NEWSLETTER, PAGE 1 (FRONT)



Dear Neighbor,

The new year and new General Assembly are in full swing. I look forward to continuing to support and sponsor legislation that positively impacts my constituents.

From the desk of Rep. Upchurch

As always, I am putting you first and thinking of you all with every decision I make. This is why I spoke out after Governor DeWine's State of the State Address and made sure Black/ Minority businesses were taken into consideration when discussing funding. I also spoke out about Black Maternal Health and police reform. I am here and I am listening!

If you are in need, the Greater Cleveland Foodbank is partnered with over 1,000 programs. You can find the location of numerous mobile pantries, shelters, hot meal locations and more on their website <u>https://www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org/</u> or by contacting their help center at 216.738.2067.

I am proud to be your State Representative. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely, Rep. Upchurch





NEWSLETTER, PAGE 2 (BACK)

Democrats hold Press Conference following the State of the State Address

Governor Mike DeWine made his way to the Statehouse this passed Tuesday, January 31st to give his State of the State Address. His address centered around funding for the budget during this General Assembly. He discussed state tax deductions for those with children, making childcare more widely available, increasing funding for charter schools, expanding college grants and increasing scholarship amounts. He also had a strong stance in advocating for more mental health resources and programs, as well as help for people trying to become homeowners. It was a well delivered and well received Address, but he did not highlight Minority Businesses, Black Maternal Health and police reform in the capacity that I would have liked. That's why when I took the stage to speak on behalf of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, these were my focal points. If you would like to watch Governor DeWine's State of the State Address it can be found here: https:// www.ohiochannel.org/collections/governor-mikedewine and if you would like to watch the press conference, it can be found here: https:// www.ohiochannel.org/video/press-conference-1-31-2023-democrat-response-to-state-of-the-state





Now that the 135th General Assembly is in full swing we have been given our official committee assignments. I am proud to still be the ranking member on the Economic and Workforce Development Committee. In addition, I am now serving on Agriculture, Ways and Means, Insurance and the Health Provider Services committees . I am excited for these new assignments and look forward to assisting in passing legislation that will help my constituents. As always, you all can watch session and committee on the Ohio Channel, at ohiochannel.org





February: Black History Month

We celebrate and commemorate Black people everyday of the year, but especially during Black History Month. Carter G. Woodson, otherwise known as the "Father of Black History" decided in 1926 that it was imperative to designate a time to promote and educate people about Black history and culture. We thank him for his contribution to getting us recognition for all of our accomplishments.

February 14th: Valentine's Day

Happy Valentine's Day! Take the day to celebrate your partner, your kids, your neighbor or whoever you have love for. Whether you celebrate by enjoying a candlelit dinner, getting a massage, getting flowers or just taking the day to relax with your loved one make sure to enjoy it!





February 20th: President's Day

We honor all 46 President's that have served the United States. Thank you for your service!