

Gov. Kasich will come to Hamilton Monday to talk jobs

Middletown Journal
Friday June 10, 2011

Gov. John Kasich will talk at ThyssenKrupp Bilstein of America, Inc. 3:45 p.m. Monday about the jobs budget and technology, according to a media advisory today.

ThyssenKrupp Bilstein is the site of recent good jobs news, as the company is planning an expansion project that could yield 60 jobs. A total \$840,000 incentive package, including a recommendation for funding from the Ohio Third Frontier, has been offered to the manufacturer so it can bring technology from its parent company to Hamilton to make certain types of shock absorbers for automobiles.

But the visit comes soon after the news that 400 jobs will soon be cut for a total almost 1,300 jobs that have been lost in Butler County since the beginning of the year. Liz Clairborne plans to close its West Chester Twp. distribution center, putting approximately 400 jobs at risk. Butler County has the most job loss in the Southwest Ohio region since January.

Kasich's visit also joins a string of recent visits from other political dignitaries including U.S. House Speaker John Boehner, R-West Chester Twp., in Middletown Tuesday; Ohio House Speaker Bill Batchelder, R-Medina, in Middletown May 26; and an upcoming scheduled visit from a regional representative of Ohio Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor's office to local businesses in Middletown, Monroe and Trenton June 15.

Currently the state budget is in the hands of the House-Senate conference committee to work out a compromise version, which then gets sent to the governor for his signature. It must be approved by June 30.

The Senate version of the bill passed Tuesday includes several changes to JobsOhio, including the governor will no longer serve as JobsOhio board chairman, the board – not the governor – will be able to remove a fellow board member for misconduct, the governor will only be able to appoint board members with executive or financial experience. Also, lawsuits regarding JobsOhio won't be filed directly with the Ohio Supreme Court.

JobsOhio is a private nonprofit entity that's supposed to replace Ohio Department of Development as the state economic development arm.

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