

A legislative update from
STATE REP. RACHEL BAKER
HOUSE DISTRICT 27

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 @RepRachelBaker

 @RachelBakerforOhio



From the desk of Rep. Baker

Dear Neighbor,

In June, my office and District 27 had a lot to celebrate. On June 9th, we celebrated National Children’s Day. My office is dedicated to ensuring that the children in our district have access to quality public education, food on the table, and a future to be hopeful about! On June 19th, my office commemorated Juneteenth and celebrated the official end of slavery in the United States. We also celebrated the sacrifices made by so many on the journey towards freedom and equality for all. All month we celebrated Pride and our vibrant and diverse LGBTQ+ communities in our district and throughout the state.

In this newsletter you will learn more about National Nursing Assistants Week and my visits to two healthcare facilities, UC Blood Cancer Center and Mercy Health in Anderson.

This month was another busy month for my office with both triumphant wins in the legislature and with passage of the capital budget, which includes funds going to many places in our community!

If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and I would be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,
Rachel

Here are some ways my office can assist you:

- Disputes with state government agencies;
- Ohio House commendations, condolences, and congratulatory letters;
- Proposing bill ideas and law changes;
- Connecting you or your business to state programs or services

Helpful Contacts:

- BMV: (844) 644-6268
- Hamilton County Board of Elections: (513) 632-7000
- Hamilton County Job and Family Services: (513-946-1000)
- Legal Aid of Greater Cincinnati: (513) 241-9400
- Ohio Consumers’ Counsel: (614) 466-8574
- Unemployment Compensation Hotline: (877) 644-6562



We Celebrate our Nursing Assistants!

From June 13 to 19, my office celebrated National Nursing Assistants week. This is a week to celebrate the incredibly hard work of Ohio’s nursing assistants. Nursing assistants are responsible for a wide range of tasks, including obtaining a patient’s vital signs, aiding patients with bathing or dressing, maintaining a clean and safe environment, providing nutritional assistance, and helping with ambulation. As a nurse myself, I cannot overstate the importance of the role that nursing assistants play in hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare settings. At the beginning of my nursing career, I worked alongside many amazing nursing assistants and through the high level of care they provided, I learned about the importance of a collaborative patient care team.



In October 2023, my colleague, Representative Brewer (D–18) and I worked hard to pass HB 188, “Recognize Ohio Nursing Assistants Week.” This bill passed through the House and is now in the Senate for further review.

We want to thank all of our Nursing Assistants in both our district and in Ohio for the tireless and impactful work that you all do each day to care for Ohio patients.



Representative Baker in the Community!



June was a month full of love, celebrations and learning. In June, I celebrated both the Eastside Pride and Cincinnati Pride. The inaugural Eastside Pride was a historic event. It was a day full of fostering inclusivity, celebrating diversity, and promoting equality within the community. This historic event, provided a platform for members of the LGBTQ+ community to express themselves freely and proudly. I cannot thank enough the people who helped to organize this event—the first pride event in Anderson Township!

Cincinnati Pride was also an amazing sunny day where we celebrated LGBTQ+ rights and showed a great example of the importance of representation and visibility for our LGBTQ+ community. I am extremely proud of both the District 27 and Cincinnati communities for standing with their beliefs, showing their empathy towards others and being an ally for the LGBTQ+ individuals in our communities.



I had the privilege of meeting some leaders in the healthcare community both at UC Health and Mercy Health in Anderson.

I had the great opportunity to tour the Mercy Health location in Anderson (photo above)! During my visit, we were able to discuss how we can collaborate to make District 27 a healthier community while supporting our healthcare workers while on the job.

On June 24th, I attended the UC Blood Cancer Healing Center Grand Opening, which was a great way for me to see the advancements in the healthcare system right in Cincinnati. This center will be an amazing resource in our county offering transformational care, groundbreaking research, and the highest level education to our next generation of healthcare providers. And most importantly, it will be a home of hope for some many Ohioans battling cancer.



Groundbreaking Funds for District 27 and Hamilton County!

TRANSFORMATIVE FUNDING FOR OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 27



\$380,000

Clear Creek Bike Park

STATE REP. Rachel B. Baker
DISTRICT 27

TRANSFORMATIVE FUNDING FOR OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 27



\$9,750,000

For Xavier University College of Osteopathic Medicine

STATE REP. Rachel B. Baker
DISTRICT 27


On June 26th, the House of Representatives passed legislation that finalized the One-Time Strategic Community Innovation Funds and Capital Budget allocations. My goal was to advocate to fund projects that bring jobs to our community, refurbish our city centers, and improve the life of every person in Hamilton County—make our community a happier, healthier and better place.

This bill appropriated more than \$6.2 billion of state funds across all of Ohio. With a grand total of \$100 million coming to Hamilton County projects like the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Cincinnati, Meals on Wheels facility, Best Point Mental Health Center, Addiction Services Council, Cincinnati Art Museum, YWCA Domestic Violence shelter, Cincinnati Observatory, Cincinnati Public Radio, the Clear Creek bike trail, University of Cincinnati Health, and Xavier University. As a Hamilton County representative and resident, I am grateful for all of the funding that will be coming into our community.

I listened to my constituents and advocated for their needs for the community. I am a strong believer that state funds should go to improve the lives of the people in Ohio and in District 27. I am excited to see these projects flourish and the positive impact they have on our community members.

TRANSFORMATIVE FUNDING SECURED

Hamilton County Court House, Cincinnati, Ohio

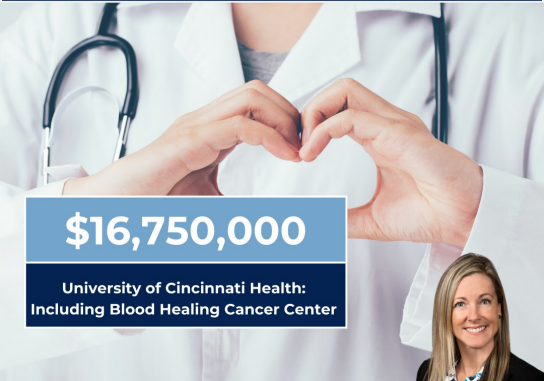


\$100 MILLION

FOR HAMILTON COUNTY

STATE REP. RACHEL B. BAKER
DISTRICT 27

TRANSFORMATIVE FUNDING FOR HAMILTON COUNTY



\$16,750,000

University of Cincinnati Health:
Including Blood Healing Cancer Center

STATE REP. Rachel B. Baker
DISTRICT 27



Rep. Baker's House Bills for the Month of June.

House Bill 509

Apply prescription drug rebates to cost-sharing requirements.



Representative Rachel Baker (D-Cincinnati)
Representative Tim Barhorst (R-Ft. Loramie)

My office had a lot of legislative victories that I am excited to share with you all. I'm really excited about HB 509 that Representative Tim Barhorst (R-85) and I introduced this month. This bill would require that prescription drug rebates received by the insurance companies or prescription benefits managers be passed on to the patients. When patients are in the deductible phase, or coinsurance phase, of their health plan, they pay the full list price of medications; however their insurance company receives the medications at the negotiated lower prices. HB 509, the "Share the Savings" Act, will require that the insurance companies pass these lower prices on to the patients. HB 509 had its first hearing and sponsor testimony on June 18th in the House Insurance Committee.

People first.

PASSED COMMITTEE

H.B. 287 - Create Terrace Park license plate



State Representative
Rachel Baker
Ohio House District 27

One June 12, I provided sponsor testimony on HB 393, in the House Public Utilities Committee. HB 393, would require refunds for utility customers when the courts rule that utilities have been charging them improperly. This bill addresses a bipartisan issue and matter of fairness for Ohioans. This legislation would require all charges paid by customers to a public utility that are later found to be improper to be fully refunded to the customers.

Also on June 12, I had a third hearing on HB 287 that passed the Homeland Security Committee! HB 287 would create a Terrace Park license plate and the funding generated from the sale of the license plate would support Terrace Park young athletes and recreational fields. Another bill I am sponsoring, HB 388, regards enforcement of Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule, is still under third consideration in the Public Health Policy Committee.



Finally, in session, on June 26th, HB 397 and HB 452 passed in the House and are both on their way to the Senate. The last time I wrote to you, HB 397 just had its first hearing. Throughout June, HB 397 had a second and third hearings and passed the House with a unanimous vote of 93-0. To remind you, HB 397 would require the Department of Health and Aging, Commission on Minority Health, and community organizations to incorporate Alzheimer's disease and dementia awareness information into relevant public health outreach. Representative Jim Hoops (R-81), my co-sponsor and I, are very appreciative for the support from our colleagues and all the advocates who supported this bill.

HB 452, which addresses hospital violence prevention, training and security plans, also passed the House. HB 452 would require hospitals to establish a security plan for preventing workplace violence, requires a violence reporting system, and provides resources for trainings. Working on this bill with Representative White (R-36) has been a collaborative and informative experience and we are both excited to advocate for this bill in the Senate.

