

State Representative Darnell T. Brewer

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March Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

This month was busy with committees, session, bill hearings, introducing new bills, and a resource fair. This newsletter will highlight what I have been working on this month and the work we still have to do.

March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate the women who have shaped our state and nation and those who continue to lead today. From pioneers who fought for the right to vote to modern leaders advocating for equal pay, reproductive freedom, and improved maternal health outcomes, women have driven progress at every level. Here in Ohio, we remain focused on protecting women's rights, closing the gender wage gap, and ensuring access to quality, affordable healthcare.

I encourage you to stay engaged this month, support local women owned businesses, attend community events, and continue conversations about how we can build a more inclusive and equitable Ohio together. Progress happens when communities show up and speak out!

I am proud to be your state representative. I want to hear from you! My office is happy and ready to help you with any state related issue or just to listen to your thoughts about state government. Always remember, I work for you. I hope you'll reach out. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Darnell Brewer
State Representative
Ohio House District 22



District 22 Homeownership Fair

On March 7th, my office partnered with CHN Housing and Believe Mortgage to host a Homeownership Fair in Garfield Heights. It was a success with over 200 individuals registered! Participants had access to vendors covering topics such as:

- Basics on How to Become a Homeowner
- How to Work with a Realtor
- Financial and Housing Counseling
- Energy Savings and Weatherization Programs
- Affordable Homes Available for Sale

Thank you to all who attended!



The Homeownership Fair was hosted at the
Garfield Heights Civic Center.

House Bill 591 Sponsor Testimony

This month I gave Sponsor Testimony **House Bill 591**, the Green Burial Act. This bipartisan legislation authorizes the use of natural organic reduction as an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional burial and cremation.

The Green Burial Act brings Ohio's laws regulating funerals and burials into the 21st century. Green burial practices present a unique opportunity for Ohio to be a leader in environmental sustainability while honoring the desires of individuals and their loved ones to be laid to rest naturally.

Natural organic reduction breaks down human remains into nutrient-rich compost via natural processes. This new option not only reduces pollutants but also meets the growing demand for sustainable end-of-life choices for Ohio families.

This legislation was inspired by a constituent of District 22 who wished to choose decomposition as her end-of-life plan. Since this bill's introduction in the 135th General Assembly, it has been made clear that this constituent is not alone. The need for a green burial alternative is evident with the many Ohioans that have contacted my office and the 14 states that have already legalized natural organic reduction.

House Bill 591 now awaits second hearing in the House General Government Committee.



Rep. Brewer gives testimony on HB 591.



House Resolution 148 Proponent Testimony

House Resolution 148 received proponent testimony in the House Public Safety Committee. This bipartisan legislation urges Ohioans to safely store and secure their firearms.

This legislation received had 23 written proponent statements, and powerful in person testimony from families affected by gun violence, advocacy groups, and medical professionals who truly understand the importance of this legislation. While only a resolution, this legislation will encourage and emphasize the importance of safe firearm storage practices.

HR 148 now awaits a third hearing in the Public Safety Committee.



Introduction of Two Childcare Bills

This month, my office introduced two, family focused, childcare bills. **House Bill 781** establishes a uniform statewide childcare inspection process. Currently, each county Job and Family Services performs inspections for family childcare providers, with no uniform standards across counties. Under this legislation, the Department of Children and Youth and Ohio Job and Family Services would be responsible for developing consistent inspection procedures, and when possible, apply the uniform standards for all childcare settings. Consistency can help providers understand expectations more clearly, inspectors follow standardized protocols, and families gain confidence knowing that the same core standards apply regardless of setting.

House Bill 782 establishes the At-Home Infant Care Program through the Department of Children and Youth. This program, modeled after similar legislation in Montana, will provide financial assistance to eligible caretaker parents, allowing them to stay home full-time to care for children under two years of age. This legislation is beneficial for all family makeups, allowing one parent to work while one parent stays at home or by making sure that a single parent can care for their child while earning a living income.

Both bills are a part of the House Democratic Caucus' Affordability Package which features legislation aimed at lowering everyday costs for Ohioans. Both bills await a first hearing in the House Children and Human Services Committee.