



## JUNE LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER FROM State Rep. Stephanie Howse

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### From the Desk of Representative Howse

Dear Neighbor,

No matter where they come from or who they vote for, most Ohioans want a seamless and accessible voting process. That's why my Democratic colleagues and I have supported modernizing Ohio's voting laws to improve participation and ensure every Ohioan has a say in their government.

But last month, House Bill (HB) 294 was introduced, which I believe would take Ohio in the wrong direction by rolling back ballot access and making the process more confusing to voters.

HB 294 would:

- 1) Restrict ballot drop boxes,
- 2) Reduce the number of days of early voting,
- 3) Shorten mail ballot access by a week,
- 4) Write into law more reasons to throw away ballots.
- 5) Makes ban on public offices paying return postage

In response, my Democratic colleagues and I announced the Freedom To Vote Tour, our effort to bring discussion of this bill to the people. You can register to speak during this tour or learn more about HB 294 by visiting the website entitled [OhioAntiVoterBill.com](http://OhioAntiVoterBill.com).

My office remains open and available to assist you with any questions or concerns you have as we navigate these unprecedented times together. In the meantime, stay healthy and take care. Know that it is an honor to represent you and your family here at the Statehouse (614) 466- 1414 or [Rep11@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep11@ohiohouse.gov).

Yours in Service,

State Rep. Stephanie D. Howse

JUNE 20TH, 2021  
**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
DAY!**

From: State Rep. Stephanie Howse

### Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month

June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

Everyone who has a brain is at risk of developing Alzheimer's disease (AD). There are 50 million people worldwide living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Alzheimer's is not part of the normal aging process. It is a fatal disease that kills nerve cells in the brain and affects an individual's memory.

This is an important time to share resources and acknowledge the value of prioritizing Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

For resources in Ohio visit [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

### Freedom to Vote Tour: Cleveland

**Freedom to Vote Tour: [Cleveland](#)**

When: Saturday, June 5, from 12-2 p.m.

Where: Jerry Sue Thornton Center – Ford Room, 2500 E 22nd St, Cleveland, OH



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## House District 11 Summer Fun

I hope you and your family are staying safe and healthy and preparing for the summer time.

For Cleveland students, this will be a summer like no other. The CMSD Summer Learning Experience is on the way, offering fun and adventure in a safe environment for students of all ages. Registration is free.

The Summer Learning Experience will be offered at school locations in neighborhoods throughout the city and be divided into two sessions – June 7 to July 2 and July 12 to Aug. 6. Free shuttle service and meals will be provided, as will supports for special-education students and English learners. Students can finish the year strong by getting back to where they would be, if not for the pandemic. High school students can make up credits, earn credit for new classes and prepare for college entrance exams; younger students will focus on English language arts and math.

To learn more and register visit [ClevelandMetroSchools.org/SummerLearning](https://ClevelandMetroSchools.org/SummerLearning).

## Legislative Update: Problematic Bills

There are currently several bills in the Ohio General Assembly introduced by that I view as problematic.

**House Bill 22** would increase penalties and expand the definition of obstruction of justice for distracting or “diverting the attention” of a law enforcement officer.

**House Bill 109** would increase penalties-certain criminal offenses; peace officer suits. This bill increases and creates penalties for “reckless”, “aggravated”, and “intimidating” behaviors during riots and protest.

**Senate Bill 16** regards civil action by, and crimes against, first responders. Creates the allowance of a civil suit if an emergency service responder is harassed, injured or intimidated during a protest or riot.

**Senate Bill 41** would require restitution or reimbursement for certain crimes. This bill allows for agencies to file for reimbursement or restitution when property is destroyed during and/or due to public safety response.

You can look up more information on these bills by visiting: [legislature.ohio.gov](https://legislature.ohio.gov)

Looking for information on  
the COVID-19 Vaccine or  
community services?

# CALL 211

## Family Resources

**Unemployment resources:** For more information on applying for assistance, visit [unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov](https://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov)

or call 1-877-644-6562. Please reach out to my office if you are experiencing any issue with unemployment or PUA payments.

**Housing resources:** Cuyahoga County residents who have lost income due to COVID-19 and need help paying their rent can now call 1-833-377-7368.

They can also apply for assistance online at [www.neorenthelp.org](https://www.neorenthelp.org).

**Utility resources:** FirstEnergy and Dominion Energy are restoring service to past-due accounts.

**Cleveland Water: (216) 664-3130 | Cleveland Public Power: (216) 664-4600 | First Energy / The Illuminating Company: (800) 589-3101 | Dominion Energy: (877) 542-2630 | Columbia Gas: (800) 344-4077**

**Senior and Adult services:** For additional information on Senior and Adult Services

Call (216) 420-6700 or visit [cuyahogacounty.us/senior-and-adult-services](https://cuyahogacounty.us/senior-and-adult-services).

**Student services:** For additional information on reliable high speed internet for students

## COVID-19 Vaccines for Homebound in Cuyahoga County

For many homebound individuals, access to a COVID-19 vaccination has been a challenge. Do you have homebound constituents who live in Cuyahoga County and would like to be vaccinated?

The City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County Departments of Health have partnered with local entities like the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging (WRAAA) to help homebound individuals get vaccinated. Referrals can be made by contacting WRAAA at (216) 621-0303. When making a referral, please be prepared to provide the individual's name, demographic information, DOB, phone number, and address.