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## **Bill introduced for combination of MUO, UT**

*by Matt Lockwood*

The official bill outlining the proposed combination of the Medical University of Ohio and The University of Toledo was submitted yesterday to the state legislature for consideration.

It will now be subject to hearings and approval by both the Ohio House of Representatives and the Senate, with possible approval as early as March.

The bill was introduced to the House by Mark D. Wagoner Jr., a Lucas County Republican, and co-sponsored by Lucas County Democrats Peter Ujvagi, Edna Brown and Jeanine Perry; Wood County Republican Robert Latta; and Shawn Webster, a Republican from the Dayton area, who serves as chairman of the higher education subcommittee.

Tentative public hearings on the combination have been scheduled for Jan. 31 and Feb. 7 in Columbus. If all goes well, the bill is expected to be forwarded to the Senate in late February.

Meanwhile, UT President Dr. Dan Johnson and MUO President **Dr. Lloyd A. Jacobs** took questions on the bill from the media yesterday evening following Dr. Johnson's State of the University Address.

Both the MUO and UT board of trustees on Dec. 6 approved resolutions endorsing a combination of the two institutions. The Ohio Board of Regents then approved the combination on Dec. 16.

If approved by the legislature, on July 1, MUO and UT would become one entity known as The University of Toledo.



Dr. Lloyd A. Jacobs, left, and Dr. Dan Johnson shook hands last month after the Ohio Board of Regents approved the proposed combination.