September | 2023 — Statehouse & Legislative Update State Rep. Casey Weinstein

Ohio House District 37

(614) 466-1177 | Rep34@OhioHouse.gov | Socials: @RepWeinstein





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

Working For You: Fall at the Statehouse

Dear Neighbor,

L'Shanah Tovah to my fellow Jewish friends and neighbors! My family and I are wishing you health, happiness, and success in the new year.

While voting sessions have been pushed back until later this fall, committee hearings have stared back up again after summer recess. I will be in Columbus this week for Public Utilities Committee and a meeting with the League of Women Voters. I had the honor of speaking to the students of Junior Leadership Hudson yesterday and volunteering with my family at First Serve last weekend, and I am looking forward to some great tours and meetings in the district this week, including at Grace House, Goodyear Tire, and Stark State.

September is Library Card Sign-up Month! Throughout the rest of the month, public libraries in Ohio will be working to ensure that every child signs up for



their own library card as the first step toward academic success. District 34 has some incredible libraries and library staff, and I am constantly impressed by the community resources, activities, and assistance that they offer. From homework help to job search assistance, you can find what you need at one of our fantastic libraries. Find a library near you or explore a new one <u>HERE</u>!

In the coming weeks, stay tuned for updates related to redistricting as well as fall town hall announcements. In the meantime, I want to hear from you! Call or email my office any time to discuss legislation or district concerns. As always, we are here to assist however we can.

Sincerely, Casey Weinstein



Commendations, Congratulations, and Condolences from Rep. Weinstein

Congratulations to the EJ Thomas Performing Arts Hall on their 50th anniversary gala next weekend! Since its opening in 1973, this iconic performing arts hall has been one of the most beloved features of the University of Akron Campus. Congrats on 50 years!

Congratulations and **great job** to Hudson City Schools for a 5 star rating in this year's state school report card! I want to thank all of the educators, staff, and administrators that work so incredibly hard every day to support our students. This rating is a reflection of your

hard word and passion, and I appreciate you! Be proud of this achievement!



Spotlight: Ohio Ballot Board Changes Amendment Language

The Ohio Ballot Board met last month to <u>approve ballot initiative language</u> for issues in the upcoming November election. While the language for the marijuana legalization amendment was approved with no changes, the Republican-controlled board rejected using the <u>full text of the proposed reproductive freedom amendment</u>.

The changed language—passed by a 5-2 vote—is deceptive and does not reflect the actual language of the amend-

ment. The approved language ignores official medical terminology and uses the phrase "unborn child" rather than

"fetus." The language also misleadingly refers to abortions as "decisions" rather than "medical treatment."

The deceitful ballot language even goes as far as to not include the fact that the amendment protects all reproductive rights including contraception, abortion, and infertility.

The truth is, a constitutional amendment would guarantee the right to make and carry out one's own reproductive healthcare decisions, which include all options and is something a majority of Ohioans support. Where the original language discusses viability. this new ballot language discusses abortions at term, which is not medically possible and is just called delivery.

Reproductive rights groups who helped create the original ballot language have sued the <u>Ohio Ballot Board</u> for their "deceptive summary," asking the Ohio Supreme Court either to use the full amendment's language or to require the Ballot Board to correct the inaccuracies.

Ohio to vote on abortion rights constitutional amendment this November

Jessie Balmert Cincinnati Enquirer ublished 9:17 a.m. ET July 25, 2023 | Updated 10:47 a.m. ET Aug. 10, 2023



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: <u>Rep34@OhioHouse.gov</u>

- 🖉 Call Us: (614) 466-1177
- Facebook.com/RepWeinstein
- <u> @RepWeinstein</u>

State Rep. Casey Weinstein 77 South High Street, 10th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-6111



Legislative Update

HB 197: Community Solar Bill / This week we will be hearing proponent testimony on House Bill 197 in the House Public Utilities Committee, which if passed would establish a community solar pilot program in Ohio. Unlike personal rooftop solar, community solar allows multiple customers—businesses, neighbors, etc.—to subscribe to energy generated by a nearby, off-site solar array.

This is the second General Assembly that a community solar bill has been introduced in the Ohio House. Last GA, HB 450 had six committee hearings before

ultimately stalling out. Testimony was overwhelmingly positive, with AEP Ohio as the only listed opponent.

Community solar is an issue with growing bi-partisan support. Both leading sponsors are Republicans, and I am proud to have signed on as a co-sponsor and supporter.



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