

STATE REP. LISA SOBECKI

HOUSE DISTRICT 45

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Dear Neighbor,

AUGUST 2021 EDITION

I hope you've had a good summer. As the school year starts for many Ohioans and as we near Fall, there are two critical issues needing addressed: The rise of the Delta Variant and Overpayment Waivers.

According to the Center for Disease Control, roughly 95% of new COVID-19 infections due to the emergence of the Delta Variant are among unvaccinated Americans. Experts believe the virus will continue to mutate and infringe on individual's freedom until more Americans are vaccinated and herd immunity is developed. That is why I am encouraging every person to get fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to protect their own freedom, their loved ones' freedom, and the freedom of those around them. Vaccines are a common and routine aspect of public health and individual health. Many deadly and dangerous diseases have been eradicated, or nearly so, in our country thanks to widespread vaccination including polio, measles, and small pox. It is necessary in a free society to sometimes support the common good, for example stopping at a red light and waiting for a green light. Colloquially it is said that one's freedom to swing their own arm ends when it strikes another one's nose. We have all made sacrifices over the past year, and some have lost their lives. The COVID-19 pandemic has ravaged our country but we have made significant progress to defeating the virus.

Many Ohioans who received a non-fraud Unemployment Overpayment through no fault of their own may be eligible for a waiver. You are still able to request a waiver through your Unemployment Portal or by contacting ODJFS. Ohioans through no fault of their own have been put under enormous amounts of stress and burdens. And as the pandemic continues and many industries slowly returning, Ohioans are still reliant on unemployment insurance benefits from the State. Being able to request a waiver to ensure benefits aren't offset for something not their fault is extremely important to Ohio's economic recovery. If you or someone you know needs assistance completing the request for a waiver, please contact my office at rep45@ohiohouse.gov or at (614) 644-6017.

Your Public Servant,

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Unemployment / PUA – Overpayment Waiver Ohioans with Unemployment Overpayments are able to request a waiver. Instructions were sent via email to all claimants. Visit unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov or contact my office at rep45@ohiohouse.gov or (614) 644-6017 for questions or assistance completing the waiver. According to NASA, August is an important month for space exploration. This month NASA announced that the agency is seeking willing applicants to take part in a one year simulated mission resembling a mission to Mars. In doing so, four crew members will live and work for a year in a 3D-printed, 1,700 square foot module performing tasks such as spacewalks, using VR and robotic controls, as well as conducting research. In other news, a potentially dangerous asteroid "Bennu" was discovered in 1999, in which telescopes have been watching ever since. NASA considers Bennu to be the most hazardous known asteroid within the solar system, estimating it has a 1 in 1,750 chance of hitting earth between now and the year 2300. Although, there is no need to worry, the agency estimates this is too small of a probability to actually occur. Ohio has produced some of the greatest names in the history of space exploration, including Jim Lovell, Neil Armstrong, John Glenn, and Gene Kranz. Known for directing the successful efforts by the mission control team to save the crew aboard Apollo 13 among other successes, he contributions to space exploration are honored by House Bill 24, designating August 17th as Eugene "Gene" F. Kranz Day. House Bill 24 passed the House earlier this Spring, and I am hopeful it will pass the Ohio Senate and be signed into law before the end of the GA.



Ohioans want to see a fair, open and transparent redistricting process that lives up to the spirit of the reforms voters passed not once, but twice. Every critical issue in our state comes down to fair districts, from education and the economy to growing good paying jobs and protecting healthcare access and our freedom to vote. When we draw the map, we choose what hospitals, schools and resources are funded in our neighborhoods and communities. For too long, Republicans in charge of the process have divided us and allowed politicians to choose their voters rather than voters choosing their leaders. Fair districts means better representation and better communities. The best way to serve Ohio voters and move our state forward on all of the issues important to working families is by creating fair districts that represent the will of the people.

Rep. Sobecki in the Press: Here Are Some of Rep. Sobecki's Press Releases from July:

- July 13, 2021: Ohioans Can Now Request Waivers for Unemployment Overpayments
- July 15, 2021: Families To Begin Receiving Child Tax Credit
- July 23, 2021: Ohio's Unemployment System Continues to Fail Hardworking Ohioans

All Press Releases can be accessed at: ohiohouse.gov/members/lisa-a-sobecki/news.

Rep. Sobecki Bill Highlights:

• House Bill 334 to Increase School Board Member Pay has been referred to the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee for Hearings. Rep. Sobecki hopes to have hearings begin in early Fall.

All Legislation can be accessed at: ohiohouse.gov/members/lisa-a-sobecki/legislation

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