health. This can be done by staying up-to-date with the legislation that is being passed by the state government. Being active in this process keeps you more informed, and helps you come election time.



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# For information about how to vote and register to vote, visit one of these websites

https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/

https://ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/site/government/topichubs/voting-and-elections/voting-and-elections

https://www.usa.gov/how-to-vote



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