


District 3

NEWSLETTER

June 2024

 rep03@ohiohouse.gov

 614-466-1896



A LETTER FROM
STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
ISMAIL
MOHAMED



Dear Neighbor,

Happy June! Now's a great time to check your voter registration before all the fun in the sun begins this summer. House Democrats are focused on continued efforts to better engage more young people-especially our graduating seniors- to participate in the civic process by getting registered to vote and learning about upcoming elections. Voting is one of the most fundamental rights that we have. Make your voice heard!

The summer is also a great time to explore your city and go to new events in your community. There are plenty of free festivals and gatherings for adults and kids alike.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any concerns, questions, or information.

Sincerely,

Ismail Mohamed

Ismail Mohamed

State Representative, District 3

Upcoming District Events

- **Celebrate Juneteenth!**
 - Linden Juneteenth Parade Wednesday, June 19th, 11am
 - Jubilee Day Festival, June 16th at the Ohio History Connection, 12-4pm
- **Somalia Independence Day Celebration**
 - Flag raising ceremony, July 1 at the Ohio Statehouse, 4-8PM



BILL TESTIMONY

HB 408: Require public schools to provide meals and related services

House Bill 408 stands as our commitment to ensuring that every child in Ohio receives nutritious meals and essential services during school, laying the groundwork for a healthier, more equitable learning environment. In the beginning of June, Representative Brewer and I had the opportunity to give sponsor testimony in front of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee.

House Bill 408 would:

- Require each public school to provide a meal to any student who requests one.
- Prohibit certain conduct by schools toward students who cannot pay for a meal or has meal debt.
- Require the Department of Education to provide guidance to all districts and schools regarding the collection of student meal debt.

The impacts of House Bill 408 are far-reaching: Enhancing student health and academic performance, as well-nourished children show improved cognitive function and school attendance. Significantly reducing food insecurity ensures no child faces hunger in our schools. We are strengthening our communities by nurturing a healthy, well-educated future generation. HB 408 now awaits further hearings in committee.



HB 353: Require accident fault information on a vehicle abstract

Last month I had the opportunity to give sponsor testimony on House Bill 353 before the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee. I introduced HB 353 after seeing and hearing about countless constituents who were losing out on work because of a car accident on their record that they did not cause.

HB 353 would:

- require the BMV to note whether a driver was at fault for a car accident.
- Make the 'at-fault' designation easily accessible online for employers and insurance companies.
- Protect drivers from undue insurance increases and job denials based on incomplete records.

House Bill 353 now awaits further hearing in committee.

HB 374: Regards nonresident drivers with international licenses

While Ohio has technically recognized foreign licenses since the adoption of the 1949 convention, many individuals, including some law enforcement officers, are unaware of this provision. This lack of awareness can lead to unnecessary complications and even citations for nonresident drivers who are simply exercising their right to drive in Ohio with a valid international license.

This month I gave sponsor testimony in front of the House Homeland Security Committee on HB 374, which would clear up confusion around nonresident visitors using international licenses.

HB 374 would:

- formalize Ohio's recognition of international licenses.
- Send a message of welcome and hospitality to visitors from around the world.
- Strengthens our economy by encouraging continued visitation and spending in our state.

HB 374 now awaits further hearings in committee.



Summer Meal Programs

In partnership with Children's Hunger Alliance, 17 branches of the Columbus Metropolitan Library will offer free meals to students 18 and under during the summer months.

Participating branches will offer meal options beginning on June 3 and running until classes start back up for the respective school districts.

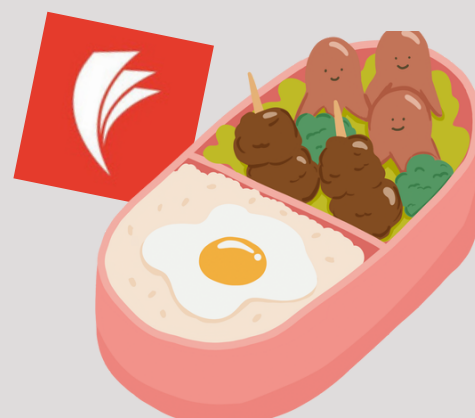
S-EBT

S-EBT is a new, permanent program which provides eligible children with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits during the summer to help close the hunger gap when children are on summer break and not receiving school meals. S-EBT benefits are placed on a card that can be used at authorized grocery stores to buy food items.

Children ages 6-18 that have participated in SNAP, Medicaid, or who meet the income criteria for free or reduced school meals all qualify automatically.



Summer Programs



CML Meal Sites Near You

Karl Road Branch

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12:15-12:45 p.m.

LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 3:15-3:45 p.m.

Linden Branch (temporary location)

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12-12:30 p.m.

LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 4-4:30 p.m.

Northern Lights Branch

BREAKFAST Monday-Saturday: 12:15-12:45 p.m.

LUNCH Monday-Saturday: 3:30-4 p.m.

Northside Branch

BREAKFAST Monday-Friday: 11:15-11:45 a.m.

LUNCH Monday-Friday: 3:45-3:45 p.m. Saturday:
2:15-2:45 p.m.

OR

Text 914-342-7744 with a question that contains a keyword such as "food," "summer," "meals," etc. and receive a text back that will show free meal sites closest to you.

Questions about S-EBT or Summer Meal Programs?

Contact the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Office of Nutrition 614-466-2945 or 1-800-808-6325
Child.nutrition@education.ohio.gov



Opt for Savings: Utility Bill Comparisons

Each June, utility supply prices are updated based on wholesale energy auctions. While consumers are always encouraged to compare prices from competing suppliers, June will have the most updated and accurate showing of options. I encourage you to review your options and choose the option that works best for you!

Customers can compare offers from various electricity and natural gas suppliers through the PUCO's Energy Choice Ohio website: <https://energychoice.ohio.gov/>.

The Apples-to-Apples charts also allow you to compare offers to the price to your utilities' current offer and consider additional details such as contract length or renewable energy content.

Residential customers can use the "price-to-compare", or PTC, printed on their monthly utility bill when comparing electricity rates from competitive suppliers to know if switching suppliers will help you save money or not—even a \$0.02 difference per kWh can mean an average savings of \$20 per month.

The price-to-compare represents what a customer will pay to their local utility if they do not choose to enroll with a competitive supplier.



Energy Choice Ohio
powered by choice.

A Note of Congratulations

I want to congratulate all of the 2024 Graduating High School Seniors in District 3! The accomplishment of graduating from High School is worthy of praise and respect. You make your community proud! I encourage you to stay engaged and participate in the civic process by getting registered to vote and learning about upcoming elections.



District Engagement



Meeting to discuss including New American Histories at the Ohio History Connection



Learning and meeting with World Refugee Day advocates regarding HB 247



Discussing business initiatives with the Ohio Dept. of Development and Kenyan delegation

Happy 20th Anniversary!

I'd like to thank Buckeye Health for providing the community with quality service for the past 20 years. Over the years, they've introduced a number of healthcare plans that encourage health-literacy and accessibility to proper healthcare.



The New American Heritage League Youth Program plays at the Crew stadium! NAHSL is a non-profit organization that provides mentorship, field trips, and physical education to youth and young adults with the goal of combatting the growing gun violence and substance abuse epidemics within the Somali community. They held their first major tournament at the Historic Crew Stadium in May.

I had the honor to attend a “wall-breaking” ceremony at the Columbus Metropolitan Library Linden branch. The Linden library branch is undergoing a transformative renovation to better serve the community for years to come. The branch has a temporary location at 1990 Jefferson Ave.

