



HOUSE DISTRICT 45

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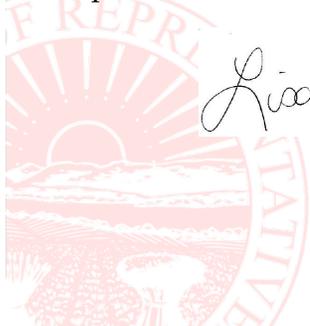
APRIL 2022 EDITION

Dear Neighbor,

Last month, the majority of Commissioners on the Ohio Redistricting Commission subverted the bipartisan, transparent map-drawing process ordered by the Ohio Supreme Court, instead introducing and adopting a set of state legislative maps that were drawn in secret by majority commissioners.

In its March 16 ruling, the Ohio Supreme Court ordered the Commission to draw an “entirely new” set of state legislative maps. The independent mapmakers drew several versions of constitutional, proportional maps that uphold the Supreme Court’s rulings. However, at the eleventh hour, Republican commissioners chose to abandon the bipartisan, transparent work of the independent map drawing process in favor of their partisan plan – with only minor revisions to their most recently invalidated maps adopted Feb. 24. The Republican maps fail to comply with the Constitution and Court requirement that maps must reflect the statewide preferences of Ohio voters who voted 54% Republican and 46% Democratic over the last 10 years. Republican commissioners forced a vote on the secret partisan maps before the Commission could review the final draft maps drawn by the independent map makers. They also rejected a motion by Democrats to adopt the final draft maps drawn by the independent map makers. From the beginning, Democrats pushed for a bipartisan, open and transparent map-drawing process. Historic progress was made toward this goal during this round of the redistricting process by holding daily meetings, hiring independent map drawers, retaining mediators to aid in meeting consensus on contentious issues and livestreaming the entire map-drawing process to the public. The partisan plan adopted by the majority of the commissioners contains 17 Democratic-toss up districts in the House between 50-52% partisan share and zero Republican districts within the same range. The Senate map is equally lopsided, with six Democratic Senate districts falling between 50-52% and zero Republican districts in the same range. The asymmetry found in the latest plan is a nearly identical gerrymander to the plan overturned by the Ohio Supreme Court last month. The final decision over these maps are still up in the air and yet to be decide. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office. My office can be reached either at rep45@ohiohouse.gov or at (614) 644-6017.

Your public servant,



Lisa Sobecki

Black Maternal Health Week is the week of April 11-17th. Black Maternal Health Week is an annual event that is intended to raise awareness about the health disparities for Black women. The pregnancy related death rate for Black women in Ohio is two and half times that of white women. Reducing maternal health disparities and also improving early childhood health outcomes is critical. Part of the goal of Black Maternal Health Week is to inspire activism and strengthen organizing to help communities be better informed about maternal health and how they can improve outcomes. In the Statehouse, members of the Ohio Legislature formed the Ohio Black Maternal Health Caucus to educate State and fellow lawmakers about the issue. They believe in advocating for statewide policies that benefit the long term well-being of Black mothers, babies, and families. The Black Maternal Health Caucus holds monthly seminars. To learn about how you can be involved with the caucus and participate, you can contact my office at (614) 644-6017 or rep45@ohiohouse.gov. You can learn more about Black Maternal Health Week by going to blackmamasmatter.org/bmhw.

On April 7 the U.S. Senate confirmed Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Brown Jackson made history as the first Black woman confirmed to the highest court in the land, and will be the first public defender to serve as a justice. Judge Brown Jackson is a brilliant legal mind with the utmost character and integrity. I look forward to Judge Brown Jackson continued service to our country as a Supreme Court Justice.



Rep. Sobecki in the Press: Here Are Some of Rep. Sobecki's Press Releases from March 2022:

- March 2, 2022: Permitless Carry Legislations Put Ohioans at Risk
- March 25, 2022: House Re-Appropriates \$4.5 Million for Capital Projects in Lucas County
- March 30, 2022: Rep. Sobecki Votes Against Bill that Unfairly Punishes Cities

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

Rep. Sobecki Bill Highlights:

- Rep. Sobecki bills honoring fallen Toledo Police Officers, Officer Dia and Officer Stalker received final approval from the Ohio House and awaits the Governor's signature.
- Rep. Sobecki provided testimony on House Bill 542 in the House Commerce and Labor Committee.

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

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