

Representative Dorothy Pelanda, Majority Whip

86th House District



Representative Dorothy Pelanda is serving her second term as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives after being appointed to serve during the 129th General Assembly. She proudly represents the 86th House District, which includes Union and Marion Counties. Representative Pelanda was elected by her colleagues to serve as Assistant Majority Whip for the 131st General Assembly. A graduate of Marysville High School, Representative Pelanda also graduated from Miami University and the University of Akron School of Law. Representative Pelanda has practiced law more than 30 years, focusing on criminal and civil litigation and domestic relations law. Representative Pelanda's lifelong commitment to public service is based upon a premise that the future of the State and its economy is in direct relation to the financial, physical, and mental health of Ohio's families. Her legislative focus includes revamping juvenile and elder care laws, and combatting Ohio's heroin epidemic. She has also sponsored several bills regarding medical scope of practice issues and is committed to preserving and protecting a fair elections system. The Representative currently serves on the House Commerce and Labor, Government Accountability and Oversight, Judiciary, and Rules and Reference Committees. She is also member of the Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission; the Multi-System Youth Task Force; Ohio Criminal Recodification Committee; and Cystic Fibrosis Task Force. Representative Pelanda is married to Sam Gerhardtstein. She has three children: Brian, a trial lawyer in Costa Mesa, California; Doug, a nurse at Riverside Hospital in Columbus; and Zoe, a cosmetologist in Columbus.

