

Dear Neighbor,

The redistricting process continues, after the Ohio Supreme Court struck down both the state legislative and Congressional maps as unconstitutional in mid-January. The Court gave the Ohio Redistricting Commission 10 days to redraw the state legislative maps, and Republican commissioners adopted another set of partisan, four-year state maps on Jan. 22 without any Democratic support. The new state maps are now under review by the Court after voter rights advocates challenged the new maps as unconstitutional once again.

Our democracy should work for and include all of us. But a handful of Redistricting Commission members blatantly ignored what Ohio voters told us they wanted, not once, but twice. Democrats believe this disregard for Ohioans will be remedied again by the Court, and the people will have the fair, constitutional maps they deserve.

In response to the uncertainty caused by the unconstitutional state legislative and Congressional maps, House Bill (HB) 93 was recently signed into law, which makes several changes to the filing requirements for the upcoming primary election.

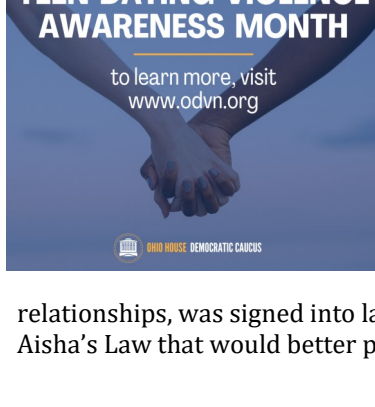
The emergency legislative changes enacted will help alleviate some concerns about administrative deadlines and paperwork requirements, but these measures fall far short of what's needed to prevent chaos and confusion for election officials and candidates. This could have been avoided entirely had Republican commissioners passed fair, constitutional maps the first time.

Ohio House Democrats are still fighting to ensure fair maps and elections for the people of Ohio, who deserve to choose who represents them, not the other way around.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

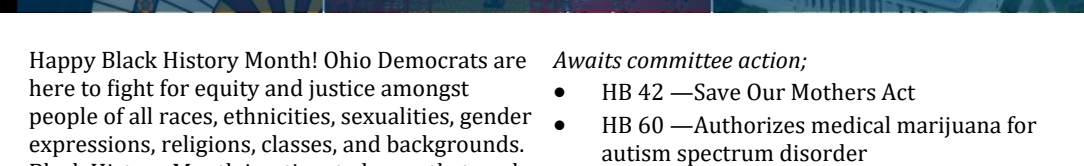
Catherine D. Ingram



Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Teen dating violence is an issue that impacts everyone – not just teens – but parents, teachers, friends and communities as well. This month, Ohio House Democrats are raising awareness about teen dating violence and promoting safe, healthy relationships.

In 2018, HB 1, Democratic legislation to expand domestic violence protection orders to those in a dating or intimate relationships, was signed into law. Democrats continue to support legislation such as Aisha's Law that would better protect survivors of domestic and dating violence.



Happy Black History Month! Ohio Democrats are here to fight for equity and justice amongst people of all races, ethnicities, sexualities, gender expressions, religions, classes, and backgrounds. Black History Month is a time to honor that, and specifically celebrate the full histories of Black Americans.

This month's theme was "Black Health & Wellness." House Democrats are working every day to improve healthcare for Black Ohioans. Throughout this month, we will be highlighting the legislative work we are doing to ensure that Black Ohioans have fair access to opportunities, voting, healthcare, jobs, housing, transportation and all other aspects of life. Our legislative work includes;

Signed into law;

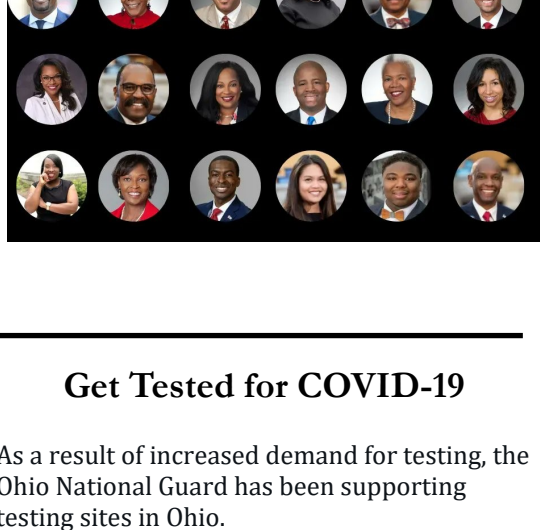
- HB 8 — Requires the recording of most custodial interrogations & will reduce the risk of forced confessions/wrongful convictions

Passed in the House;

- HB 3 — Aisha's Law
- HB 371 — Expands coverage of screening mammography & patient notice of dense breast tissue
- SB 105 — Establishes reciprocity between state and local MBE certifications

Awaits committee action;

- HB 42 — Save Our Mothers Act
- HB 60 — Authorizes medical marijuana for autism spectrum disorder
- HB 135 — Allows all forms of copay assistance to count towards patient deductible
- HB 142 — Creates a four-year pilot program for coverage & provision of doula services
- HB 402 — Regulates the practice of certified professional midwives
- HB 491 — Establishes paid family & medical leave benefits
- HCR 6 — Declares racism a public health crisis



Get Tested for COVID-19

As a result of increased demand for testing, the Ohio National Guard has been supporting testing sites in Ohio.

To see a complete list of testing sites that have opened or expanded capacity with the help of the Guard, visit <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/ong/ONG-Report.pdf>



Pictured is 2022 leadership team. From left to right, Assistant Minority Leader Thomas West, Minority Leader Allison Russo, Minority Whip Jessica E. Miranda, Assistant Minority Whip Rich Brown.

The Ohio House Democratic Caucus welcomed its new leadership team for the remainder of the 134th General Assembly. In an all-caucus vote, Democrats elected **Rep. Allison Russo (D-Upper Arlington)** as Minority Leader. Additional members of House leadership include **Assistant Minority Leader Thomas West (D-Canton)**, **Minority Whip Rep. Jessica E. Miranda (D-Forest Park)**, and **Assistant Minority Whip Rep. Richard Brown (D-Canal Winchester)**.

House Democrats remain focused on creating good-paying jobs right here in Ohio, making healthcare more affordable and accessible,

tackling corruption, and delivering for working people and families. Some of our other legislative priorities for this year include:

- Strengthen our democracy by enacting fair maps that best represent Ohioans and protecting the freedom to vote;
- Improve our public health infrastructure and ensure we have in place the systems to increase vaccination and ensure safe workplaces for all Ohioans;
- Make healthcare affordable and accessible;
- Implement commonsense gun safety reforms;
- Institute police accountability and reforms measures;
- Fix the state's broken unemployment system;
- Tackle corruption and restore integrity to state government;
- Fully repeal HB 6 and prepare Ohio for a clean energy future;
- Continue to stand with working people,

The Ohio Black Maternal Health Caucus Reconvenes

On February 17th, State Rep. Catherine Ingram (D-Cincinnati) appeared as a guest on the Cincinnati Edition where she discussed the state of Black maternal health in Ohio and the experiences Black women have before, during and after pregnancy. Rep. Ingram is of the newly appointed co-chairs of the Ohio Black Maternal Health Caucus, and she was joined by Cradle Cincinnati Community Strategies Director, Dr. Meredith Shockley-Smith, and Cincinnati mom, Nikita Anderson.

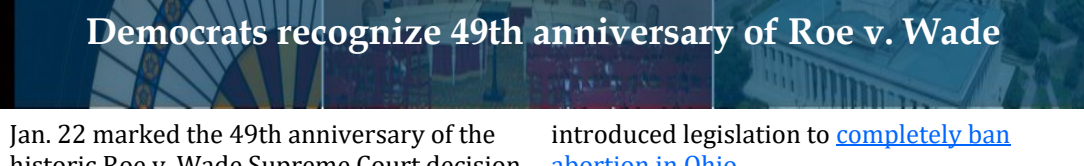


You can read or listen to the story here: <https://www.wvuxu.org/show/cincinnati-edition/2022-02-17/black-moms-dying-ohio-state-lawmakers-change-maternal-health>



In partnership, with Queen's Village Cincinnati, the Ohio Black Maternal Health Caucus held their first event of the year on Thursday, February 24, 2022—A Discussion on Racism as a Public Health Crisis. The OBMHC webinar featured Dr. Meredith Shockley-Smith and Josselyn Okorodudu as speakers from Queen's Village and Cradle Cincinnati.

A recording of the day's discussion can be found on the [Ohio House Dems Facebook Page](#).



Jan. 22 marked the 49th anniversary of the historic Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, which legalized abortion throughout the United States.

49 years later, however, the right for people to choose the reproductive healthcare decisions that are right for them is still under attack. Currently, the Supreme Court is reviewing multiple cases that could [potentially overturn the landmark abortion rights case](#).

The nationwide attack on reproductive rights is present even in Ohio, where in December 2021, Gov. DeWine signed into law Senate Bill (SB) 157, which puts Ohioans in danger by preventing doctors and patients from making appropriate and life-saving medical decisions if faced with a medical crisis during pregnancy. The legislation also contained provisions directly targeted to close abortion clinics in Southwest Ohio. Additionally, Republican state lawmakers have also

introduced legislation to [completely ban abortion in Ohio](#).

Ohio House Democrats are working to ensure Ohioans have access to the full range of quality, affordable healthcare they deserve.

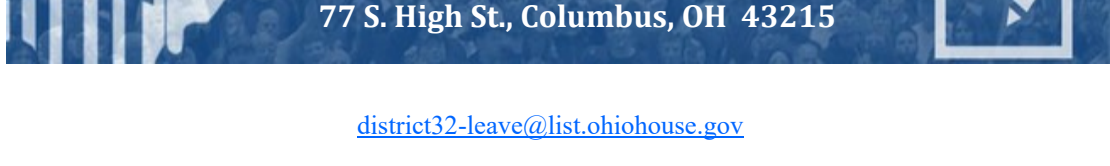


Recent News From Rep. Ingram

- [Rep. Ingram applauds start of Transit Infrastructure Fund in Hamilton County](#) | 22 communities receive grants to fix crumbling roads and improve overall resident mobility
- [Rep. Ingram denounces anti-protest bill](#) | Says HB 109 will deter Ohioans from exercising their free speech rights
- [ICYMI: Rep. Ingram discusses Black maternal health on the Cincinnati Edition](#) | Highlights the goals, accomplishments, and upcoming events of the Ohio Black Maternal Health Caucus.

To stay up to date on all news from Rep Ingram, please visit:

<https://www.ohiohouse.gov/members/catherine-d-ingram/news>



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