



## HOUSE DISTRICT 45

(614) 644-6017 | [rep45@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep45@ohiohouse.gov) | [fb.com/RepSobecki45](https://www.facebook.com/RepSobecki45)

**FEBRUARY 2022 EDITION**

Dear Neighbor,

The redistricting process continues, after the Ohio Supreme Court struck down both the state legislative and Congressional maps as unconstitutional in mid-January. The Court gave the Ohio Redistricting Commission 10 days to redraw the state legislative maps, and Republican commissioners adopted another set of partisan, four-year state maps on Jan. 22 without any Democratic support. The new state maps were struck down again by the Court after voter rights advocates challenged the new maps as unconstitutional.

Our democracy should work for and include all of us. But a handful of Redistricting Commission members blatantly ignored what Ohio voters told us they wanted, not once, but twice. Democrats continue to believe that Ohioans are entitled to deserve fair, constitutional maps.

In response to the uncertainty caused by the unconstitutional state legislative and Congressional maps, House Bill (HB) 93 was recently signed into law, which makes several changes to the filing requirements for the upcoming primary election.

The emergency legislative changes enacted will help alleviate some concerns about administrative deadlines and paperwork requirements, but these measures fall far short of what's needed to prevent chaos and confusion for election officials and candidates. This could have been avoided entirely had Republican commissioners passed fair, constitutional maps the first time.

Ohio House Democrats are still fighting to ensure fair maps and elections for the people of Ohio, who deserve to choose who represents them, not the other way around.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns. My office can be reached either at [rep45@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep45@ohiohouse.gov) or at (614) 644-6017.

Your public servant,



February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. Teen dating violence is an issue that impacts everyone – not just teens – but parents, teachers, friends and communities as well. This month, Ohio House Democrats are raising awareness about teen dating violence and promoting safe, healthy relationships. In 2018, HB 1, Democratic legislation to expand domestic violence protection orders to those dating or in intimate relationships, was signed into law. Dems continue to advocate for legislation to better protect survivors of domestic violence, including Aisha’s Law. If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, you can find help statewide at Ohio Domestic Violence Network at 1.800.934.9840. You can learn more information by visiting [www.odvn.org](http://www.odvn.org).

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**CDL Student Aid Program:** There is still time to apply! Qualified institutions with CDL programs can apply at <https://www.ohiohighered.org/cdl> through Feb. 18, 2022. The CDL Student Aid Program is an economic driver and will help to fill essential roles in our state’s supply chain, as well as snowplow and school bus driver shortages. Rep. Sobecki worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle and industry to establish this program. Rep. Sobecki joint sponsored House Bill (HB 129) to establish the CDL Student Aid Program in Ohio. The CDL Student Aid Program was included as a budget provision and signed into law by Gov. DeWine.

**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.



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.

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**Rep. Sobecki in the Press:** Here Are Some of Rep. Sobecki’s Press Releases from January 2022:

- January 6, 2022: Rep. Sobecki Announces CDL Student Aid Program Application Period
  - January 12, 2022: Rep. Sobecki Encourages the Passage of the CHIPS Act re Semiconductor Production
  - January 25, 2022: Rep. Sobecki Applauds Credit Monitoring for Ohioans who filed Unemployment Claims.
- 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 introduced House Bill 542 which would allow 16 year olds the ability to enter barber school, matching the same minimum age for cosmetology school.
- Rep. Sobecki introduced House Bill 544 to move the Primary Election Date to June 7th.

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)

**Office of State Rep. Lisa Sobecki**  
**(614) 644-6017 | [rep45@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep45@ohiohouse.gov)**  
**77 S. High St., FL 11, Columbus, OH 43215**

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