



A legislative update from
STATE REP. CRYSTAL LETT
HOUSE DISTRICT 11

(614) 644-6030 | rep11@ohiohouse.gov

 @OHHouseDems
 @ohiohousedems



From the desk of Rep. Lett

Dear Neighbor,

This July, we celebrated Independence Day, a holiday we spend with loved ones. This nation was founded upon the ideals of freedom, equality, and justice, values that we should all embrace and celebrate. The Fourth of July serves as a reminder of why this country, and state, is such a special place. While we should all celebrate with cookouts and pool parties, we should also remember the sacrifices and struggles in our continuing journey towards equality.

House Democrats are also thrilled to announce its new leadership team for the rest of the 136th General Assembly:

- Minority Leader Dani Isaacsohn (D-Cincinnati)
- Assistant Minority Leader Phillip Robinson, Jr. (D-Solon)
- Minority Whip Beryl Brown Piccolantonio (D-Gahanna)
- Assistant Minority Whip Desiree Tims (D-Dayton)

I have also included information on a Hilliard Coffee Chat taking place on August 27th. This event is my second in-district office hours, is open to all and will be at the Hilliard Public Library. I will be answering your questions and meeting constituents. I hope to see you there!

If there is anything my office can do please reach out to us by email at rep11@ohiohouse.gov or by phone at (614) 644-6030. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Representative Crystal Lett
District 11

COFFEE CHAT WITH REP. LETT

with special guest Mayor Cottone

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27TH, 2025

FROM 4:00PM-6:00PM EST

 Hilliard Library
4500 Hickory Chase Way
Hilliard, OH 43026



State Rep.
Crystal Lett

Special Guest
Mayor Cottone



Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act

On July 2, 1964, the Civil Rights Act was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson, outlawing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, and national origin in the United States. With support of activists, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the Civil Rights Act was a crucial step forward in America's continued journey towards equality and justice for all.



House Democrats Vote “NO” on State Operating Budget

Last month, House Democrats unanimously voted “NO” on the state operating budget (**HB 96**) because it arbitrarily and recklessly slashes critical state funding areas while failing to benefit everyday Ohioans. In this budget, House Republicans chose to dismantle the constitutional and bipartisan fair school funding formula, failed to provide real property tax relief, and authorized a \$600M handout to billionaires to build a new Browns stadium outside of Cleveland amidst opposition by local leaders.

“ This is not the best we could do. In fact, the State has the capacity to fund childhood education initiatives, workforce development, meaningful property tax relief, and more affordable childcare. To claim that backlash to HB 96 is a simple difference of opinion, or to rely on the notion that ‘no budget is perfect’ is a bleak excuse for underfunding our schools, libraries, and the services Ohioans depend on most,” said **Rep. Lett**.



Ohio House Democrats Host Gun Violence Prevention Press Conference

Last month, **House Democrats** and the **Gun Violence Prevention Caucus** hosted a press conference highlighting crucial commonsense policies supported by a bipartisan majority of Ohioans.

Legislation that was discussed, included:

- [Enact Universal Background Checks](#) (**Lett, Robinson**)
- [10-day waiting period for firearm purchases](#) (**Thomas, Baker**)
- [Gun violence task force](#) (**Brewer, Brownlee**)
- [Firearm safety device sales tax exemption](#) (**Brewer**)
- [Tax credit for handgun training and firearm storage](#) (**Lawson-Rowe, Brewer**)

House Democrats remain committed to ensuring that all Ohioans, no matter who they are or where they live, can live without fear of gun violence in their communities.



House Democrats host it's Gun Violence Prevention Press Conference



House Democrats Call Out Ill-Conceived GOP “Property Tax Relief” Bill

Last month, members of the **Ohio Democratic Caucus** and community partners hosted a press conference condemning [House Bill \(HB\) 335](#).

HB 335 proposes major changes to revenue options for local governments to cut property tax collections in the guise of “relief,” mostly benefitting the wealthy while harming our communities and local governments. Property tax relief should be targeted, need-based, and state-funded. **House Democrats** have introduced numerous, bipartisan proposals that cut property taxes for homeowners while keeping schools and local governments whole, including:

- [Authorizing property tax freeze for certain owner-occupied homes](#) (**Isaacsohn, T. Hall**)
- [Enacting the Property Tax Refund Act](#) (**Brennan, D. Hall**)
- [Authorizing property tax exemption for certain long-term homeowners](#) (**Brennan, Mathews**)
- [Increasing the homestead exemption amount and income limit](#) (**Troy, T. Hall**)



House Democrats host it's Anti-HB 335 Press Conference



Ohio Dems Vote No on Veto Override

The House was called into a special session on Monday, July 21st for a veto override vote. Governor DeWine vetoed 67 line items from Ohio’s Operating Budget (HB 96). Three of them were going to be up for the override vote:

- Veto Item #63 requires county budget commissions to reduce rates on current school district expense levies in certain circumstances where a district’s carry-over balance is more 40% of its general fund expenditures
- Veto Item #65 requires that emergency and substitute tax levies, incremental growth levies, conversion levies, and the property portion of combined income tax and property tax levies be included in the 20-mill floor calculation
- Veto Item #66 eliminates authority for political subdivisions to levy replacement property tax levies and the authority for school districts to levy fixed-sum emergency, substitute emergency levies, and combined school district income tax and fixed-sum property tax levies

Thanks to constituent advocacy, only #66 made it to a vote on Monday. Rep. Lett cast a NO vote, alongside all House Dems plus one member of the supermajority. The override needed 60 votes, which unfortunately passed 61-28.

Blowing up the different types of levies our municipalities use is not a form of property tax relief—it’s taking advantage of folks’ desperation for relief and instead delivering half-baked policy that will *maybe* provide minimal benefits for a select few.

This limits the choices voters have in how to support their schools and local governments. With limited options they can offer, schools and local subdivisions will have to go back to the ballot more often for new millage or cut vital services Ohioans rely on.

Constituents are encouraged to contact our office with feedback, questions, or ideas regarding property taxes.