

## From the desk of Rep. Brownlee

Dear Great 28,

This July, we celebrate 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.

I am especially concerned with the current Ohio operating budget and its lack of equality. Not only is this budget being used to give money to special interest groups, but it also includes many items that are not budget-related, including language that discriminates against people of color, women, and the LGBTQ+ community.

In late June, I joined my Ohio House Democratic colleagues to vote "NO" on the Ohio operating budget (HB 96) because it recklessly slashed critical state funding while failing to benefit everyday Ohioans. In this budget, House Republicans chose to:

- Underfund our public schools. This means the state pays less than its 50% share, which will force schools to get that funding through increased local property taxes.
- Take away health care from hundreds of thousands of Ohioans. These
  cuts will put adults and children at risk of increased illness/death AND
  will increase medical costs for all Ohioans.
- Give handouts to billionaires at the expense of everyday Ohioans. The new flat tax rate of 2.75% will cut taxes for the wealthiest, while giving no relief to people making under \$100k. The budget includes a \$600M handout to the Cleveland Browns owners to build a new stadium, paid for by our Ohio taxpayers across the state.

I continue to stand up for and represent the residents of our Great 28 district, and advocate for an Ohio that cares for ALL of its citizens.

If there is anything my office can do, please reach out to us by email at Rep28@ohiohouse.gov or by phone at (614) 466-8120. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rep. Karen Brownlee



As we celebrate the Fourth of July, I urge you to remember the guiding principles that our American democracy was built upon, including the freedom to vote. The U.S. is the oldest continuous democracy in the world, and that is thanks to the efforts of engaged citizens who turn out every year to vote in our elections, making their voices heard and holding their elected officials accountable.

Check your voter registration and make sure it is up to date at voteohio.gov.



July is National Corn Month! Ohio is one of the top corn-producing states in the US, where the crop has a deep agricultural heritage and economic prominence. Don't forget to celebrate by taking advantage of the season at your local supermarket or even the county fair!

## House Democratic Caucus Announces New Leadership Team

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)





## **Representative Brownlee in the Community!**



Rep. Brownlee joins the City of Montgomery and the City of Loveland for their Fourth of July Parades to celebrate our nation's founding with veterans, family, and friends in District 28!



Rep. Brownlee joins as a founding member of the Aging Caucus to focus on issues impacting our aging populations!



Rep. Brownlee attends the Ohio School Safety Summit to learn more about the issues facing our schools today, and the people working to address them!



Rep. Brownlee visits with the Cincinnati Public Library at the Eden Park Juneteenth Celebration!



Rep. Brownlee held a Town Hall in Forest Park to speak with constituents and answer questions! Special thanks to Quinn Chapel for hosting us!



Rep. Brownlee with Moms Demand Action at the Cincinnati Pride Parade!



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