



WILLIS E. BLACKSHEAR JR.

OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 39

Annual Legislative Review - Winter 2021

Dear Neighbor,

This year in the 134th General Assembly of the Ohio House of Representatives was marked by both tremendous challenges and tremendous triumphs. My colleagues and I have worked tirelessly this year to help Ohio communities continue to navigate through the COVID-19 crisis, to pass a state biennium budget that accommodates Ohioans, and to facilitate an equitable redistricting process that would create fair congressional districts in the state for the next ten years. While the legislature has faced some challenges in reaching those goals, my office remains dedicated to listening to the unique needs of my constituents, to facilitating growth in our communities and to making Ohio a place that people can work, live and grow.

During this year, I have had the privilege of serving on the Criminal Justice, Commerce and Labor and Infrastructure and Rural Development Committees. I introduced HB 137 which designates March 29th as Ohio Tuskegee Airmen Day. HB137 received unanimous support in the House and Senate and was signed into law. Currently, HB 340, designating September as International Underground Railroad Month has been passed on the House Floor, and is awaiting a hearing in the Senate. In addition to these successes, I have also had the opportunity to support legislation introduced by my colleagues.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Representative for the 39th House District. As we move into 2022, I will continue to fight for the needs of our community in the state legislature. I am dedicated to serving you. Please continue to contact our office with any questions you may have about personal matters, policy questions or suggestions on how our office can continue to serve the community at the highest level.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Willis E. Blackshear Jr." in a cursive style.

Willis E. Blackshear Jr.
Ohio State Representative, District 39

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS



- **HB 137** – Introduced by Representatives Blackshear and Upchurch (D- Cleveland) this legislation designates March 29th as Ohio Tuskegee Airmen Day.
- **HB 340** – Introduced by Representatives Blackshear and Bird (R-New Richmond) this legislation designates September as International Underground Railroad Month
- **HB 342** – Introduced by Representative Blackshear, this legislation allows county recorders to record COVID-19 vaccination cards
- **HB 331** – Introduced by Representatives Blackshear and K. Smith (D- Euclid) this legislation requires law enforcement officers to wear ID badges that are visible
- **HB 130** – Introduced by Representative Blackshear and J. Miller (D- Amherst) allowing for police departments to fill a vacancy in the classified civil service without a competitive examination

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21**
Year in
Review

250+
CONSTITUENTS
HELPED THROUGH
CASEWORK

1,500+
RESPONSES TO
CONSTITUENT EMAILS,
LETTERS, CALLS

6
OFFICE HOURS AND
TOWN HALLS HOSTED

\$12.5 Million
TOTAL FUNDS TO
HOUSE DISTRICT 39