

Dear Family,

Happy November! On November 7th Ohioans head to the ballot box to vote on issues that will redefine Ohio's future, possibly even the country's. If you want to be part of the movement, then have a plan to vote on or before Election Day. Make sure you tell your friends and family members about this, because when we vote to change the future in Ohio, you're going to want to be part of the process.

Questions on voting or ID? Visit ohiovoterguide.org.

November is National Epilepsy Month, where we push for more awareness, funding, and research to improve outcomes. House Democrats are proud to support **HB 229 - the Brenna Brossard SUDEP Awareness Act**- that raises awareness and educates the general public about epilepsy.

This month we will be celebrating Veterans Day. I am grateful to each and every Ohioan who has served our state and nation. We can never fully repay our veterans and their families for their commitment to defending our freedoms.

I hope you and your family have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving! Before getting together this year, make sure you are up-to-date on your flu and COVID-19 vaccines. Visit https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines/ to find a vaccine provider near you. Enjoy this time with friends, family and great food! I am proud to be your state representative.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

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Representative Latyna M. Humphrey State Representative Ohio House District 02





Happy Veterans Day! I am grateful to each and every Ohioan who has served our state and nation. We can never fully repay our veterans for their commitment to defending our freedoms. House Democrats will continue to advocate for legislation that supports our veterans and their families.

The applications for small businesses are now open for Columbus's Ground Floor Growth Initiative.

To kickoff this month, Columbus city Council Member Nick Bankston announced the next phase of his Ground Floor Growth Initiative. The initiative is designed to diversify and strengthen the downtown retail environment by helping small, local, minority, and women-owned businesses enter prime first-floor retail spaces in the heart of downtown.

There are three main components to the program:

- 1. **Graduated Rent Support and Risk Mitigation Fund:** Participating businesses will receive rent support for the first three years of their lease. The support will gradually decrease until the business is self-sufficient after three years. Because small, local businesses typically don't have as much available cash as larger, national businesses, which are often renting these types of spaces, the City will maintain a risk mitigation fund to alleviate any concerns of participating property owners.
- **2. Tenant Renovation Fund:** The City of Columbus has committed \$1 million in capital funds to contribute to the renovation of retail spaces participating in the program. Property owners and small business owners will also contribute to renovations, ensuring that all parties are investing in improvements and that renovation costs are not an insurmountable barrier to entry for small businesses.
- **3. Technical Assistance:** The City established a \$150,000 contract with the Columbus Empowerment Corporation to provide advising services to support businesses navigating challenges as they enter into new brick-and-mortar locations. CEC will also be available to businesses neighboring program locations in the corridor, ensuring that businesses thrive collectively.

For those interested in watching the press conference again, the recording can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=esR7NrsYhRw&ab_channel=CityofColumbus.

The application for the program is available on the City's Small Biz Hub, which is a free online portal. The application will close at midnight on **November 15th.**

House Democrats Remind Constituents to Vote on Election Day

Voting is one of the most fundamental rights that we have. Make sure you have a plan to vote in this upcoming November election, where we will vote to determine our future. Make your voice heard! The last day to early vote for the November 7th election is November 5th between 1:00pm-5:00pm.

Here are some additional dates that might be helpful:

- October 11: Early in-person & absentee voting begins
- **November 5**: Early in-person voting ends
- **November 6**: Absentee ballot applications must be postmarked by this date
- November 7: Election Day (Polls open 6:30 am-7:30 pm)

Need to register or check your status? Register at: vote ohio.gov.



