



A legislative update from
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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From the desk of Rep. Isaacsohn



Dear Neighbor,

I hope you and your families had a wonderful summer and are now enjoying the beautiful fall days in Ohio! As we approach the end of 2024 and the 135th Ohio General Assembly comes to a close, I have been busy at work in the statehouse, Cincinnati, and all across Ohio.

Over the summer, the legislature finalized the passage of [HB 2](#), which directs state funds to be used for economic and community development. The bill appropriated a record-setting \$6.2B of strategic investment in economic growth across the state, with \$100M going to Cincinnati and Hamilton County, including the single largest project investment in the state. This legislation was signed by the governor and went into immediate effect on June 28 of this year (more information about the capital budget can be found on page 2).

I continue to be at the forefront of pushing reform for property tax in the state. I've introduced two pieces of legislation during this General Assembly that are vital to supporting Ohio homeowners – [HB 263](#) and [HB 645](#) (more information on page 2).

My job is to work for you and serve Ohioans, and it is both a pleasure and an honor to be in this role. My office is always open to assist you with state services, listen to your thoughts on legislation, and hear about the issues you are facing every day. I welcome and encourage feedback, as it helps me be a better representative. Please never hesitate to reach out to me or my office!

Sincerely,

Dani Isaacsohn
 State Representative, District 24
 Ohio House Democratic Whip

**Register to
 Vote!**

Make your voice
 heard



Recent high school grad? Just moved to Ohio? Don't miss out on the November elections! The final day to update your registration or register to vote is Oct. 7!

**Absentee
 Ballot
 Applications
 Due
 Due Oct. 29**

Voting early by mail this year? Absentee ballot applications must be received by the Hamilton County Board of Elections by close of business on Oct. 29!

**Domestic
 Violence
 Awareness
 Month
 October**



Legislative Update: Ohio Capital Budget (HB 2)

The state capital budget, also known as [HB 2](#), is a biennial process completed by the Ohio General Assembly to invest state funding into numerous projects and initiatives across the state. This year, the legislature appropriated a record-breaking \$6.2B to fund community services, educational facilities, state-owned infrastructure, and more. Of this statewide allocation, \$100M was granted for projects in Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

In addition to \$3.51B in traditional capital funding and a \$1.98B appropriation for ongoing projects, HB 2 includes an additional \$700M in state funding that will be directly invested into transformative community projects designed to generate further economic development across Ohio. These additional funds were set aside due to the influx of federal relief dollars supplementing Ohio's balance sheet in the most recent state operating budget, passed last year.

Through the capital budget, our community will see the construction of a new YWCA of Greater Cincinnati Domestic Violence Shelter, improvements made to the Cincinnati Art Museum, construction of a new Boys & Girls Club of Greater Cincinnati Youth Workforce Development Center, as well as construction of a new home for Santa Maria Community Services, and investments in many other public services and facilities.



The Cincinnati Art Museum (pictured) was named one of *USA Today's* 10 Best Free Museums in 2021.

Additionally, HB 2 includes approximately \$600M in state funding for the construction of K-12 school classroom facilities, \$575M in grants and loans to local governments for road and bridge projects, and \$415.7M for the construction and renovation of facilities at state-supported institutions of higher education.

I will always fight for Cincinnati and am overjoyed to have helped deliver this transformative funding to our city! I look forward to advocating for our city in the next capital budget, while making the process more equitable and community-focused.

Legislative Update: Property Tax Reform (HB 263 and HB 645)

Property taxes in the state are way too high for way too many Ohioans. These skyrocketing rates make it difficult for people to stay in their homes, negatively impacting our communities. It is the legislature's job to address this matter and find relief for homeowners and renters. That's why I have spearheaded two bipartisan proposals to address this crisis.

[HB 263](#) would freeze over \$400M in property taxes for eligible senior citizens. To qualify, an Ohio homeowner must be 65 or older, have an income of \$50,000 or less, have lived in the home for at least two years, and have a home worth less than \$500,000. To date, HB 263 has received four hearings in the Ways & Means Committee, where it awaits further consideration.

[HB 645](#) would provide property tax relief to Ohioans

on a needs-based scale through the creation of tax credits and rebates. Ohio homeowners making \$100,000 or less will be eligible for relief, using the following scale:

- **Household income of \$60,000 or less—\$1,000 credit or rebate**
- **Household income between \$60,000 and \$70,000—\$800 credit or rebate**
- **Household income between \$70,000 and \$80,000—\$600 credit or rebate**
- **Household income between \$80,000 and \$90,000—\$400 credit or rebate**
- **Household income between \$90,000 and \$100,000—\$200 credit or rebate**

Important Updates for the November 5 Election



This is a big election year in Ohio! The presidential race, a US Senatorial race, the Ohio Supreme Court, all 99 statehouse seats, and a statewide ballot measure will be on the ballot this year.

Voting is one of the most impactful ways to participate in our government and have your voice be heard! There is still time to register or update your voter registration in Ohio to ensure you are eligible to vote this year. Don't forget these important dates regarding the 2024 Ohio election:

- **October 7:** Last day to register or update voter registration

- **October 8:** Early in-person & absentee voting begins
- **October 29:** Absentee ballot applications must be received by your board of elections by 8:30 p.m.
- **November 5:** Election Day (Polls open 6:30am to 7:30pm)

Early voting will be available at the Hamilton County Board of Elections (**4700 Smith Road 45212**) at the following times:

- **October 8-11:** 8:00am to 5:00pm (Tue-Fri)
- **October 14-18:** 8:00am to 5:00pm (Mon-Fri)
- **October 21-25:** 8:00am to 6:00pm (Mon-Fri)
- **October 26:** 8:00am to 4:00pm (Sat)
- **October 27:** 1:00pm to 5:00pm (Sun)
- **October 28:** 7:30am to 7:30pm (Mon)
- **October 29:** 7:30am to 8:30pm (Tue)
- **October 30-31:** 7:30am to 7:30pm (Wed-Thu)
- **November 1:** 7:30am to 7:30pm (Fri)
- **November 2:** 8:00am to 4:00pm (Sat)
- **November 3:** 1:00pm to 5:00pm (Sun)

House Dems Support Citizens Not Politicians Redistricting Amendment

On September 26, Ohio House Democrats introduced a resolution in support of Issue 1, the Citizens Not Politicians proposal to end gerrymandering in Ohio once and for all.

Issue 1, if passed, would end the partisan gerrymandering that has dominated our state for far too long, leading to unaccountable, single-party supermajority control of our legislature. Currently, the state of Ohio's legislative maps are drawn by politicians and lobbyists in a way that serves their own political interest, instead of the people of Ohio.

The resolution declares that a 'YES' vote on Issue 1 would end this majorly flawed process and replace it with a 15-member Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission. Current and recent political officeholders, lobbyists, and those with strong political ties are barred from serving on this commission, which ultimately eliminates the political interests that loom over our current map drawing process.

Ohio has been a victim of partisan gerrymandering for too long, and it is long past due that we have fair

districts that truly serve the people.

Ohioans can learn more about the amendment and its implications [here](#).

**HOUSE DEMS INTRODUCE
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING
CITIZENS NOT POLITICIANS-
CITIZEN REDISTRICTING
COMMISSION INITIATIVE,
ISSUE 1**

Updates on Pending Legislation

During this General Assembly, I have worked hard to pass legislation that is relevant to the needs of Ohioans and addresses their real concerns. Below is a list of some of those concerns and a quick summary of the bills I've introduced to respond to these issues.

- **Housing (HB 499):** Equitable and affordable housing is fundamental for Ohio's growth. To achieve our housing goals, I have introduced legislation that would incentivize local governments and municipalities to adopt pro-housing policies. The proposal allows local governments to apply for state grants if they implement at least three pro-housing policies in their communities from a pre-approved list. Policy options include reducing costs related to water or sewer, preserving existing moderate or low-income housing, and increasing the rate permits are reviewed and granted. This bill has received three hearings in the Gov. Oversight Committee.
- **Gun Violence (HB 418 and HB 419):** Gun violence is one of the most pressing concerns facing our country, and Ohio must act now. HB 418 would repeal permit less concealed carry laws and reinstate a previous Ohio law requiring a license to carry a concealed handgun. HB 419 would require universal background checks on all firearms. Both bills are currently in the Gov. Oversight Committee.
- **Childcare (HB 570):** Supporting Ohio parents is imperative to ensure a great future for our children, and it is important for childcare staff members to be included in these efforts. HB 570 would provide publicly funded childcare benefits to all childcare staff members, which would help address the childcare worker shortage in the state. This bill is currently in the Finance Committee.
- **Education (HB 575 and HB 581):** Strong and diverse education systems are an essential part of growth in Ohio. However, some schools are currently held to much lower standards of oversight than our public schools. HB 575 would institute greater oversight over Ohio's chartered nonpublic schools, while HB 581 would enact the Charter School Oversight Act. Both bills are currently in the Primary & Secondary Education Committee.
- **The CAMPUS Act (HB 606):** The Campus Accountability and Modernization to Protect University Students (CAMPUS) Act is a bipartisan bill aimed to promote and sustain student safety and inclusivity at universities in Ohio. The bill, which was incorporated into [SB 94](#) and signed into law by the governor on July 24, provides funding for initiatives that build community and cultivate a culture of respect on college campuses.

Committee and Leadership Update

In April of this year, I had the honor of being elected to serve as the Ohio House Minority Whip for the Democratic Caucus, replacing outgoing Cincinnati-area Representative Jessica Miranda. In this leadership position, I am tasked with monitoring legislation, gathering support, and securing votes for the minority caucus on the house floor. I remain committed to serving the people of District 24, and this new platform allows me to advocate for Cincinnatians and Ohioans.

With this new role, I now also serve on the House Rules & Reference Committee and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, in addition to my continuing role as Ranking Member of the House Civil Justice Committee and House Finance Subcommittee on Primary & Secondary Education. I also continue to serve on the Constitutional Relations, Finance, Government

Oversight, Technology & Innovation, and Ways & Means Committees.



Ohio House Democratic Caucus leadership after Rep. Isaacsohn's swearing in on April 24. (L-R: Rep. Michele Grim, Rep. Dontavius Jarrells, Rep. Isaacsohn, Minority Leader Allison Russo)

Rep. Isaacsohn Hosts Inaugural Urban-Appalachian Education Summit

On September 21, I organized and hosted the inaugural Urban-Appalachian Education Summit in Athens, Ohio with Rep. Adams Holmes, which focused on discussing the shared challenges urban and Appalachian schools in Ohio face. Hosted in partnership with the Ohio University Patton College of Education, the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools (CORAS), and the Ohio 8 Coalition, the summit brought together individuals immersed in education at a variety of levels throughout the state to deliberate ideas on efforts of joint advocacy for public education.

At the summit, I joined teachers, students, principals, superintendents, elected officials, and advocates from around the state to participate in small group discussions where we identified shared problems in urban and Appalachian schools and developed actionable next steps to work towards solutions. Among these attendees was Former Governor Ted Strickland, who gave a keynote address on the importance of working together for the future of Ohio.



Rep. Isaacsohn participating in a small group discussion with Cincinnati Public School students at the Urban-Appalachian Education Summit on Sep. 21.

I hope to continue hosting the summit in the future, and remain dedicated to ensuring public schools in every corner of the state have the resources they need to succeed.

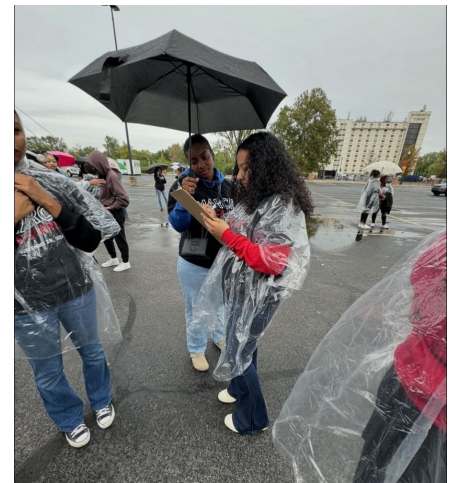
College Campus Voter Registration



Rep. Isaacsohn helping students register to vote at the University of Cincinnati.



Registering Miami University students to vote, with the help of free pizza!



Helping register students to vote at the Ohio State University's "March on Scarlet" event.

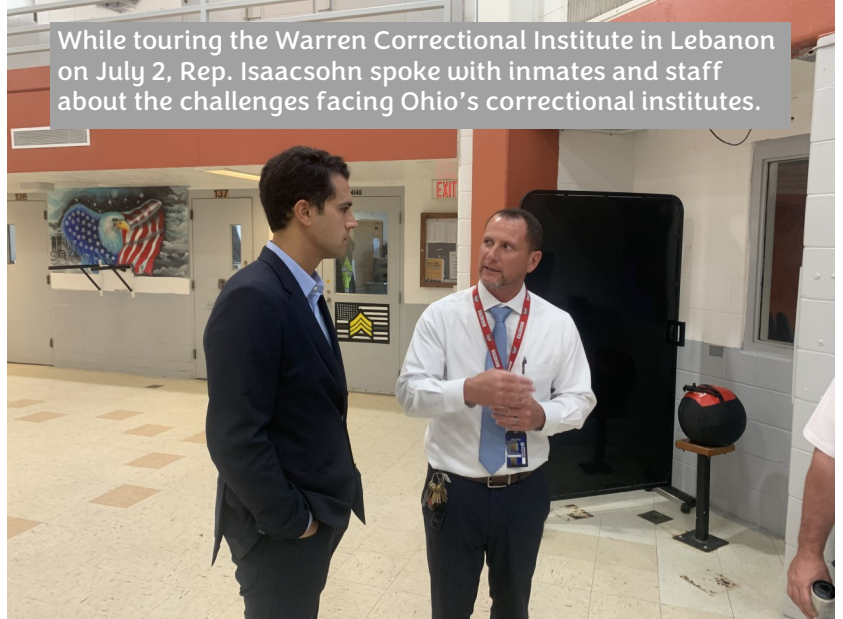
It is so important to ensure that our young people know they have a voice and are participating in our democracy. Over the last few months, I have been visiting college campuses across Ohio to engage with students, find out what their representatives can do to help them, and of course, registering them to vote!

This year, I was able to visit the University of Cincinnati, the Ohio State University, the University of Toledo, Youngstown State University, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, and Miami University. Joined by other state legislators and student leaders, we were able to register hundreds of voters!

In and Around District 24



Rep. Isaacsohn visiting with students on Aug. 8 during Camp Invention, held at Covedale School.



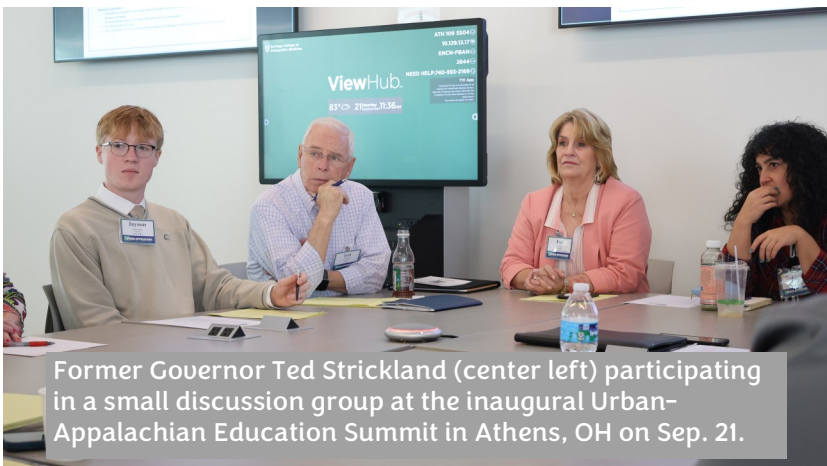
While touring the Warren Correctional Institute in Lebanon on July 2, Rep. Isaacsohn spoke with inmates and staff about the challenges facing Ohio's correctional institutes.



Rep. Jodi Whitted and Rep. Isaacsohn with children at the groundbreaking of the BestPoint CoStars Early Childhood Center in Westwood on Aug. 13.



Rep. Isaacsohn handing out pizza in Roll Hill on Sep. 19. Roll Hill will be in District 24 next year!



Former Governor Ted Strickland (center left) participating in a small discussion group at the inaugural Urban-Appalachian Education Summit in Athens, OH on Sep. 21.



Rep. Isaacsohn volunteering at the Gamble-Nippert Y Marketplace Food Pantry on Aug. 13.