

Ohio Marine Trades Association  
and Government Advantage Group

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

MAY 2026



Senator Gavaorne has introduced [SB 433](#) which looks to revise coastal management, Lake Erie submerged lands leasing, and permits for shore structures (including marinas, boat docks and boat houses) and coastal restoration. SB 433 will be referred to a committee once the Senate reconvenes.

Amanda and RJ attended the Ohio Chambers Tourism Committee on April 30th and heard from the Ohio State Tourism Director, Sarah Wickham. She spoke about Ohio's summer marketing plan, The Heart of It All! The meeting also included an update on Ohio Tourism Day (May 12), the state capital budget, and the cultural and sports facility grants fund.

The House and Senate will return from their recess for the May 5th Primary on the week of May 11th and we will see a lot of activity until they break in Mid-June for their summer recess.

## **Sales Tax Holiday**

The Ohio House and Senate will be in session beginning next week though the middle of June. They are expected to pass out the biannual Capital Appropriations Budget, along with a few other big ticket items such as election integrity legislation, health care issues, and looking into more property tax relief legislation. Ohio Governor Mike DeWine is encouraging Ohioans to take advantage of this year's sales tax holiday, which will take place from 12:00 a.m. Friday, August 7, through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, August 9, 2026.

"Ohio's Sales Tax Holiday comes at a time of year when families are getting ready for back-to-school," said Governor DeWine. "The sales tax break is designed to provide meaningful savings for families as they purchase new school essentials for the upcoming year."

The following items qualify for the sales tax exemption during the three-day holiday:

- Clothing priced at \$75 or less per item
- School supplies priced at \$20 or less per item
- School instructional materials priced at \$20 or less per item

"This annual holiday provides meaningful savings for Ohio families while supporting back-to-school preparation," said Tax Commissioner Patricia Harris. "We encourage shoppers and retailers to plan ahead and take advantage of the exemption."

Please make note that this sales tax holiday is not as expansive as it has been in prior years.

## **Inland Fish Ohio Day**

Governor Mike DeWine highlighted Ohio's fishing traditions and economic impact at Inland Fish Ohio Day at Lake Hope State Park. Anglers generated \$5.5 billion in economic spending in Ohio in 2022, [according to a report](#) released by the Wildlife Management Institute, Responsive Management, and Southwick Associates. The research found that 18% of Ohio's adults, about 1.7 million individuals, participate in fishing.

## **National Safe Boating Week**

ODNR is promoting basic boating safety during National Safe Boating Week, emphasizing life jacket use and simple precautions to reduce drowning fatalities.

## **HB 732**

Create the Heart of it all Pass program passed out of the House Floor on 5/20.

## **News to Peruse**

[Victory I kicks off 2026 Great Lakes cruise ship season at Port of Cleveland](#)

[Microplastics and algal blooms threaten double-whammy of trouble for Lake Erie](#)

[UT Study Finds Invasive Goldfish Affect Freshwater Lakes](#)

[Proposed constitutional amendment on hunting and fishing deemed 'a solution in search of a problem'](#)

[Activist Wants More Attention Paid To Manure](#)

[NOAA issues early forecast for harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie](#)

[USS Cleveland to pass Vermilion Saturday on route to commissioning ceremony](#)

[Cleveland Metroparks lakefront project gets \\$1.1M in federal money; construction eyed for 2028](#)