

A legislative update from Representative Crystal Lett

February 2026



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am excited to be back in the Statehouse as the House session is officially underway. The pace here has quickly picked up and I am energized by the important work we have ahead of us. We have been introducing new bills and collaborating with colleagues on legislation that will further strengthen our community.

February also gives us the opportunity to celebrate Black History Month – a time to honor the leaders, advocates, and everyday changemakers that have helped shape our state and nation through drive and contribution. I look forward to recognizing that legacy while furthering inclusive and equitable policies to empower Ohioans.

We are also starting conversations around the capital budget, which plays a critical role in supporting our schools, local infrastructure, community projects, and so much more. I am committed to ensuring our district's priorities are heard in these investments.

With Spring around the corner, there is a renewed sense of momentum, both at the Statehouse and in District 11. I am grateful for the trust you place in me and remain focused on advancing policies that expand opportunities, strengthen families, and make Ohio a more affordable place to live. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions, ideas, or concerns.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Crystal Lett".

Crystal Lett
State Representative, Ohio House District 11

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS WITH REP. LETT

- **March 7th, 10am - 12pm @ Streetwaters Cafe
Dublin Library**
 - 75 North High St. Dublin, OH 43017
- **April event/location TBD**

Come join me at any of these events for a chance to connect, discuss the issues that matter most to you, and work together for a stronger community!



DRINK SPIKING PREVENTION: HB 685

Representative Lett signed in HB 685 which aims to prevent drink spiking incidents. “This legislation seeks not only to raise awareness about the risks associated with drink spiking, but also to enhance safety in our communities. When drink spiking occurs, it puts individuals at risk for human trafficking, sexual assault, and violence. This bill will ensure more Ohioans can enjoy socializing without fear of being victimized,” said Rep. Lett.



*This is a bipartisan bill, co-authored by
Representative Jean Schmidt*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

While we continue to work on initiatives that will improve lives of Ohioans, I have already introduced the following pieces of legislation:

- **HB 136** - Prohibit sexual orientation or gender identity discrimination
 - Enacts the “Ohio Fairness Act,” which specifies that any provision found in the Ohio Revised Code respecting discrimination on the basis of “sex” includes discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender expression.
- **HB 140** - Authorize the refundable thriving families tax credit
 - Credits taxpayers with qualifying children \$1000 (less than six years of age) and \$500 for each other qualifying children, the amount credited is reduced by 1/20th of that amount for each one thousand dollars of a taxpayer’s annual household income in excess of sixty-five thousand dollars.
- **HB 300** - Prohibit conversion therapy for minors by certain professionals
 - This bill prohibits any licensed health professional from engaging in conversion therapy when providing mental health treatment to minors
- **HB 373** - Enact the Universal Background Checks Act
 - This legislation requires a firearm transfer to be made through a dealer, through a law enforcement agency, or pursuant to a specified exception, and to require a background check when a firearm is transferred
- **HB 521** - Enact the Ohio Nurse Workforce and Safe Patient Act
 - Requires hospitals to meet minimum staffing requirements when assigning registered nurses in hospital units, including by meeting specified RN-to-patient ratios.
 - Establishes the Nursing Student Loan-to-Grant Program, under which nursing students may be awarded amounts that do not have to be repaid if a five-year service obligation is completed
- **HB 552** - Regards Medicaid reimbursement for hospice providers
 - HB 552 requires the Medicaid Director to adopt rules for hospice providers that specify that Medicaid hospice providers will be reimbursed for room and board for a hospice patient who is the resident of a nursing or intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities.
- **HB 581** - Regards specified Medicaid disability, Ohio Workability Programs
 - Also known as Connie’s Law, this legislation would exempt \$20,000 of an individual’s earned, unearned, or a combination of both, income for the purpose of determining income eligibility for the Medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities program (as opposed to current law, which only allows for \$20,000 of *earned* income to be disregarded)
- **HB 585** - Regards DoDD authority re: community capital assistance funds
 - This bill would allow the Department of Developmental Disabilities to make available community capital assistance funds to county boards of developmental disabilities. The funds are to assist county boards to acquire housing for individuals receiving supported living services, such as single-family homes, duplexes, quadplexes, condominiums, newly constructed housing, multi-structure dwellings, accessory dwelling units, etc.
- **HB 685** - Establish provisions governing date rape drug testing devices
 - This bipartisan bill is aimed to prevent drink spiking incidents and inform law enforcement of trends and data related to the issue. It will allow bars to opt into a program where they will be supplied test strips with the ability to detect at least ten controlled substances. The Ohio Liquor Control is authorized to establish an oversight program for positive test strips.
- **HB 699** - Require prescription drug coverage by health plan issuers
 - HB 699 aims to make health plan issuers cover the prescription drug cost for the covered persons if the drug meets a set list of requirements

REPRESENTATIVE LETT SPEAKS OUT AGAINST ICE

“I join countless other Ohioans in the shame they feel over the actions of our federal government. We have watched a rogue paramilitary force publicly execute two American citizens in broad daylight. These killings follow the deaths of 6 other people - not to mention the deaths of 32 individuals in ICE custody. Here in Ohio, we are preparing for mass deportations and an increased presence of armed, masked ICE agents in our communities. In my district alone, I have already heard of neighbors being taken on their way home from work, on their way to pick up their kids from school, and other day-to-day activities. None of these individuals were violent criminals. Many hold legal status in the United States.

On behalf of Ohio House District 11, we are outraged by the treatment of our fellow Ohioans. We are appalled at the complicity of our federal representatives, and we are insulted that this violence, which is certainly unconstitutional, is dismissed as “immigration enforcement.” Americans know law enforcement in a democracy is grounded in the rule of law, not the rule of force. Legitimate law enforcement officers operate under the same laws as the people they serve - checked by the Constitution. At its core, democratic policing exists to safeguard freedom, due process, and free speech. The sovereignty of this nation—as well as the sovereignty of families, existed long before this administration, and will endure long after it.

So, I ask: how will history remember those who were complicit in a regime that tore children from their families and placed human beings in cages? How will this country reckon with the images of people being put in camps or killed in the streets? Years from now, when the semantics used to justify the murders and imprisonment of innocents have lost their power, Americans will reflect on this moment and wonder why our federal representatives failed to intervene. I will continue to speak out, to protest alongside you, and I ask you to join me in demanding that Senators Moreno and Husted implement meaningful oversight, transparency, and accountability to both ICE and CBP, and to put an end to their current violations of civil liberties, the rule of law, and basic human decency.”



A sign from a protest at the Statehouse

Rep. Lett with other Dem members at ICE press conference

Rep. Lett with Hilliard City Council President Emily Cole at ICE protest

FRANKLIN CO. AUDITOR'S OFFICE BOARD OF REVISION

The Franklin County BOR hears complaints on the Auditor's appraised value on a property and can adjust that value based on presented evidence. More information on the FCAO BOR process and guidance on how to file BOR complaints online can be found here on their website: <https://franklincountyauditor.com/real-estate/board-of-revision> and details of FCAO's 2026 BOR mobile filing events can be found in the document attached. FCAO's BOR staff can always take questions via phone at (614) 525-3913 or email at BOR@FranklinCountyOhio.gov.

COMMUNITY ITEMS

Next Generation MyCare Program: Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) implemented the Next Generation MyCare program to provide enhanced healthcare benefits to Ohioans who have both Medicaid and Medicare. It is now available in the 29 counties where the previous MyCare Ohio program was available. Later in 2026, it will be available in the rest of Ohio. Having a Next Generation MyCare plan for both a member's Medicaid and Medicare benefits means they have one care coordinator focused on their care needs, one organization managing their entire healthcare benefit, and communications coming from one source. With the new program, members also have better transportation options, more in-home providers, and shorter wait times for prior authorizations. The program also helps providers better serve members through streamlined processes, better integration with the plans, and enhanced clinical coverage policies. What has changed for members? Eligible members are now receiving benefits through a Next Generation MyCare plan. The plans available statewide for members to select are: Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, CareSource, Molina Healthcare of Ohio

Buckeye Health Plan is not an option for new members in the program. Members who had Buckeye Health Plan in the previous MyCare program can continue to receive care through that plan if they choose.

Additionally, members who were in the Ohio Home Care, Assisted Living, or PASSPORT Waiver when they were enrolled in the program are now enrolled in the MyCare Ohio Waiver. In the program, they have the same benefits, or more, available to them. Members should have received a member ID card and other materials in the mail from their plan. View Next Generation MyCare Member ID Card One-Pager to see the card template.

If members have questions related to eligibility, enrollment, benefits, plan selection, or finding a doctor, they can contact the Ohio Medicaid Consumer Hotline at 800-324-8680 or visit <https://ohiomh.com/>. Representatives are available Monday through Friday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Eastern time.

WHAT HAS CHANGED FOR PROVIDERS

In the Next Generation MyCare program, providers must enroll with ODM and contract with the plans to provide services to members. The process for submitting Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) claims for Next Generation MyCare members has changed. EDI claims will now come through the Ohio Medicaid Enterprise System (OMES) one front door. If providers have questions related to OMES submitted claims, prior authorizations, member eligibility, provider contracting, waiver support, or general Medicaid billing they can contact the ODM Integrated Helpdesk at 800-686-1516 or IHD@medicaid.ohio.gov. Representatives are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

For additional details about the Next Generation MyCare program review the following resources:

Presentations:

- [Next Generation MyCare Program Overview for Providers](#)
- [Next Generation MyCare Program Overview for Members](#)

Fliers:

- [Next Generation MyCare Program Overview One-Pager](#)
- [Next Generation MyCare Roll Out One-Pager](#)
- [Next Generation MyCare Member ID Card One-Pager](#)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents:

- [Next Generation MyCare Member FAQ](#)
- [Next Generation MyCare Provider FAQ](#)

Information for members or providers who have questions:

- [Next Generation MyCare Member Help Desk One-Pager](#)
- [Next Generation MyCare Provider Help Desk One-Pager](#)

Visit [Next Generation MyCare Families & Individuals webpage](#) and [Next Generation MyCare Resources for Providers webpage](#) to learn more.



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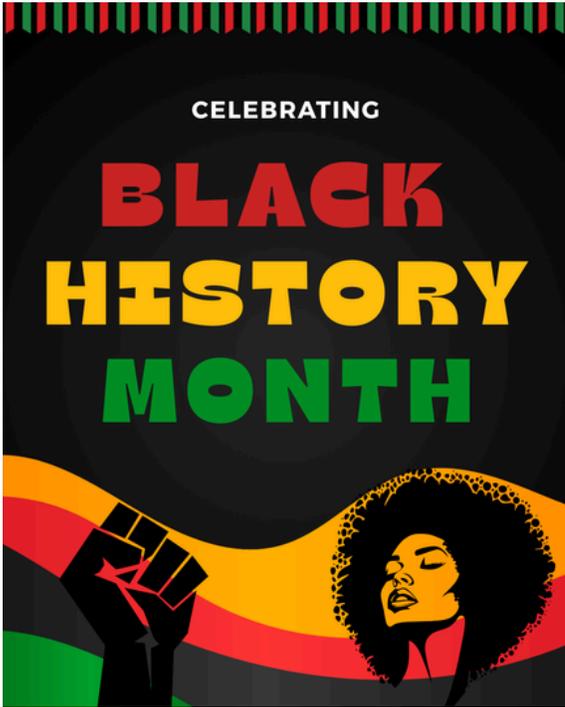


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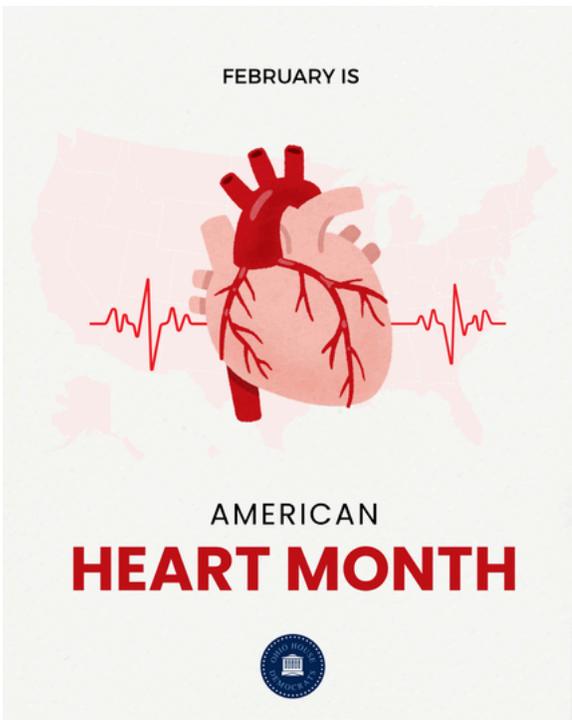
HOLIDAYS, CELEBRATIONS, AWARENESS



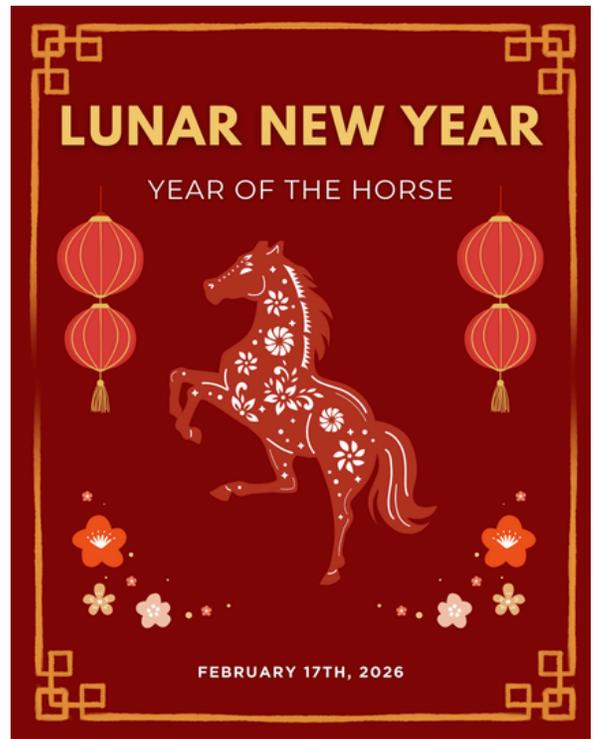
Happy Black History Month from Representative Lett!



Representative Lett loves her constituents! Happy Valentine's Day.



Join us in celebrating American Heart month. This initiative is to awareness about cardiovascular disease throughout the U.S.



Happy Lunar New Year from Representatibe Lett!