

# Statehouse Update

From the Office of State Representative Mary Lightbody  
House District 19 | 614-466-4847 <><> Rep19@ohiohouse.gov

Dear Neighbor,

After a busy last month, House session and committees are over for the summer and will be resuming after the November elections. Over the summer and fall, I hope to hear from you and see you around our community.

I am here to be a voice for you. Some ways that my office can help include:

- Disputes with government agencies;
- Connect you or your business to state programs or services;
- Propose bill ideas and law changes;
- Ohio House commendations (scholastic achievements, state championships, etc.) condolences and congratulatory letters.

Visit [legislature.ohio.gov](http://legislature.ohio.gov) for more information on how to contact offices, bill specifics and Ohio House news.

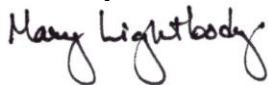
I hope you will join me during my next round of **open office hours**. This is an opportunity to ask questions and share concerns regarding our community and the state government. There is no appointment necessary!

- ❖ Tuesday, June 21  
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
New Albany Library Meeting Room 2
- ❖ Wednesday, June 29  
5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Westerville Library Purple Room
- ❖ Wednesday, July 6  
1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.  
Gahanna Panera
- ❖ Saturday, July 9  
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
New Albany Library Meeting Room 2

I look forward to meeting with you. If there is a time or place that would be more convenient to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am working for you, and working for Ohio. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,



## I work for you.

Please keep me updated on bills and issues of concern and reach out anytime for updates on legislation in committees or votes by the legislature, as well as any upcoming district events that you would like me to attend.

Please contact my office at any time:

Office: 614-466-4847

Email: [Rep19@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep19@ohiohouse.gov)



## Columbus Metropolitan Library's Free Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, your child can join forces with the Reading League to keep their reading skills strong!

Columbus Metropolitan Library's Summer Reading Challenge runs through July 31. Sign up today at [columbuslibrary.org/summerreading](http://columbuslibrary.org/summerreading) or download the free READsquared app through the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

Your child can track their reading progress to earn great prizes – and earn raffle entries along the way to win even more! Staff at the library's 23 locations are ready to help!



June 19, or Juneteenth, is a day to celebrate and commemorate the end of slavery in the United States of America.

On Juneteenth, we celebrate African American freedom and achievement, while looking to our own self-development as Americans and our respect for the freedom and liberty of all cultures.

I continue to prioritize building up Black families and all Ohioans with legislation centered on health, housing, education, jobs, criminal justice reform and supporting minority owned businesses.

For more information about Juneteenth, visit [www.Juneteenth.com](http://www.Juneteenth.com).

### Redistricting Update

A partisan majority on the Ohio Redistricting Commission chose to sidestep the rule of law and did not meet the Supreme Court-ordered June 3, 2022 deadline to pass constitutional legislative district maps. This means that the August 2, 2022 primary will go forward using maps that were ruled unconstitutional by the Ohio Supreme Court. These maps will only apply to the 2022 election.

My new district number will be 04 instead of 19, and will include Jefferson Township and the Blacklick area, and fewer Columbus wards and precincts. My preference will always be to give voters the opportunity for fair and free elections that use constitutional maps, and to put the voices of voters ahead of politics. I will continue to fight for Ohioans' voices to be heard and votes to count, and encourage you to add the August 2 Primary to your calendar.

You can determine where your home fits into the new districts online at <https://findmydistrict.ohiosos.gov>

### Celebrating Pride Month



June is Pride Month, a time for LGBTQ+ communities to celebrate their identities and experiences. Pride honors the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan, where brave individuals, specifically people of color, protested against the police for their right to exist.

In June 2020, the [U.S. Supreme Court ruled](#) that LGBTQ+ workers are protected from workplace discrimination under federal law. However, it is still legal in Ohio for members of the LGBTQ+ community to lose their job, be denied housing or be denied healthcare because of who they are or whom they love. [HB 208](#), The Ohio Fairness Act, would expand LGBTQ+ protections to include employment and housing and services in Ohio.

Additionally, I strongly oppose recently anti-transgender and discriminatory bills like [HB 454](#), [HB 151](#) and [HB 616](#), all pieces of partisan legislation which would further stigmatize and discriminate against already marginalized queer and trans-youth. Ohio should be a welcoming place to attract and retain the most talented students graduating from our high schools, colleges, and career tech centers. We need and value all Ohioans!

During Pride month and beyond, I will work toward making Ohio an inclusive and welcoming place for all people.