



Dear Neighbor,

Summer is almost over, but we are not slowing down in the legislature. The Ohio House Democrats are bringing the Statehouse to your communities and neighborhoods across Ohio! Our People First Economic Freedom Town Hall will put you face to face with your lawmaker to find out what we're doing to get you safe & affordable access to healthcare and protect your fundamental freedoms. More importantly, you'll have the opportunity to ask questions and offer input on other issues facing your community.

I believe that wherever you come from and whatever your background, everyone should have the economic opportunity to raise happy, healthy families. That's why I want to share how my work on a comprehensive People First agenda will improve our quality of life in the Buckeye State. Putting People First means working together to ensure all Ohioans—no matter your race, gender, or economic status—have the freedom to be who they are, the dignity of a safe community and secure job, and the opportunity to thrive.

These town hall events are free and open to the public. I will be hosting a town hall event with **Rep. Dr. Beth Liston** on **September 23, at 6:30 p.m. at the Estate at New Albany, 5216 Forest Dr. New Albany, OH 43054**. I encourage you to come and bring your own view on our community's needs.

If there is anything my office can do, please reach out to us by email at [rep04@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep04@ohiohouse.gov) or by phone at (614) 466-4847. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Beryl Brown Piccolantonio  
State Representative  
Ohio House District 4

To unsubscribe please email [rep04@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep04@ohiohouse.gov)

## Information and Key Dates about the Upcoming Election

Voting is one of the most fundamental rights that we have. Make sure you register to vote for the upcoming November election, where we will vote to determine our future. Make your voice heard! The last day to register for the November general election is October 7th.

Here are some additional dates that might be helpful:

- **October 7:** Voter registration deadline
- **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 6:30 am-7:30 pm)

Need to register or check your status? Register at: [voteohio.gov](http://voteohio.gov).

## Remembering September 11

September 11, 2001, is a day that we will never forget. The horrifying attacks on our country killed 2,977 people from 93 nations, including 441 brave emergency responders.

These attacks have had a lasting impact on America and the world. I continue to extend my sincere gratitude to the brave men and women who have since served overseas to protect our country. I will always prioritize bills that help support first responders, active military members, veterans, and their families to honor those who serve our nation.

## Property Tax Update

I appreciate the numerous constituents who have called, emailed, and met with me to share their concerns with our current property tax system. You are not alone— homeowners across Central Ohio are feeling squeezed by the state's inaction to curb rising property taxes.

Bills to address this issue will be high priority to me as the legislature resumes session this fall. As your Representative, I'm fighting to cut your property taxes. I'm fighting for a fairer tax system for all Ohioans— one that enables our communities to remain welcome to Ohioans of all ages and incomes. Here are some of the ways we are working in legislature to address this issue:

[Establishing the Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform to simplify the state's burdensome tax system.](#)

[Advocating for an increased homestead exemption and freezing property taxes for those over 65 so that seniors can afford to stay in their home.](#)

[Helping pass the Fair School Funding Plan to stop the state from cutting money to our schools so you aren't forced to pay more locally to make up for state cuts.](#)

[Working across the aisle to pass legislation that permits a property-tax reduction for surviving spouses of service members killed in the line of duty.](#)

[Supporting a statewide property-tax circuit-breaker to send \\$1000 rebates to homeowners saddled with unaffordable property taxes.](#)

Unfortunately, increased property taxes are a choice by the partisan majority at the Statehouse. Historic state giveaways— over \$2 billion worth — for millionaires and big corporations means less money for schools and first responders, leaving our communities with the impossible choice of raising taxes or cutting services. This isn't cutting taxes in Columbus. It's shifting taxes in our community— making you pay more locally so the state can pay less.

But this doesn't have to be our reality! We can lower your property taxes and decide to fund the essential services and infrastructure that improve your quality of life. Together, we can support policies and leaders to unrig Ohio's tax system and stop shifting the state's tax responsibility onto individual homeowners and our communities. Please continue to contact me with your thoughts, questions, and concerns. Together, we'll fight for what's right— more money in your pocket and state policies that give you the dignity and opportunity you deserve.

### **Celebrating Working Parents Day**

On September 16th, we celebrate working parents and acknowledge the hard work and sacrifices working parents make every day to support their family. Working parents are feeling the squeeze of high costs for everyday expenses including healthcare, groceries, and rent thanks to greedy corporations.

I know that family always comes first, and Ohioans should have the opportunity to raise happy, healthy families. I am working to ensure families have the resources they need to raise safe, healthy children without breaking the bank.

### **Recent Events**



*Celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the City of Gahanna*



*Meeting constituents, learning about community organizations, and supporting local businesses at Westerville Fourth Friday*



*KinderCare visit in New Albany*



*Ribbon Cutting for Thrive Pediatrics in New Albany*



*Ribbon Cutting for Uptown Nutrition in Westerville*



*Sampling local restaurants at the Taste of Gahanna*



*Original Pancake House Ribbon Cutting in New Albany*



*Gahanna Jazz Festival*



*Meeting with Ohio University Hillel students, parents, alumni, and friends in New Albany*



*Meeting with Lutheran Social Services and Ohio Domestic Violence Network*



*HearingLife ribbon cutting in Westerville*

### **September 2024 Dates of Note**

#### **Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 to Oct. 15)**

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. Their achievements and culture have made Ohio, and America, a better place for us all. I am dedicated to ensuring all Ohioans are welcomed and supported, so we can continue to thrive.

#### **National Rehabilitation Awareness Week (Sept 16 - Sept 22)**

Everyone deserves a fair chance to thrive, regardless of who they are. National Rehabilitation Awareness Week recognizes both the benefits of rehabilitation and the successes of those who have received treatment, focusing on promoting education, developing programs, and helping those who are disabled to live up to their fullest potential. I will continue to ensure that all Ohioans receive the resources they need to succeed.

#### **World Suicide Prevention Day (Sept 10)**

September 10th is Suicide Prevention Day. No matter what you are going through, you are not alone. Help is available 24/7 by dialing the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 9-8-8. I will continue to fight for mental health resources for all, so that everyone can thrive.

#### **September 11: Remembrance Day (Sept 11)**

September 11, 2001, is a day that we will never forget. These attacks have had a lasting impact on America and the world. I continue to extend my sincere gratitude to the brave men and women who have since served to protect our country. Thank you for everything that you have done, and will continue to do, to keep us safe.

**International Day of Democracy (Sept 15)**

The International Day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world and how it can be made into a reality to be enjoyed by everyone, no matter who you are. I will always stand for the freedom, dignity, and opportunity that democracy provides.

**Working Parents Day (Sept 16)**

We know that family comes first. On Working Parents Day, we celebrate and acknowledge the hard work and sacrifices parents make every day to support their families. I will continue to support working parents, ensuring that families have the resources they need.

**National Voter Registration Day (Sept 17)**

Voting is one of the most fundamental rights that we have. September 17th, make sure you register to vote for the upcoming November election, where we will vote to determine our future. Make your voice heard! The last day to register for the November general election is October 7th.

Need to register or check your status? Register at: [VoteOhio.gov](https://VoteOhio.gov).

**International Equal Pay Day (Sept 18)**

International Equal Pay Day represents the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for all, building upon the United Nations' commitment to human rights and against all forms of discrimination. I am fighting for equal pay for all with bills like HB 232, Ohio's Equal Pay Act. This legislation will take crucial and long overdue steps to close the gender and racial wealth gap that currently hurts too many working families in Ohio.

**International Day of Peace (Sept 21)**

This year marks the 76th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We recognize our individual and collective responsibility to foster peace, inviting everyone to join the call to take action by fighting inequality, drive action on climate change, and promote & protect human rights throughout the world. I will always support having a more peaceful, just, and inclusive Ohio, free from fear and violence.

**Emancipation Day (Sept 22)**

Emancipation Day commemorates the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation to end slavery in the U.S. Did you know that the state of Ohio has the longest-running celebration for Emancipation Day? I celebrate this pivotal moment, while also acknowledging that we are still fighting for true freedom for all.

**Start of Fall (Sept 22)**

Happy Fall, Ohio!