

## Representative Jack Cera

### 96<sup>th</sup> House District

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State Representative Jack Cera, a native of Bellaire, Ohio (Belmont County) was tapped to serve the people of Eastern Ohio in the Ohio House of Representatives in December 2011.

Cera serves House District 96, which includes the citizens of Monroe County, Jefferson County and parts of Belmont County.

Representative Cera is a strong voice at the Statehouse, advocating for better jobs, increased economic opportunity, local community development, good schools, health care, and Ohio's working families and elderly.

With the emerging Marcellus and Utica gas drilling activities in the district, Jack is working to maximize our community's economic benefits while protecting our property rights, environment and rebuilding local infrastructure like roads, bridges and water lines.

In the legislature, Cera serves as the minority party's fiscal watchdog on the State Controlling Board – a bipartisan panel that has the final say over state spending.

He is also the minority-party leader on the powerful state budget committee, in addition to representing Eastern Ohioans' interests on the House tax committee and Agriculture and Rural Development Committee.

From 1983 to 1996, Jack served in the state legislature, where he stood up for Eastern Ohio jobs and economic growth on the Coal Technical Advisory Committee, the Un-reclaimed Strip Mine Board and the Longwall Mining Committee.

During this time, Cera was instrumental in starting the Roadwork Development Fund, which directed gas tax funding to economic development and growth for the first time. He also helped expand the flood warning system following the deadly floods of 1990.

Cera has served as the Workforce Development Director for the Belmont Department of Job and Family Services and as the Executive Director of the Jefferson-Belmont Regional Solid Waste Authority.



Cera previously volunteered in the community on The Belmont County Port Authority Board, The Belmont County Planning Commission, The Bellaire Public Library Board, The Bellaire Park District Board, The Bellaire Girls Softball Association and the East Ohio Girls Softball Association.

Jack is a 1974 graduate of Bellaire High School where he excelled in the classroom and on the football field. His 97-yard interception return for a touchdown was a school record for over 20 years. Brown University recruited him to play college football, but his playing days ended after one year due to injury.

He received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Brown in 1978.

Cera is married to his wife of 33 years, Becky, a Registered Nurse. They have two daughters, Jaclyn and Bethany.

Jaclyn is a graduate of Waynesburg University with both a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Counseling. She is married to Air Force Captain Brent Yocum from Smithfield. They recently became parents with the birth of their first daughter, Scarlett.

Bethany, who is a graduate of the University of Charleston and earned a Masters from Muskingum University, currently is the Assistant Athletic Trainer at Hiram College.