



Legislative Highlights

HB 564 – The STORK Act

Earlier this week, Representative Click introduced HB 564, the [Strategic Tax Opportunities for Raising Kids \(STORK\) Act](#). In order to help alleviate the significant financial pressure placed on Ohio's young expectant families, this legislation will allow parents to claim their children as dependents on Ohio income tax filings beginning in the year they were conceived, rather than the year they were born.

According to the Peterson-Kaiser Family Foundation, the average cost of giving birth in the U.S. in 2022 was \$18,856. Even for those enrolled in large group healthcare plans, average out-of-pocket costs were still \$2,854, which is to say nothing of the numerous expenses expectant mothers incur beforehand simply preparing for the birth of a newborn. Any way that these steep and often uncomfortable costs can be eased should be strongly considered, and the STORK Act accomplishes this by providing many of Ohio's young families with an additional tax break that they need and deserve.

To read the bill and track its progress over time, [see here](#).

Going On in The District

Seneca County Chamber of Commerce Educator's Appreciation Breakfast

Representative Click recently had the privilege of attending the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce's annual educator's breakfast to kick off the 2024-25 school year. Held every year, the breakfast is held to welcome and celebrate local educators for their hard work and impact on the community. Notably, the event was sponsored by Heidelberg University, Terra State Community College, Tiffin University, and Vanguard Sentinel.



Following addresses from local leaders including Representative Click and keynote speaker, Vanguard Sentinel Superintendent Greg Edinger, two awards were presented to local educators. Dr. Bonnie Tiell of Tiffin University was awarded the 2024 Outstanding Educator Award and Dr. Laura Kagy of Seneca East Local Schools was awarded the 2024 Above and Beyond Award. Both Dr. Tiell and Dr. Kagy are exceptional educators highly deserving of recognition for their superlative contributions to the field of education. As the new school year kicks off, a major congratulations are in order for these two and for the hardworking educators of the 88th district!

Upcoming Events

- **The Sandusky County Fair** will take place from August 19th to August 25th at the Sandusky County Fairground.
- **The Ohio House of Representatives remains on summer recess** until the current election cycle ends in November.

I will continue to keep you abreast of the most important developments in Rep. Click's office through this bi-weekly newsletter, but I would ask that you do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have!

Thanks!

Ben Nettles

Legislative Aide

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