FEBRUARY 2024 - STATEHOUSE & LEGISLATIVE UPDATE **STATE REP. CASEY WEINSTEIN HOUSE DISTRICT 34**



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February at The Ohio State House!

Dear neighbor,

Happy February and Happy Black History Month! This month we celebrate the history of Black Americans by continuing to uplift the voices and accomplishments within the Black community. Building a state that supports and welcomes everyone has been a long and difficult process, but with your help, I am sure we can continue creating lasting, impactful change here in Ohio.

Over the past month, I had the honor of attending the Cleveland Orchestra's celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy, where I was able to reflect on Dr. King's message of equality and the importance of public service. I also had the honor of being the keynote speaker for the Ohio College Personnel Association's Annual Conference, where I spoke about some of the biggest challenges higher education institutions currently face and my priorities in higher education as a legislator: accessibility, affordability, and diversity.

Back home, I was also able to hold different meetings within the cities of the 34th District to learn how to best advocate for state funding to help support some very exciting projects in our communities! Projects that I am proud to announce made it into the capital budget bill my colleagues and I passed, allocating \$13.2 million in funding for public initiatives in our district, and \$46 mil to our higher education institutions.

In Columbus, aside from passing historical investments for the 34th, I was also proud to welcome and help swear in my dear friend and newest colleague, State Representative Veronica Sims. I am excited to welcome her into the House and I am looking forward to seeing what our continued partnership will bring to our districts!

Lastly, as a reminder, the last day to register to vote or to update your voter registration information is February 20th. You can do so online, by mail, or in person. For more information, you can visit the Ohio's Secretary of State Website at https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/register/

As always, it is an honor to serve you here at the Statehouse! Please feel free to reach out to my office for any reason. We are here to serve you however we can. We encourage you to continue to share with us your thoughts, concerns, and any ideas you may have.

Sincerely, (any Weinstein



Legislative Update: \$13.9 Mil allocated for public initiatives in the cities of the 34th District and \$46 Mil allocated for regional higher education institutions

I'm excited to announce that the House passed multiple investments for our 34th District! These investments will provide funding to support public initiatives and state-supported higher education institutions. The Cuyahoga Falls Regional Fire Training Complex, The Hudson Inclusive Playground, and the Akron Zoo Veterinary Clinic are among the investments. These projects got approved by the Ohio House to receive money from the One Time Strategic Community Investment Fund (OTSCIF), funding that was set aside in the most recent state operating budget.

On the other hand, traditional capital budget funding was approved for The University of Akron and Kent State University to fund necessary renovations and facility improvements.

AKRON: Akron-Canton Airport for Aeronautical Activity \$2.5 million Cascade Plaza \$2.5 million Akron Art Museum \$2 million Akron Zoo Veterinary Hospital \$1.75 million Akron Community Health Center Addiction 1 Campus \$1.25 million Middle School Trades Education Center \$750.000 Child Guidance & Family Solutions - MultiCampus \$450,000 CUYAHOGA FALLS: **Regional Fire Training Complex \$1.5 million** INVEST FIGHT HUDSON DELIVER Inclusive Playground \$500,000 University of Akron \$16,937,372

Kent State University \$29,149,650

While these funds have already been approved by the House, they now head to the Ohio Senate for consideration. Community projects will have additional funding opportunities from the traditional capital budget and the remaining one-time funds. If you support these projects and would like to see them move forward, it is now more important than ever to contact your State Senator and ask them to vote in favor of our proposed capital budget bill, HB2.

Photo Wall



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