



HOUSE DISTRICT 33
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Quarterly Newsletter



Veronica Sims
Your Voice at the Statehouse

Early Wins and Big Budget Work Ahead

The start of the 135th General Assembly has been fast and furious. I was sworn in on January 6th, received my committee assignments shortly after, and hit the ground running with two major state budgets.

I'm proud to share that the House Transportation Committee unanimously passed the \$11.4B Transportation Budget (HB 54), and it sailed through the full Ohio House with that same strong support. This bill includes several key investments for our communities, including:

- \$8B for statewide highway construction and maintenance
- \$30M to continue the Ohio Workforce Mobility Partnership Program
- \$18M for Transportation Improvement Districts

The bill now moves to the Senate Finance Committee for consideration.

Meanwhile, work continues on the State Operating Budget (HB 96), which must be finalized and balanced by July 1, 2025. As this process unfolds, I remain committed to ensuring that your voice—and the needs of our communities—are reflected in the final budget.

Message from State Rep. Sims

Dear Neighbors,

As your State Representative and lifelong Akron/Summit County resident, I believe in the power of informed, engaged communities to drive change. This newsletter is designed to keep you connected to what's happening at the Statehouse and how it impacts our neighborhoods—from education to healthcare, and beyond.

Let's stay informed, stay involved, and keep pushing for progress—together.

In service,

Rep. Veronica Sims
Ohio House District 33 – Akron

Summer in the City

Make the most of your summer with these family-friendly events, cultural celebrations, and local resources happening right here in Akron!

- Spring Exhibitions at the Summit Artspace from 12pm- 7pm from April 11- June 14
- Downtown Akron Juneteenth Celebration
- Summer Concert series begins on June 7
- Walk for Grace at the Akron Zoo on June 21
- Italian-American Festival on July 10, 11, & 12
- Akron Art Expo at Hardesty Park on July 24, 26, & 27
- Free Thursdays at the Akron Art Museum
- Akron Bike Party at Missing falls Brewery on May 16
- National Park Scenic Excursion 2025 at the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad/ Akron Northside Station on May 16 at 11am

↑ **Akron Events & Opportunities** ↑



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Veronica Sims



Summit County Services Contact information:

- Summit County Board of Developmental Disabilities
(330)-634-8000
- Summit County Jobs & Family Services
(844)-640-6446
- Summit County Fiscal Office
330-643-2632
- Summit County Veterans Service Commission
(330)-643-2830
- Summit County Legal Aid
(330)-535-4191
- Summit County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Addiction Hotline:
(330)-940-1333
- Mental Health Hotline:
(330)-434-9144
Crisis Hotline: 988
- Summit County Department of Aging/Direction Home
(800)-421-7277

Rep. Sims' Committee Assignments

Bringing Local Experience to Statewide Policy

State Rep. Veronica Sims proudly serves on several key House committees, where she advocates for policies that support working families, local governments, and economic equity across Ohio.

Local Government Committee (Ranking Member)

Reviews legislation affecting cities, townships, counties, and other local entities.

Government Oversight Committee

Examines the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of state agencies and government functions.

Agriculture Committee

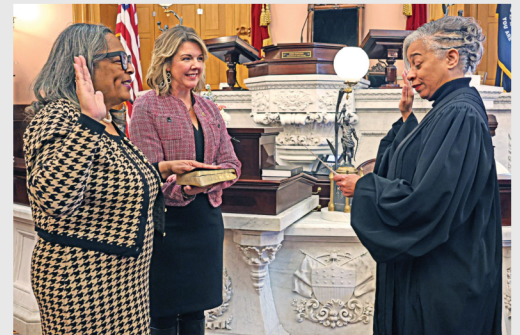
Responsible for matters relating to Ohio's agricultural industry, food production, rural development, and environmental concerns.

Finance Committee

Oversees the creation of the state's biennial budget and other major fiscal legislation, allocating funding for public programs, education, infrastructure, and more.

Sunset Review Committee

This committee evaluates state boards and commissions to determine whether they should continue, be restructured, or be eliminated to ensure efficient use of public resources.



Rep. Sims swears in as a member of the Ohio State House of Representatives alongside Minority Leader Rep. Allison Russo.

Check our District maps to see who is your Representative! →





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Veronica Sims Community engagement

Despite the frigid temperatures, it was a packed house at the Akron Urban League's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast. "The young performers inspired the crowd, and keynote speaker Dr. Eric George Vickers Sr. delivered a powerful message of remembrance and hope. "The young folks performed splendidly and keynote speaker, Dr. Eric George Vicker Sr. delivered a powerful message of remembrance and hope. Happy 100th birthday to the Akron Urban League!"



On February 20, Rep. Sims held the first round of Community Office Hours for 2025, welcoming residents of House District 33 to share their ideas, concerns, and feedback in an open, accessible space.

"Thank you to everyone who stopped by to connect. Your thoughts, ideas, and even your gratitude mean so much. I will always be here to listen." – Rep. Veronica R. Sims.

COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS
Feel free to drop by!

Thursday February 20th	Thursday February 27th	Thursday March 6th
Ed Davis Community Center 30 Perkins Park Drive Akron, OH 44320 4:30pm-6:00pm	Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library 3101 Smith Road Akron, OH 44333 4:30pm-6:00pm	Joy Park Community Center 825 Fuller Street Akron, OH 44306 4:30pm-6:00pm

Veronica Sims
State Representative
House District 33



Celebrating Women in Leadership

Rep. Sims joined students and faculty at Our Lady of the Elms for the school's Women in Leadership speaker series, standing alongside Summit County Clerk of Courts and former State Rep. Tavia Galonski.

"I am so grateful for the excitement and expressions of love shown to us by the students and staff. Thank you to Ms. Dana Best-Mizak, Director of Engagement, for the invitation and for honoring the legacy of local Black women in history."

People first. TOWN HALL
& Legislative Update

Join Us!

State Rep. Veronica Sims
House District 33

House Minority Leader Allison C. Russo

Thursday April 17, 2025
5:00-6:30pm

Maple Valley Branch Library
1807 Caspley Road, Akron, OH 44320

LEADING LADIES OF THE LEGISLATURE

LEVERAGING AND LIFTING LISTENING TOUR

Ohio's women legislators are taking the next step in their careers and are looking for ways to leverage their skills and experiences to help their communities. Join us for a listening tour to explore these opportunities and share your ideas.

April 5, 2025
9:30 - 11:00 AM

Ed Davis Community Center
730 Perkins Park Drive
Akron, Ohio 44320

Rep. Sims spoke with constituents during the People First Town Hall and Legislative Update meeting featuring Minority Leader Rep. Allison Russo and Senator Casey Weinstein.

"I greatly appreciate the opportunity to engage about the latest happenings in Columbus during these challenging days and the exploration and expectation of where we are headed. - Rep. Veronica R. Sims.

Rep. Sims spoke with attendees at the Leading Ladies of the Legislature Leveraging and Lifting forum at the Ed Davis Community Center.

"I am so grateful for the folks who showed up for genuine meaningful exchange and strategy exploration. I truly believe that if we endeavor together to leverage each of our lived and learned experiences, we can lift families across our communities, cities, state, and ultimately our nation. - Rep. Veronica R Sims.



CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION!



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Legislative Updates *Veronica Sims*

BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK



OHIO'S STATE BUDGET TIMELINE



HB 65 – Enact the Agriculture Appreciation Act

This bill aims to recognize and promote awareness of the importance of agriculture. it includes several agricultural observances in Ohio such as FFA Week, Ohio Soil Health Week, 4-H Week, National Farmers Market Week, Ohio Storm water Awareness Week, Farmers Day, and Agriculture Day.

Status: Passed by the House

Rep. Sims' Position: Co- Sponsor

HB 29 – Regards inmates' access to

feminine hygiene products and showers
This legislation mandates standards for providing feminine hygiene products and daily showers to female inmates in municipal, county, and state correctional facilities in Ohio at no cost, tailored to individual needs. Other provisions of this bill include:

- Prohibition of discrimination in access based on identity or status.
- procedure creation for sanitary storage, distribution, and disposal.

Status: Reported by House Committee with Favorable Passage

Rep. Sims' Position: Co-sponsor

HB 136 – Prohibit sexual orientation or gender identity discrimination

This bill would prohibit discrimination based on gender identity or expression. The goal of this bill is to strengthen and update anti-discrimination Protections in Ohio.

Status: In House Judiciary Committee

Rep. Sims' Position: Co-Sponsor

HB 34 – Increase the state minimum wage

This Legislation aims to implement a phased increase of the long overdue Ohio minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2030. it includes post 2030 adjustments for inflation by the director of the Department of Commerce. The bill also includes a wage increase for tipped workers by \$0.50 per year for five years.

Status: In House commerce and Labor Committee

Rep. Sims' Position: Co- Sponsor



Contact :
State Representative
Veronica Sims - House
District 33

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Follow on X:
@OH_Rep33Sims

Quote from Rep. Sims

"Being your Representative is a tremendous source of pride for me, and I look forward to continuing to help champion the hopes, desires, and needs of the people of House District 33."

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!!

