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PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Bill would defund Planned Parenthood

Southwest Ohio lawmakers seek to mirror federal cuts

Jessie Balmert
Enquirer Statehouse Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

After President Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress blocked mon-

ey for Planned Parenthood, Ohio lawmakers are following suit.
House Bill 410, introduced by two Southwest Ohio Republicans, would mirror the one-year federal ban on Medicaid paying for health care offered by

abortion providers, such as Planned Parenthood. Federal and state law already prohibit Medicaid, a taxpayer-funded health insurance for low-income Ohioans, from paying for nearly all abortions.
The federal cut, included in Trump's signature "Big, Beautiful Bill," would

prevent Planned Parenthood from billing Medicaid for contraception, sexually transmitted infection testing, gender-affirming care and preventative care visits. A federal judge has temporarily blocked that funding cut and ruled it is
See PLANNED PARENTHOOD, Page 7A



Director of Sustainability and Resiliency Casey Shevlin says the Biden-era solar program would've cut household utility bills by about \$400 a year. JEFF LANGE/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Feds slash funding for Akron solar program

Derek Kreider
Akron Beacon Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

When President Donald Trump's administration turned out the lights on the federal government's \$7 billion Solar for All program Aug. 7, it spelled the end of a \$2.8 million grant to help Akron residents afford energy costs.
As one of 60 grant recipients, Akron was set to use the funds to to install solar infrastructure on roughly 370 homes, Director of Sustainability and Resiliency Casey Shevlin said. The Biden-era program, she said, would've reduced participating households' utility bills by approximately \$400 annually on average and lower the region's greenhouse gas emissions.
"So, for each household, the annual greenhouse gas reduction impact of switching to solar energy would have been like not driving a car for five months of the year — the equivalent of that annually," Shevlin said.
Akron's program, which had yet to launch or receive applications, was to have been financed entirely through the federal grant, Shevlin said.

See SOLAR, Page 3A

Thirsty Dog creates new brews for anniversaries



Bill Mann, who designed the labels for the Thirsty Dog Brewing Company's new Bicentennial Lager celebrating Akron's 200th anniversary, holds a can of the lager. LISA SCALFARO/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

Company celebrates its 60th milestone, Akron's 200th

Patrick Williams Akron Beacon Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

About 10 employees of an Akron engineering firm joined the Thirsty Dog Brewing Company team this year to brew a Kölsch beer in celebration of the firm's 60th anniversary.
The activity was a natural fit for Steve Hofmeister, director of engineering operations at Chemstress, an engineering and design-build firm founded in the Rubber City in 1965.
After all, Hofmeister has brewed beer and judged home-brewed beers. He's good friends with Thirsty Dog

co-owner John Najeway and has volunteered for him at beer festivals over the years. Years ago, Najeway brewed a beer for the wedding of Hofmeister's youngest son.
"When I told John Najeway that Chemstress was celebrating the 60th anniversary, he said, 'Steve, we need to do a beer for Chemstress like we did for your son,'" Hofmeister recalled.
The celebration ended up including two beers — the Chemstress Commemorative Kölsch and the Chemstress Foundation IPA.
See THIRSTY DOG, Page 3A

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