



## HOUSE DISTRICT 45

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**JANUARY 2022 EDITION**

Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2022! January 6, 2021 was a dark moment in our nation’s history, and those who attack and undermine our democracy didn’t stop after that day. The insurrection at the U.S. Capitol has stoked extremism and hyper-partisanship across the country, and Ohio is no exception to this alarming trend. Some politicians continue to irresponsibly promote the Big Lie in a cynical attempt to divide us and erode our freedom to vote. The Ohio Anti-Voter Bill (HB 294), which would enact new deliberate barriers to voting, was introduced just months after the Jan. 6 insurrection. Ohio’s latest gerrymandered legislative maps undermine the freedom to vote by allowing politicians to pick their voters, instead of the other way around. We must unite to deliver on the promise of democracy for all to move our state forward. Ohioans want progress – cleaner air and water, quality schools for our children, high-paying union jobs, and greater justice in our communities – but these priorities are all under threat with the anti-voting bills and gerrymandered legislative maps on the table.

Meanwhile, Democrats have introduced pro-voter legislation that would:

- ⇒ Expand access to secure ballot drop boxes;
- ⇒ Urge passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the For the People Act;
- ⇒ Create universal voter registration;
- ⇒ Provide voters with paid return postage for mail ballots;
- ⇒ Create a safe and accessible online system to request mail ballots;
- ⇒ Allow more than one early vote center per county;
- ⇒ Allow ballots postmarked by Election Day to be counted

Should you have any questions about these bills, contact my office at [rep45@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep45@ohiohouse.gov) or (614) 644-6017.

Your public servant,

Healthcare Open Enrollment  
**ENDS JAN 15**

To enroll in a plan, visit the healthcare marketplace at [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov)

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Open enrollment for healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act is open until January 15, 2022.

According to Kaiser Health News, 13.6 million Americans have signed up for healthcare coverage through the ACA marketplace for 2022, a record high.

All US citizens or immigrants who are lawfully living in the US are eligible to enroll in health care coverage through the Insurance Marketplace.

Visit [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to view 2022 health plans and to find a plan that works for you and your family.

Did you know that January is Braille Literacy Month? The month kicks off with World Braille Day, which is January 4th, in honor of braille's inventor Louis Braille who was born in 1809 near Paris, France. As a result on injury when he was just 3 years old, Louis lost the ability to see. When he was 15, Louis invented the tactile code of Braille, which today is used in nearly every country. You can learn more about Braille by visiting [www.loc.gov/exhibits/louis-braille/overview.html](http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/louis-braille/overview.html). According to the National Federation for the Blind, as of 2016 there was approximately 280,000 Ohioans with a visual disability. CDC data from 2020 reports that vision disability one of the top 10 disabilities among adults and is among the most common disabling conditions for children. Braille literacy is important for many individuals and it is crucial our state's policies reflect that importance and provide more resources to help more Ohioans learn braille. Braille literacy can provide new educational and economic opportunities. With the number of Ohioans with visual disabilities increasing in our state, it is important to focus on helping them.

**2021 YEAR IN REVIEW**

State Rep. Lisa Sobecki  
HOUSE DISTRICT 45

**\$16.9 Million** in Funding for Lucas County

**26** Bills/Resolutions sponsored  
+  
**199** Bills/Resolutions Co-Sponsored

Hundreds of Constituents Helped Through Casework

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During 2021, my office:

Received thousands of messages, emails, and calls from constituents and advocacy organizations.

Recognized our incredible region with over 40 commendations, condolences, and resolutions including for the Woodward HS Rugby State Championship, Islamic Center of NW Ohio, and Jolly Rogers Sailing Club.

**LET'S GET VACCINATED, OHIO.**

Learn more at  
[gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov)

With the recent rises in COVID-19 cases, getting vaccinated and boosted is the best way to protect you, your loved ones, and your community. The CDC recommends that everyone ages 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to protect against the COVID-19 virus.

### Unemployment / PUA – Overpayment Waiver

Ohioans with Unemployment Overpayments are able to request a waiver. Visit [unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov](http://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov) or contact my office at [rep45@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep45@ohiohouse.gov) or (614) 644-6017 for questions or assistance completing the waiver.

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

- December 1, 2021: ODWLC Chair Sobecki statement on MS vs Dodds Oral Arguments
- December 8, 2021: Rep. Sobecki condemns "Born-Alive" Bill as Misleading and Dangerous
- December 14, 2021: Rep. Sobecki announces \$250 million in funding for infrastructure projects, health and safety programs across Ohio

All Press Releases can be accessed at: [ohiohouse.gov/members/lisa-a-sobecki/news](http://ohiohouse.gov/members/lisa-a-sobecki/news).

**Rep. Sobecki Bill Highlights:**

- Rep. Sobecki joint sponsored House Bill 484 which designated the walleye, prevalent in Lake Erie as the Official State Fish. The bill awaits hearings in committee.
- House Bill 24 designated August 17th as Gene Kranz Day had its 2nd Hearing in the Senate Committee and now awaits a vote.

Stay up to date with all of Rep. Sobecki's legislation, including bills and resolutions by visiting her website or contacting her office. All Legislation can be accessed at: [ohiohouse.gov/members/lisa-a-sobecki/legislation](http://ohiohouse.gov/members/lisa-a-sobecki/legislation)

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