



Emilia Strong Sykes

House Minority Leader, District 34

2020 Legislative Recap

Moments of 2020

- ◇ **Total Capital Budget Funding: \$5,610,554**
Funding given to community projects in Akron in 2020.
- ◇ **Additional Funding to House District 34: \$6,274,081**
Funding given to public organizations in House District 34 in 2020.
- ◇ **All Funds Totaled: \$11,884,635**
- ◇ **Leader Sykes named to Minority Health Strike Task Force**
This state group was made to address Coronavirus' disproportionate effects on minoritized groups and people of color.

Town Halls

- ◇ **Coronavirus' Impact on the Black Community**
Hosted by Leader Sykes, Ohio Rep. Stephanie Howse, and U.S. Reps. Marcia Fudge and Joyce Beatty, this virtual town hall's focus was how the pandemic disproportionately affected Black people.
- ◇ **Ohio Promise Virtual Town Hall**
Leader Sykes held a virtual community town hall as part of the Ohio Promise Virtual Town Hall Tour, a series of digital events this summer where local lawmakers provide a Statehouse update on issues including COVID-19, jobs and the economy, racial justice and gun safety. [Watch the event here.](#)
- ◇ **Voting in Ohio: A Zoom Town Hall Conversation about the Election 2020**
Leader Sykes and Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose discussed voting trends, voter education, redistricting and more.
- ◇ **COVID-19 Vaccine Virtual Town Hall**
In collaboration with the Black Elected Officials of Summit County, Leader Sykes held a virtual community town hall with panelists on Facebook Live about the COVID-19 vaccine administered by Pfizer, Inc. and Moderna. [Watch the event here.](#)



COVID-19 Relief

Statewide COVID-19 Funding: \$15.6M to the Ohio Department of Health to support local health departments and other costs associated with the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SNAP Program: Early in the COVID-19 outbreak, Ohioans who are eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) could use their Ohio Direction cards to purchase food online through Walmart and Amazon. This went into effect June 3.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance: In response to COVID-19, the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) was made available to individuals experiencing unemployment due to the pandemic. Leader Sykes has assisted 208 total unemployment related cases from House District 34.

Legislation Passed

Food Farmacy Pilot Program: \$500,000 of funding for the Food Farmacy Pilot Program, which will be working with the local hospital systems to create a sustainable, scalable project to help individuals diagnosed with obesity access nutritious food to improve their health.

Summit Metro Parks License Plate: HB 664 amended into SB 163 to create the Summit Metro Parks license plate to allow \$10 contribution to be used in support of the Summit Metro Parks.

Leader Sykes Awards

2020 *Emily's List* Gabrielle Giffords Rising Star Award



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