

from the desk of

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE COCKLEY



JULY 2026 | STATEHOUSE UPDATE | HOUSE DISTRICT 6



Rep. Cockley meeting with Council President Hardin and community leaders at the Westgate Community Shelter

## Dear District 6 Neighbor,

Happy July! I am excited to announce the the Passage of **SB 450**, the Capital Budget. This General Assembly I helped secure **\$22.08M** for Franklin County, and approximately **\$1.15M** for projects within HD-6. The Prairie Township Sports Complex received \$1M and the Mirolo Sensory Park District received **\$150,000**. Both of these projects will make great additions to our district.

In addition to passing the Capital Budget last month, I have been busy around the district. I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Hollywood Casino Columbus' new hotel with State Senator DeMora. I also welcomed Hikma Pharmaceuticals **\$216M** investment in Columbus manufacturing, creating 50 new jobs and strengthening Central Ohio's life sciences and advanced manufacturing sectors. Similarly, I toured Boehringer Ingelheim's two facilities in HD-6.

I am looking forward to connecting West Side residents with opportunities this growth creates. Both private investment from businesses, like Hollywood Casino Columbus and Hikma Pharmaceuticals, and capital budget investment demonstrate the growing economic vitality of our community.

I was also grateful to attend State Senator Craig's third annual flag rising at the Statehouse to honor Juneteenth, as well as the Legislative Roundtable hosted by Columbus City Council with Stonewall Dems Central Ohio. At the roundtable I joined other leaders in a discussion on ways to ensure Ohio is a safe place for our LGBTQ+ friends, family, and neighbors. This was a great opportunity during Pride Month to listen to community concerns and engage in a meaningful way.

As always, I am here to listen and serve. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office if you need support or information.

Yours in service,

*Christine Cockley*



Columbus City Council's LGBTQ+ Legislative Roundtable



Touring the Columbus Early Learning Center



Celebrating the Senator Craig's Juneteenth Flag Raising at the Statehouse



Rep. Cockley with Sen. DeMora at Hollywood Casino Columbus' Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - HB 472

## REP. COCKLEY CELEBRATES VETO OF SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 472



Rep. Cockley speaking on the House Floor in opposition to Substitute House Bill 472, and making a motion to remove her name from the bill

Last month I condemned the Legislature's rushed passage of **Substitute House Bill (HB) 472**, a bill I initially sponsored. A strong bipartisan bill which created fee waivers for unhoused individuals seeking to obtain identity documents was amended i.e., hijacked by Senate republicans with an unvetted provision making it harder to vote by mail.

When originally passed by the House, this bill sought to remove significant barriers to accessing critical documents for individuals seeking to rebuild their life. Waiving these fees is a small but highly impactful step toward reducing cycles of poverty, supporting the dignified reintegration into the community, and supporting an individuals long term success.

This dramatic change to the bill's language was madewithout my or my joint sponsor's knowledge and consent.

Ohioans were ultimately denied the opportunity to review the legislation, understand it, and provide feedback by testifying. It's passage just 48 hours after introduction of new language shows a clear lack of transparency and deliberation which is not how the legislative process should function.

**HB 472** was recently vetoed by Governor DeWine. This month, Rep. Cockley continues to celebrate the veto of HB 472, and looks forward to reintroducing the original language to help people experiencing homelessness.

### MY OFFICE CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WITH:

- Resolving issues with state agencies
- Letters of commendation and condolence
- Consideration of opinions & concerns with bills in the state legislature or state related issues
- Connecting you or your business to state programs and services or neighborhood resources
- Testifying before a House Committee on legislation

### CONTACT INFORMATION



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