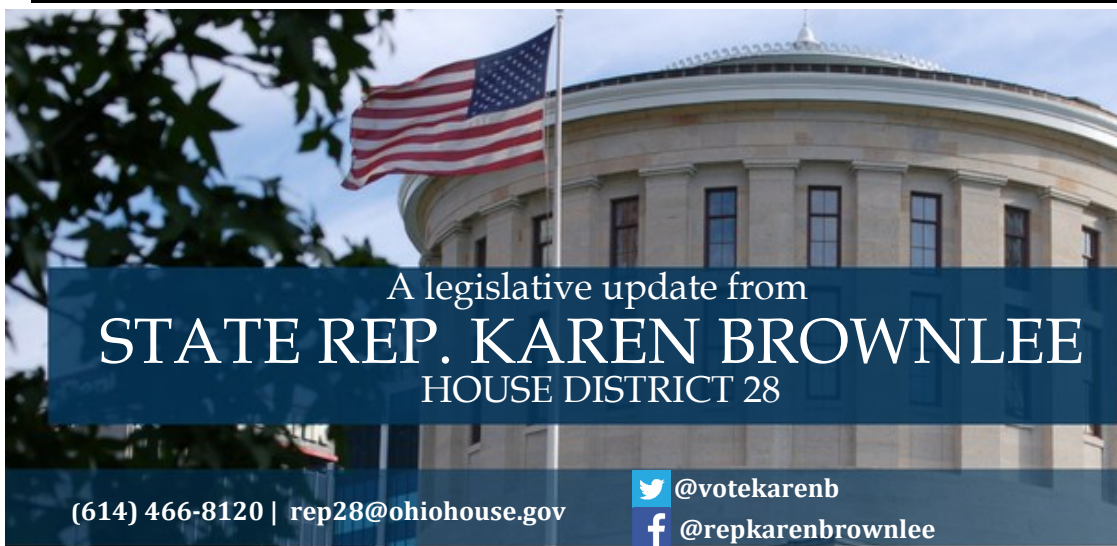




From the desk of Rep. Brownlee

Dear Neighbor-

May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

As a licensed social worker, I have been hard at work in the legislature ensuring that Ohio's behavioral health needs are being met. Below are the bills I have already introduced in the 136th General Assembly, but stay tuned for more!

HB 300- prohibits specified licensed health professionals from engaging in conversion therapy when treating minors

HB 709- require private insurers to cover telehealth services for mental health services the same as for in-person mental health services

HB 718- grants certifications to case managers, care coordinators, and peer supporters

HB 780- eliminates Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and streamlines Medicaid reimbursements for behavioral health providers

HB 797- creates the SMART internship program for social work graduate students at an Ohio public university to provide school-based services

HB 837- protects the personal information of mental health professionals and social workers

HB 856- mandates that private insurance must cover an annual mental health checkup, similar to an annual physical

Sincerely,

Karen Brownlee
State Representative
Ohio House District 28

MENTAL HEALTH



AWARENESS

Mental health is public health!
This May, remember to take care
of yourself and stop the stigma.



This Memorial Day, let us honor the
men and women who have served
to defend our country!



Housing Recovery Act

At last month's House Dems affordability press conference, I was proud to introduce the **Housing Recovery Act** alongside my colleague **Rep. Sigrist (D-Grove City)**.

It is estimated that this bill will spur the construction of up to 2,000 units of new housing in the state! This is an excellent first step in meeting the needs of the state's housing crisis.

This bill would alter the parameters of the Residential Revolving Loan Fund such that all 88 counties can utilize the funds for housing construction. Currently, the money is only available to counties with low density population, and the fund is not being utilized.



Medicaid Savings Act

Alongside Senators **Blessing (R-Colerain Twp)** and **Liston (D-Dublin)**, I was proud to introduce the **Medicaid Savings Act**, a piece of legislation that saves Ohio \$500-800 million per year in redundant administrative costs through the current system, by moving Ohio Medicaid to an Administrative Services Only model.

Not only would this bill save the state billions of dollars in administrative fees, but it will increase reimbursements for providers, expand access to patients, and create a system for clean data collection on health outcomes, which allows the state to focus on efforts in areas of need.

The **Medicaid Savings Act** is modeled after the state of Connecticut, who successfully deprivatized their Medicaid system in 2012, for a total cost savings of nearly \$1 billion annually.





Rep. Brownlee at the Springdale Senior Lunch at the Springdale Parks & Rec Center, to hear constituent concerns and talk about what is happening at the Statehouse.



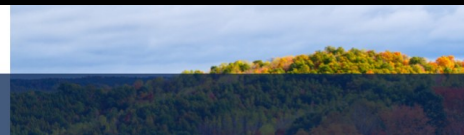
Rep. Brownlee stopped by the April Youth Advisory Board meeting and spoke with foster youth and foster providers.



Rep. Brownlee attends the NASW protest in Dayton to oppose CareSource's recent Medicaid clawbacks on behavioral health providers.



Rep. Brownlee cuts the ribbon at the re-opening of the Symmes Township branch of the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library.



Resources

State Agencies

Veteran Services

614 - 644 - 0898

Civil Rights Commission

513 - 351 - 2541

Medicaid

1- (800) - 324 - 8680

Unemployment

1 - (800) - 644 - 6562

Local Resources

Legal Aid

513 - 241 - 9400

Mental Health & Addiction

513 - 946 - 8635

Job & Family Services

513 - 946 - 1000

Development Disabilities

513 - 794 - 3300

Mental Health Awareness Month

Jewish American Heritage Month

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

National Military Appreciation Month

National Nurses Week: May 6-12

National EMS Week: May 17-23

May Day—May 1

Mother's Day—May 10

Armed Forces Day—May 16

Memorial Day—May 25

National Nurses Day—May 25

Sign up to receive the newsletter by email

