

Committees

Public Safety – Ranking Member



Committees:

Local Government
Veterans and Military Development

Cecil Thomas

State Representative, Ohio House District 25

I, State Representative Cecil Thomas, unequivocally condemn all forms of sexual violence against women and minors. I also strongly denounce the actions alleged involving the late Cesar Chavez. No individual, regardless of their stature, influence, or legacy, is above accountability when it comes to protecting the dignity, safety, and well-being of others.

I stand in full solidarity with survivors of sexual abuse and affirm that there is never any justification for the exploitation or harm of women or children under any circumstances.

In response, I will be taking steps to rename House Bill 243 to remove any reference to Cesar Chavez. The original purpose of this legislation was to recognize and honor the contributions and progress of farmworkers and to celebrate their lasting impact.

However, the information that has come forward is in direct conflict with the values this bill represents and the principles I stand for. It is critical that our laws and recognitions reflect integrity, respect, and accountability.

I am grateful to those who have spoken up, and I encourage continued dialogue. My office remains open and available to hear any comments or concerns as we move forward with these necessary changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cecil Thomas".

State Representative Cecil Thomas
Ohio House District 25