

WINTER 2026

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DONTAVIUS L. JARRELLS

HOUSE DISTRICT 01

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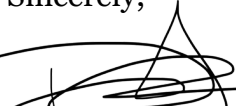
Dear Neighbor,

As the cold Ohio air warms and the sun begins to shine, I want to take a moment to share what we have been working on together this winter season, as well as some exciting updates.

In this newsletter, you will find recent legislative updates, a recap of our All of Us Town Hall, helpful information on the upcoming primary election, highlights from our Black History Month celebrations, a spotlight on our current interns, and community resources.

We are here to listen to and support you in any way that we can. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office. Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Sincerely,


Dontavius L. Jarrells
State Representative
Ohio House District 01



Business Highlight

Off Da Grill Catering in Columbus is a Black-owned and woman-owned local business. Known for delicious, flavorful meals and specializing in authentic soul food, Off Da Grill offers something for everyone to love. Located at **1114 East Main Street, Columbus, OH 43205**, Off Da Grill is a long-time favorite of mine. Call them at (614) 809-2803 for more information.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Recent Legislation

This winter, we have had several pieces of impactful legislation advance and be introduced, demonstrating ongoing efforts to improve public health, education, and equity across Ohio. You can learn more and sign up to testify on the Ohio House Committee website: ohiohouse.gov/committees. You can also learn more about these and other bills I'm supporting by visiting [my website](#).

- **[H.B. No. 25 \(Jarrells, Ray\)](#)** – Establishes the *Fostering School Success Act*, requiring state agencies to support local foster care education liaisons and navigators; and also requires agencies to disseminate educational resources and any scholarship opportunities specifically for students placed in foster care to their agency's website.
 - **Passed the Floor** with a vote of **92-1** and moves to the Senate Committee on Education.
- **[H.B. No. 33 \(Jarrells, Johnson\)](#)** – Requires health benefit plans to provide coverage of preventative [prostate cancer screenings](#) for certain men at high risk.
 - Introduced to the House Insurance Committee and received its **third hearing** on November 18, 2025.
- **[H.B. No. 34 \(Jarrells, Mohamed\)](#)** – Increases the Ohio **minimum wage** to reflect cost-of-living increases.
 - Introduced in the House and **referred** to the House Commerce and Labor Committee on February 5, 2025.
- **[H.B. No. 58 \(Jarrells, Pizzulli\)](#)** – Creates a certificate of need program for recovery housing residences, strengthening accountability within the recovery housing industry.
 - **Passed the Floor** with a vote of **92-0** and moves to the Senate Committee on Addiction and Community Revitalization.

All Of Us Legislative Townhall

This winter, I had the privilege of hosting the All Of Us Townhall event alongside [Representative Latyna M. Humphrey](#) and [Councilmember Tiara Ross](#). This event, hosted at the [Union Grove Baptist Church](#), centered on bringing people together for meaningful and impactful conversation. Constituents, local advocates, and community members had the opportunity to connect and engage in impactful conversations.

These events go to show the [importance and value of civic engagement](#). I'm endlessly grateful to be part of a community that is so uplifting and passionate, and I could not do without your ongoing support. I look forward to continuing my engagement with the district through future events.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every February, we observe **Black History Month** to recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black people, communities, and culture. Black History Month is **a time to reflect on the history and lasting impact of Black individuals and society**. It reminds us of the importance of learning from the past while pushing towards a better future.

This February, my fellow members of the **Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC)** and I held a press conference in celebration of Black History Month. I had the opportunity to share important steps I am taking to bring Ohio towards equity and justice. We also discussed legislation targeting a wide variety of issues impacting Black communities and individuals.



This press conference, along with other work I am doing in coordination with members of the OLBC, is an important step towards equity and justice. There is much more work to be done, and **I am proud to uplift the Black community and individuals in District 1 and beyond.**

To view the full press conference, please click [here](#).



ICE Press Conference

We also held a press conference discussing recent federal immigration enforcement activity and legislation intended to safeguard due process, accountability, and protect our communities.

I stand with families across Ohio who are living in fear instead of freedom. In a country built by immigrants, no parent should worry that a knock at the door could tear their family apart. What we are seeing from masked ICE agents is not about safety. It is about intimidation. It is about using fear as a governing tool and turning neighbors against one another.

We are committed to **building an Ohio where no one's humanity is ever treated as temporary.** View the press conference [here](#).



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Every March, we celebrate **Women's History Month**. We take this time to recognize and uplift the accomplishments and contributions of women throughout history. From national leaders to women in our local communities, **their impact has and continues to shape a brighter, more equitable future.**

This month is an opportunity to celebrate progress and support women who make a difference in our communities every day. **As we honor these contributions, I want to take a moment to shine a light on the impactful women who shape our community as our elected officials.**

The women I've chosen to highlight, along with so many others who work behind the scenes, are **integral to our District 1 community**. They work hard constantly on behalf of their constituents, and **we honor their contributions not just during Women's History Month, but every day.**



Senator Michele Reynolds
Senator for Ohio's 3rd District



Commissioner Erica C. Crawley
Commissioner of Franklin County



Jessica Saad
President of Bexley City Council



Monique Lampke
Bexley City Councilwoman



Lourdes Barroso de Padilla
Columbus City Councilwoman



Nancy Day-Achauer
Columbus City Councilwoman



Melissa Green
Columbus City Councilwoman



Tiara N. Ross
Columbus City Councilwoman

SPRING INTERN SPOTLIGHT

I'm thrilled to introduce my amazing Spring interns! Over the past few months, they've brought **fresh ideas**, **incredible energy**, and a **passion** for learning about the legislative process and public service. Their hard work and dedication have truly made a **lasting impact** in my office. We're beyond grateful to have them as part of our team this season, and we can't wait to see how they continue to grow and thrive in their careers.

Sara Weinstein

Sara is a first-year student at The Ohio State studying History and International Studies with a minor in Economics. She is a student assistant at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies and conducts research with the Middle East Studies Center on Ethnic Minorities. Sara is also a managing editor for Alger, the on-campus international affairs undergraduate research publication. Her main areas of interest include immigration, economics, healthcare, social policy, and national security. Sara looks forward to continuing her work in state and national government!



Radha Pareek

Radha is a first-year student at The Ohio State University and a Stamps Eminence Scholar, studying public health. She serves as Marketing Chair for Remote Area Medical, helping coordinate free pop-up healthcare clinics for uninsured and underinsured families. Radha is also a leader with Buck-I-Serve and is leading a service trip to Honduras to support children living with HIV/AIDS. She is deeply interested in using public policy both as a lens for understanding complex social challenges and as a practical tool for addressing inequities in health and opportunity.



Mallory Johnson

Mallory Johnson is a second-year student at The Ohio State University studying Public Management, Leadership, & Policy and Political Science. As a lifetime resident of Columbus, she is passionate about serving her community and advocating for policies that promote equity. Mallory serves as the Assistant Vice President of Public Relations for Kappa Omega Alpha, a professional public policy fraternity. Her policy interests include education, healthcare, social welfare, and environmental sustainability. She aspires to use her education and experience to create impactful change.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

April is **National Minority Health Month**, a time dedicated to advancing equity in healthcare and raising awareness about health disparities disproportionately impacting members of minority racial and ethnic communities. In honor of this time, I would like to share a few resources that support holistic health. **The following providers offer care at accessible prices, regardless of ability to pay or insurance status:**

Columbus Free Clinic

- **Phone:** (614) 0404-8417
- **Address:** 2231 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43201

Southeast Healthcare

- **Phone:** (614) 225-0990
- **Address:** 16 West Long Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Base Camp Recovery

- **Phone:** (614) 717-0822
- **Address:** 815 W. Broad Street, #200, Columbus, OH 43222

National Suicide Lifeline (Anonymous)

- **Phone:** Call or text (614) 445-8400
- **Chat Online:** chat.988lifeline.org

King-Lincoln Community Health Center (Equitas Health)

- **Phone:** (833) 378-4827
- **Address:** 750 E. Long St., Columbus, OH 43203



Primary Election on May 5th

Ohio's primary election on May 5th, 2026 is approaching and will play a **key role in shaping the ballot this November**. Primary elections allow voters to choose their party's nominees for offices, including governor, U.S. Senate, executive positions, and state legislative seats. This election season, many positions that are not voted on every election are on the ballot, making this primary especially consequential.

The upcoming primary is part of the 2026 election cycle, and voters will select a variety of important officials, including **15 members of the U.S. House of Representatives, the entire Ohio House of Representatives, and half of the Ohio Senate.**

Election Day is on **May 5th**, and registered voters can cast their ballots from **6:30 am to 7:30 pm** at their local polling place. Make sure that your voice is heard on Election Day and register to vote [here](#).



WINTER 2026

JARRELLS IN
THE DISTRICT



STAY IN TOUCH

Are you, a family member, or a neighbor in need of assistance? My office is here to support you with a wide range of needs, from navigating state programs and agencies to resolving issues with unemployment benefits. If you have an issue you are passionate about, share it with us! Want to celebrate an outstanding accomplishment? Email my office and we are happy to recognize leaders in our community.

Call: (614) 466-5981

Email: rep01@ohiohouse.gov

Social Media: [@iamdontavius](https://www.instagram.com/iamdontavius)