

May 2021 EEA Legislative Report

Ohio School Boards Association President says systemic racism does not exist: He did. [I swear.](#)

House Bill 73: [Introduced by Reps Gayle Manning \(R\) and Erica Crawley \(D\)](#) this latest iteration of the [Testing Reduction Act](#) will eliminate 3rd grade retention, make the ACT/SAT optional, combine the American History & Government assessments, and require districts to audit their own levels of assessment. It will have its first hearing in the Education Committee on Wednesday, May 12.

Budget Bill: The Ohio House [passed its version of the Budget Bill](#) in April, furthering a customarily lengthy process. The bill includes the Fair School Funding Plan that has [the OEA](#) and educators statewide excited. There is still a long way to go before the bill is completed, and items included now may not travel the distance, while others may be added. Contact your legislators in the Ohio [House](#) and [Senate](#) to advocate for Constitutional (and equitable) school funding.

House Bill 99: If you ever dreamed of teaching class while wearing a sidearm, this bill is for you. If that possibility scares the hell out of you, then you might want to contact a legislator. HB 99 would dramatically [reduce the amount of training necessary](#) to carry a firearm in school. It is currently being debated in the House.

Communist Takeover of Public Education?: “The Rocky River local school district has been infiltrated by radical Marxist teachers, staff and administrators who want to implement the racist, anti-American, nonsensical Critical Race Theory, which indoctrinates your children and grandchildren with race-based hatred of white people, of American history, and of capitalism, with the goal of the communist takeover of our nation.” [So went an unhinged robocall](#) to voters before encouraging them to vote no on the next day’s school levy. Watch your back, there may be communist revolutionaries in your ranks.

Eliminating Lorain’s ADC: [Senate Bill 165](#), introduced by Senator Nathan Manning (R) would require a performance audit of districts in “academic distress,” and enable them [to create a path to greater local control](#). The bill is designed to reverse the negative impact of HB70’s much maligned Youngstown Plan.