

Dear Neighbor,

Happy May! Last month, House Democrats unanimously voted "NO" on the state operating budget (HB 96) because it purposely 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, dump more taxpayer money into vouchers for charter non-public and private schools that benefit the wealthiest Ohioans, and authorize a \$600M handout to billionaires to build a new Browns stadium outside of Cleveland amidst opposition by local leaders.

HB 96 cuts key investments from what Governor Mike DeWine proposed in:

Childcare **Public Libraries** Medicaid Affordable Housing Clean drinking water Lead abatement funding

It also fails to provide real property tax relief, making future school levies more likely; launches more attacks against the LGBTO+ community, minority-owned businesses, and the collective bargaining rights of workers; and ignores the will of voters by reducing the amount of marijuana sales tax revenue returned to local host communities.

The bill now heads to the Senate to start the committee process.

We encourage you to contact your Senator, Senator Steve Wilson, at (614) 466-9737 or wilson@ohiosenate.gov, along with the Senate President Rob McColley at (614) 466-8150 or mccolley@ohiosenate.gov and Finance Chairman Jerry Cirino at (614) 644-7718 or cirino@ohiosenate.gov and tell them that this budget does NOT support Ohioans.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely, **Karen Brownlee**

MEMORIAL DAY



REMEMBER & HONOR

On Memorial Day, the House Democrats honor the courage and bravery of the Americans who gave the ultimate sacrifice to ensure that we are the land of freedom, dignity, and opportunity.



Over 2.1M Ohioans experienced a mental illness in 2023. During Mental Health Awareness Month, it's important to recognize the role mental health plays in our lives. We must discuss investing in our mental well-being and breaking the stigma that goes with receiving mental health care by investing millions of dollars for services, research, and workforce development. For more resources, visit mha.ohio.gov.



Representative Brownlee has had a blast being in-district and visiting our local municipalities. She had the pleasure of attending the Springdale City Council where she spoke with council members about state vs. local governing control.

She also recently attended the Forest Park City Council, where she was proud to recognize Jermaine Hill for his recent promotion to Forest Park Fire Chief!

Rep. Brownlee was also proud to host the Winton Woods High School Girl's Varsity Basketball team at the Statehouse to recognize their recent victory as Division II State Champions! Go Warriors!



Springdale City Council



The Winton Woods High School Girl's Varsity Basketball Team visit the Statehouse to celebrate their Division II Championship!



Rep. Brownlee with Chief and Mrs. Hill



This month, federal law will require individuals to have a federally compliant REAL ID for air travel beginning on May 7th. Anyone trying to board domestic flights after May 7th will need a REAL ID or a U.S. passport.

However, Ohio's Registrar of Motor Vehicles has reported that about **56% of Ohio's driver licenses are REAL IDs** already. If you want to get a REAL ID, the BMV suggests planning ahead with any documentation you may need.

Find more information about REAL ID on the BMV's website by clicking <u>here</u>.

