



Minimum Wage Increase Possibly Headed to Ballot

A group called “Ohioans for Raising the Wage” have submitted language to place a constitutional amendment on the Ohio ballot to increase the state’s minimum wage. The group has cleared its first hurdle and their summary ballot language has been certified by the Ohio Attorney General’s office as fair and truthful. With this certification they can now begin collecting signature to qualify for the amendment to be on the November ballot. They will need 452,958 valid signatures from 44 of Ohio’s 88 counties. The deadline to do so is July 1st. The amendment as drafted would increase the minimum wage to \$9.60 on January 1, 2021 with it increasing every year to \$13.00 on January 1, 2025. (And adjusted for inflation after that). Should they collect the needed signatures to get on the ballot, business groups are expected to form a group to oppose the amendment.

ODAg To Consider Ride Classification Rules

The Ohio Department of Agriculture, through the Amusement Ride Safety Council, will be proposing rules to create amusement ride classifications. This is part of the implementation of Tyler’s Law. At the Council meeting in January, there was discussion to move forward with the official JCARR process on these rules. The rules as proposed will do the following:

901:9-1-01 - Add language requiring a list of locations a ride has been stored outside of Ohio for more than 30 days or operated outside of Ohio. This was required as a part of Tyler’s Law.

901:9-1-04 - Adds ASTM references as required by Tyler’s Law.

901:9-1-04.1 - Fatigue and corrosion review – New rule that creates classifications of rides and specifics for corrosion review for each classification. The classifications are as follows: Low Intensity Rides; Intermediate Rides; Towers; and Roller Coasters.

901:9-1-04.2 - Inspection requirements – New rule that creates standards for minimum inspections for each classification of rides.

More specifics on the proposed rules can be found here: <https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/legal-office/Admin-Rules/>

ODH Considering New Rules on Mobile Food Vendors

The Ohio Department of Health is still considering pursuing rules to place greater oversight and regulation on mobile food operations. The draft proposal released last year would create a low risk level and a high-risk level license. Very few mobiles would qualify as a low risk vendor. The package would also require a person in charge training and certification for all high risk mobile food operations. The GOSA submitted comprehensive comments to ODH on the initial package in September. GOSA has several concerns with the proposed language. There was a meeting of the Retail Food Advisory Council scheduled for January 21, 2020 to continue discussion of the proposal. However, because of a lack of a quorum, the meeting did not happen. GOSA will continue to monitor and comment when necessary.

How to Contact Your Lobbyist

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