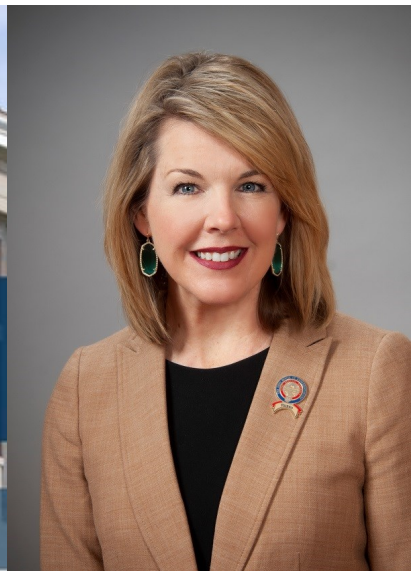




A legislative update from  
**STATE REP. ALLISON RUSSO**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 07



(614) 466-8012 | [rep07@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep07@ohiohouse.gov)

 @OHHouseDems  
 @ohiohousedems



Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful and healthy holiday season with family, friends, and new cherished memories.

If you haven't yet, it's not too late to schedule a flu shot and Covid booster! Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find a vaccine provider near you.

While there are many challenges ahead, as we begin 2025, I could not be more excited to serve the great people of Ohio's 7th House District. This year is also filled with opportunities to work on bipartisan solutions that deliver results for the People of Ohio.

As your voice in the state legislature, I promise to work hard for you and your family every single day. As this General Assembly takes shape, I am excited to share more updates on legislation, committee work, and more in the months to come.

With a new year and new General Assembly, I remain optimistic about the future of our state. Ohioans have faced great challenges in the last few years and 2025 will be no different. But, I am confident that we can put people first to lower the rising costs of property taxes, make healthcare more affordable and accessible, and ensure that our students, families, and first responders are safe and have the resources they need to succeed.

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

Sincerely,

**C. Allison Russo**  
State Representative  
Ohio House District 7



Martin  
Luther  
King Jr.  
Day

On this day, we honor the life and legacy of Dr. King with the 30th anniversary of the [National Day of Service](#) and the idea that citizenship involves taking an active role in improving our communities. This Martin Luther King Jr. Day, let us recommit as Ohioans to creating a more just and equitable society through civic action.

Life's most persistent and urgent question is,  
'What are you doing for others?'  
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Human Trafficking Awareness Month is dedicated to raising awareness of this [multifaceted crime](#), sharing the best [resources to prevent human trafficking](#), and celebrating the efforts of organizations and individuals across the globe that support survivors and protect the innocent. Together, we can raise awareness, empower survivors, and work toward a world where every individual is free and treated with dignity.



## Ohio House Democrats Begin 136th General Assembly

As we begin a new General Assembly, it is imperative that we put people first and make the individual lives of Ohio's working families better. Democrats are ready to move bipartisan solutions that will put more money in the pockets of struggling families and make life better, such as:

### Protecting Public School Funding

Nearly 90% of Ohio students attend public schools. Any plan that takes away funding from these students and teachers will inevitably hurt our economy and raise individual tax contributions. Funding our public schools is the key that unlocks a student's opportunity to achieve.

### Access to Affordable Childcare

At more than \$11K, the average annual cost for childcare is unaffordable for many families in Ohio. By removing access barriers, helping early childhood educators earn better pay, and making childcare more affordable, millions of families in Ohio can go to work knowing their children are safe and receiving the attention they deserve.

### Property Tax Relief

Property tax reform is complicated, but providing immediate solutions for Ohioans is not. For more than two decades, Ohio lawmakers have shifted the state's responsibility for funding essential services onto local communities, resulting in tax liabilities that complicate businesses and restrict services for those who need it most. It's time for the state to pay its fair share and deliver relief to Ohioans.

### Affordable Housing

25% of Ohio renters and more than 1 million households in Ohio spend at least half of their income on housing costs. Prioritizing legislation that addresses this affordability gap by incentivizing developers to build more affordable homes, removing barriers to homeownership, and supporting Ohioans most affected by housing insecurity is a necessary step to provide the dignity and peace of mind that comes with a safe and stable home.



## Legislative Progress

### Madeline's Law is Signed by the Governor

As one of the first bills Senator Casey Weinstein and I introduced as new legislators in 2019, this bill stands as one of my favorite examples of how and why legislation should originate from the people we serve and represent. The culmination of three general assemblies and six years of work, hearing aids and related services for children are finally considered medically necessary devices that require coverage from health insurers.

While it took longer than we first thought it would, getting to know the families who advocated for this bill and seeing many of these "kids" grow into amazing young adults was the added bonus. I look forward to continued opportunities to advocate for legislation that makes the lives of all Ohioans better.

Madeline's Law will require health insurance to cover up to \$2,500 per hearing aid, every four years for patients under the age of 22 that have been verified as deaf or hearing impaired by a licensed audiologist or other licensed physician. While both Medicaid and Medicare provide coverage for hearing aids, Madeline's Law expands coverage for those with private insurance and gaps in coverage for state-sponsored plans.



## January News from Rep. Russo

For all news from Rep. Russo's office, please visit: <https://ohiohouse.gov/members/c-allison-russo/news>