

Dear Neighbor,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful, healthy holiday season with family, friends, and new cherished memories.

It is an honor to continue to represent House District 4 in the Ohio House of Representatives. I look forward to continuing my work to support public education, making sure young people have a pathway to become successful young adults. I will also continue working to ensure the economic prosperity of House District 4, which includes addressing the need for equitable property taxes. Just as important, I will continue to work to uphold the rights of all Ohioans and continue to ensure that everyone has a voice in our state government. I appreciate that I have been entrusted with this opportunity.

As your voice in the state legislature, I promise to work hard for you and your family every single day. I am excited to share more updates on legislation, committee work, and more in the months to come.

With a new year, I am more optimistic than ever about the future of our state. Ohioans have faced great challenges in the last few years and 2025 will be no different. But, I am confident that we can put people first to create better lives and brighter futures for everyone in this state-no matter who you are.

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,

Beryl Brown Piccolantonio State Representative Ohio House District 4

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To unsubscribe please email <u>repo4@ohiohouse.gov</u>

District 4 Office Hours

Please join me for my next District 4 Office Hours

Friday, January 24, 2024 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Upper Cup Coffee Gahanna 121 Mill St, Gahanna, OH 43230

Monday, February 24, 2025 4:30 p.m. -5:30 p.m. New Albany Library, Meeting Room 2 200 Market St New Albany, OH 43054

Please contact my office if you would like to schedule a one-on-one meeting, or if you would like to meet at a different time or location that is more convenient for you.

Legislative Update

I am excited to begin the 136th General Assembly, prioritizing the betterment of individuals from different backgrounds and communities, putting YOU, the people, first.

I have received my committee assignments for the 136th General Assembly. I am honored to be selected to lead my colleagues on the Workforce and Higher Education Committee. One of my top priorities in the legislature is ensuring that young Ohioans receive a quality education and have opportunities to thrive right here in the state of Ohio. I will use this platform to advocate for students across the range of institutions of higher education, address college affordability, and support faculty and staff who are the backbone of higher Education.

I have been assigned to the following committees:

- House Workforce and Higher Education Committee, Ranking Member
- House Finance Committee
- House Children and Human Services Committee
- House Education Committee
- Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review

At our January 22 House Session, we considered our <u>Rules of the House of Representatives</u> for the 136th General Assembly. The rules of the House are the foundation of how business is conducted in the House and set the parameters for our consideration and debate of legislation. I offered an amendment which would have made it easier for Ohioans to understand what occurred during committee hearings by requiring the committee report to include all amendments considered and their disposition (whether they were accepted, rejected or tabled). Unfortunately, this amendment was not supported by a majority of the house, so it does not appear in the final version of the rules. Ultimately, I could not support the House rules because they decrease transparency and accountability by making it more difficult for the average person to participate and know what we're doing inside the People's House.

You may watch House Sessions and Committees online at ohiochannel.org or attend in person at the statehouse.

Recent Events



Swearing in for the 136th General Assembly with my family



Welcoming the New Albany Moms Association and their families to a Statehouse Tour and Scavenger Hunt



Annual Leadership Westerville Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event

January 2025 Dates of Note

National Human Trafficking Awareness Month

In recognition of National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, let's stand united against modern-day slavery. Together, we can raise awareness, empower survivors, and work towards a world where every individual is free and treated with dignity.

National Cervical Health Awareness Month

January is National Cervical Health Awareness Month. Let's prioritize our well-being and spread awareness about the importance of cervical health screenings. Regular check-ups save lives!

National Blood Donor Month

January is National Blood Donor Month. This month, consider donating blood to help save lives. Visit redcross.org to find a center near you. Donating blood is a small way to make a big difference in our community.

School Board Appreciation Month

January is School Board Appreciation Month! Let's express gratitude to our dedicated school board members who work tirelessly to enhance education for our students. Your commitment is shaping the future. Thank you for your service!

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day - Jan 9th

On National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, we give a heartfelt salute to the brave men and women who dedicate their lives to keeping our communities safe. Your commitment and sacrifice are truly appreciated. Thank you for your service!

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day - Jan 11th

January 11th was Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Together, we can prevent trafficking and support victims by educating Ohioans. If you or someone you know needs help, visit humantrafficking.ohio.gov or call the state hotline 1-888-373-7888.

National Religious Freedom Day - Jan 16th

On National Religious Freedom Day, let's celebrate the diverse tapestry of beliefs that enrich our nation. We are grateful for the freedom to worship, honor, and respect all beliefs. May our commitment to religious freedom continue to unite us in harmony.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Jan 20th

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, was an opportunity to must recommit, as Ohioans, to creating a more just, equitable society through civic action. "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice" - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Every Ohioan, no matter who you are, deserves the freedom, dignity, and opportunity to thrive.

The Anniversary of Roe v. Wade - Jan 22nd

January 22nd is the Anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade decision. Though this decision was overturned in 2022, it serves as a reminder that we must protect abortion and reproductive rights for all. The right to make healthcare decisions about your own body is non-negotiable.

International Day of Education - Jan 24th

January 24th is International Day of Education! Let's celebrate the power of learning to transform lives and shape a brighter future for all Ohioans. Today, we honor educators, advocates, and learners worldwide. Education is the key to progress and empowerment!

International Holocaust Remembrance Day - Jan 27th

January 27 is Holocaust Memorial Day. As we remember the millions of lives lost, we must honor their lives by continuing to fight for equality and justice for all Ohioans, especially by condemning any hateful action and rhetoric.

Lunar New Year - Jan 29th

Wishing everyone a vibrant and joyous Lunar New Year! May the Year of the Snake bring prosperity, good health, and the ability to share the love with family and friends.