

from the desk of

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE COCKLEY



MAY 2025 | STATEHOUSE UPDATE | HOUSE DISTRICT 6



Minority Leader Russo and Rep. Cockley hosted a townhall at the Hilltop library.

Dear District 6 Neighbor,

Last month, I proudly stood with my Democratic colleagues and voted **NO** on the state's operating budget, **HB 96**. It does more harm than good for everyday Ohioans.

In this budget, House Republicans chose to gut the bipartisan school funding formula and pour more public dollars into private school vouchers for the wealthy, underfund our public libraries, and green-light a \$600 million handout to billionaires for a new Browns stadium — one that a majority of Ohioans probably can't afford to

visit. Meanwhile, House Republicans are also neglecting services and programs Ohioans do use such as Medicaid, childcare, and clean water programs. **But in the face of these attacks, we organize, we speak out, and we come together.** The bill now heads to the Senate to start the committee process. Call Senate President Rob McColley at (614) 466-8150 or mccolley@ohiosenate.gov and Finance Chair Jerry Cirino at (614) 644-7718 or cirino@ohiosenate.gov and tell them that **this budget does NOT support Ohioans.**

To everyone who called, emailed, or stopped by my business hours or townhall to share their thoughts on these issues: thank you.

Yours in service,
Christine Cockley



Rep. Cockley delivers a commendation to Tres Potrillos in Galloway, honoring their 20th Anniversary.



Rep. Cockley's interview with Sarah Goldenberg from Cleveland 19 News on the FIND Act.



Rep. Cockley delivers a commendation to long-term Westsider, Mr. Kurt Rutz for his 90th Birthday.



The Jewish Caucus celebrates their annual Passover Celebration at the Statehouse.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – HB217

HB 217 - THE FIND ACT



Rep. Cockley met with Aimee Chapman in April to thank her for advocacy and discuss the FIND Act.

Every day, I pass a billboard on West Broad Street of Andrew (Andy) Chapman, a man who has been missing from House District 6 for nearly 20 years. This billboard reminds me that his story is not just a podcast episode for entertainment – it is a real, painful experience for so many Ohioans. In fact, the tireless advocacy of Andy’s sister, Aimee Chapman, along with The Dispatch’s powerful “VANISHED” investigative series, encouraged me to seek meaningful legislative change.

Last month, I introduced the FIND Act (Finding and Identifying with NamUs Data), House Bill 217. This bipartisan legislation mandates that law enforcement agencies enter information

about missing persons into NamUs within 30 days of a report being filed. NamUs is a national database that aids in identifying missing individuals across state lines, and its proper utilization is crucial for solving cold cases and providing closure to families.

The support from stakeholders has been encouraging, as many recognize the importance of utilizing every available tool to reunite families with their loved ones. By ensuring timely data entry into NamUs, we aim to enhance cross-state tracking of missing persons and address the systemic issues that have hindered previous efforts.

This legislation is more than just a policy change; it represents hope for families like the Chapmans, who have long sought answers. It also exemplifies how bipartisan collaboration can lead to meaningful reforms that serve our communities. I am hopeful that the FIND Act will be a pivotal step in solving missing persons cases and reaffirming our commitment to justice and support for all Ohioans (King & Filby, 2025).

UPCOMING EVENTS

WOMEN’S LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS LISTENING TOUR

Date: May 17th
Time: 10 AM - 12 PM
Location: Relax, It’s Just Coffee!
105 N Main St, Mansfield

OPEN OFFICE HOURS

Date: May 23rd
Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Hilltop Library Branch
511 S Hague Ave, Columbus

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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

Citation: King, D., & Filby, M. (2025, April 24). Dispatch investigation, billboard inspired lawmaker to propose bill on missing persons. The Columbus Dispatch. <https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/2025/04/24/proposed-find-act-meant-to-help-solve-cold-cases-find-missing-ohioans-andy-chapman-christine-cockley/83196721007/>

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