

from the desk of

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE COCKLEY



APRIL 2025 | STATEHOUSE UPDATE | HOUSE DISTRICT 6



Senator Dr. Beth Liston (Dublin), Brutus Buckeye, ODA Director of Legislative Affairs Todd Thatcher, and I at the Ohio Department of Agriculture Supermarket Sweep.

Dear District 6 Neighbor,

When things are gloomy at the Statehouse, I find hope and rejuvenation by gathering with constituents and colleagues, knowing that together we can weather any storm. As the saying goes, "April flowers bring May flowers."

Last month, I was disgusted and heartbroken (although, not surprised) when Governor DeWine signed SBI. This month, we continue to watch our Republican colleagues join the Trump Administration in cutting funds to our local government, nonprofits, agencies, and more.

To add some sunshine to my days, I joined the Women's Caucus while launching our listening tour. I helped Senator Dr. Beth Liston's team in an Ohio Department of Agriculture Supermarket Sweep. The teams collectively gathered over \$5,000 worth of groceries to donate to a local food pantry. Additionally, I joined Representative Munira Abdullahi, Representative Dr. Anita Somani, and hundreds of protesters to make sure people's voices are heard – Elon Musk has no place in our government. Finally, I hosted open office hours in the district, met with Township Administrators, and toured a local library.

Together, we'll weather this storm and emerge ready for brighter days ahead.

Christine Cockley



Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS Ohio) tour with my Franklin County colleagues.



2025 Ohio Beef Expo with Director Baldrige, OCA Executive Director Elizabeth Harsh and OCA President Goecke.



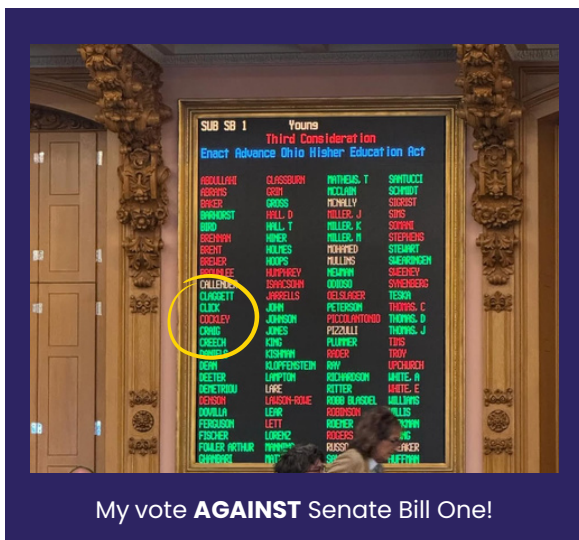
Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Day meeting with constituents.



My colleagues and I at Rep. Abdullahi's annual iftar at the Statehouse celebration.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – SB1

MY VOTE AGAINST SB1, THE DANGEROUS OVERHAUL OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN OHIO



My vote **AGAINST** Senate Bill One!

Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), also known as the *Higher Education Destruction Act*, seeks to ban Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives at Ohio’s colleges and universities while also stripping faculty of their collective bargaining rights. The bill also stifles classroom discussions on "controversial" topics, limiting professors' ability to engage students in critical conversations about important social and historical issues, like the Holocaust and the Civil Rights movement.

This bill undermines academic freedom and creates an environment where students may no longer have the opportunity to explore diverse perspectives, weakening their education and preparedness for the future.

I voted against SB 1 because it harms Ohio. Despite the opposition of the roughly 1,500 Ohioans who submitted opponent testimony, the bill passed with a 58–34 vote, with most Republicans supporting it. On March 28th, Governor DeWine signed it into law, and it will go into effect in 90 days. While this is a significant setback, civil rights groups have already pledged legal action, and I will continue to do everything I can to support their advocacy. The fight to protect the future of education is not over, and together, we will continue to make our voices heard.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MY UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL OPEN OFFICE HOURS
Date: April 18TH
Time: 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Location: Prairie Township Community Center

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF OHIO RESOURCE FAIR
Date: April 26th
Time: 10 AM - 4 PM
Location: Westland High School

JOINT TOWN HALL WITH LEADER RUSSO
Date: April 28th
Time: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Location: Hilltop Library Branch

MY OFFICE CAN ALSO HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Disputes with state agencies
- Commendations and condolences
- Hearing opinions or concerns with bills moving through the legislature
- Connecting you or your business to state programs and services
- Connecting you with neighborhood resources
- Testifying before a House Committee

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rep06@OhioHouse.gov

(614) 644-6005

[Facebook.com/RepCockley](https://www.facebook.com/RepCockley)

[@RepCockley](https://twitter.com/RepCockley)

Reply to this email to unsubscribe.