



**Representative Emilia Strong Sykes
Ohio House District 34
Minority Leader**

Dear Friend,

There is no question that 2020 has been challenging, truly making it one of the most unprecedented years that most of us will ever experience. No one could have prepared us for the hardships and sacrifices that we had to endure in response to such trying times, and as we close out 2020, I invite you all to reflect on what a year it has been.

COVID-19 hit us hard at the beginning of the year, and we are still trying to recover from the impact. In addition to a global pandemic resulting in the loss of hundreds of thousands of lives, we have struggled to reckon with racial discrimination, and an economy that does not work for all Ohioans. We have lost mothers, fathers, children, friends, neighbors, teachers, health professionals, essential workers, and so much more; this illness has affected us all in every way possible. 2020 has been a year defined by incredible loss. However, there is hope on the horizon, and by continuing to follow the proper health protocol, trusting the science, and showing empathy for each other, we can all get through this together on the other side.

I have hope for 2021. I hope you do to. Although the remnants of 2020 will follow us in to the new year, I am hopeful that the same spirit that produced the "Birthplace of Champions" will propel us into a new year with better lives, brighter futures, and opportunities for all of us. As your state representative, I look forward to representing our community to the best of my abilities, and if you are ever need of my assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I am here for you, and we are here for each other.

Stay safe, and have a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emilia Strong Sykes".

Representative Emilia Strong Sykes
Minority Leader, State Representative
House District 34