



From the Office of Representative Casey Weinstein (D-Hudson)

Working For You: Spring 2022 at the Ohio Statehouse



Dear Neighbor,

After last month's State of the State address, Ohio House and Senate Democrats held a press conference to outline our plan to expand opportunity, invest in working people and families, and build an economy that works for everyone.

Democrats highlighted several ways we have delivered results for Ohioans the past three years, including the American Rescue Plan to support working families and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to rebuild Ohio's infrastructure. I've also been proud to have supported the Fair School Funding Plan—a longtime priority to invest in our students—in the last budget and secured \$210.98 million for public transit and \$250 million for broadband development in underserved areas.

After an almost two-year hiatus, advocacy and outreach days are back in person at the Statehouse, and it has been wonderful to meet so many constituents in different industries so far this year. Over the past few weeks, my office has had productive meetings with Summit County library leaders, realtors, pharmacy and optometry students, and organization leaders from around the Northeast Ohio region.



We're heading into an extended break from House voting sessions, which means you can plan to see me out in the district even more over the next few months. Coming up this month, I will be back at the Hudson Library and Historical Society on Thursday, April 28 at 6:30pm for our spring legislative town hall. Stop by to hear the latest updates on redistricting, Statehouse legislation, and my 2022 priorities.

And finally, while the redistricting process is still ongoing—read more below—certain primary elections will still be held on May 3, and early voting started this week. To sign up to be a poll worker, check your voting location, or view sample ballots, click HERE. As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Casey Weinstein

Commendations, Congratulations, and Condolences from Rep. Weinstein

Congratulations United Way of Summit and Medina Counties on reaching a milestone 1 MILLION books given away through the Imagination Library! Through the program, children aged birth to 5 years are eligible to receive a free book every month in the mail. Learn more about the program and sign up HERE.



Congratulations to the Hudson Middle School Science Olympiad team on your recent win at the Akron Regional Tournament! Good luck as you move on to the state tournament. I'm cheering you on!



Spotlight: Ohio Redistricting

In its March 16 ruling, the Ohio Supreme Court ordered the Ohio Redistricting Commission to draw an "entirely new" set of state legislative maps. The independent mapmakers drew several versions of constitutional, proportional maps that uphold the Supreme Court's rulings. However, at the eleventh hour in their most recent Commission meeting, Republican commissioners chose to abandon the bipartisan, transparent work of the independent map drawing process in favor of their partisan plan - with only minor revisions to their most recently invalidated maps adopted Feb. 24.

House Districts



Senate Districts



These Republican maps fail to comply with the Constitution and Court requirement that maps must reflect the statewide preferences of Ohio voters who voted 54% Republican and 46% Democratic over the last 10 years. Republican commissioners forced a vote on the secret partisan maps before the Commission could review the final draft maps drawn by the independent map makers. They also rejected a motion by Democrats to adopt the final draft maps drawn by the independent map makers.

From the beginning, I have pushed for a bipartisan, open, and transparent map-drawing process. Historic progress was made toward this goal during this round of the redistricting process by holding daily meetings, hiring independent map drawers, retaining mediators to aid in meeting consensus on contentious issues and livestreaming the entire map-drawing process to the public. The fight for fair maps is not over, and I will continue to keep you updated as new developments occur.

Reach Out to Rep. Weinstein

Here are some ways our office can help:

- Disputes with government agencies
Ohio House commendations, condolences, and congratulatory letters
Propose bill ideas and law changes
Connect you or your business to state programs or services

Contact Methods:

- Email Us: Rep37@OhioHouse.gov
Call Us: (614) 466-1177
Facebook.com/RepWeinstein
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Legislative Update

HB 242: Autism Acceptance Month / April is Autism Awareness Month, a time to celebrate the countless ways that people with autism contribute to our families, our communities, our nation, and the world. Awareness, however, is no longer sufficient.

My bipartisan bill—HB 242—would designate April as Autism Acceptance Month, moving Ohio out of simple awareness and toward acknowledgement and true acceptance. HB 242 was approved unanimously by the House Health Committee and awaits a vote on the House floor.

HB 616: Ohio's "Don't Say Gay" Bill / HB 327—the "divisive concepts" bill—is currently stalled in Committee, thanks to pressure from opponents. However, pieces of that bill have now been included in the new HB 616, along with language mirroring Florida's "Don't Say Gay" bill. The Legislature should not be in the business of censoring teachers. Let the bill's sponsors know what you think.

