





A legislative update from House Minority Leader  
**EMILIA STRONG SYKES**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 34

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**From the desk of Leader Sykes**

Dear Neighbor,

Last month, I joined the majority of my Democratic colleagues and voted “no” on HB 110, the state’s two-year budget.

After a year in which the pandemic has taken a toll on Ohio families, businesses, and communities, Democrats wanted to see a budget that created opportunity for Ohio’s future and ensured our recovery benefits all Ohioans. This isn’t that budget.

This budget was a missed opportunity to invest in everyday Ohioans still struggling amid the health and economic crisis.

It fails to invest in the health, safety and security of all Ohioans by not including investments to modernize outdated public health systems to respond to this crisis and be ready for the next one before it happens.

It also doesn’t do enough to invest in the tools people need to live a better life, like childcare, rental assistance, affordable college, and better wages.

Instead, Republicans prioritized a \$380 million tax giveaway for the wealthiest Ohioans rather than putting money back in the pockets of working people or reinvesting in our state’s future.

Democrats offered amendments to target tax cuts to working and middle class Ohioans, increase access to childcare, prioritize COVID-19 relief, make college more affordable, and improve maternal health outcomes, but Republicans rejected them all in order to pay for their tax giveaway to millionaires.

Democrats know it’s our job to create a fiscally responsible budget that supports Ohioans. As this budget process continues, I’ll continue to fight for a budget that works for you , your family. And all Ohioans—not just the wealthy and well connected.

If you have thoughts about the budget process, please feel free to contact me at Rep34@ohiohouse.gov or 614-466-3100.

Sincerely,

House Minority Leader  
Emilia Strong Sykes



## COVID-19 Vaccine

Vaccines are safe and the most effective way to get our economy back on track, kids back in school, and our social lives vibrant again.

All Ohioans aged 16 or older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

To find a vaccination site near you, visit [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

### **Summit County Pop Up Sites**

**Saturday, May 8th, 9a-12p**

City of Joy Life Enrichment Center | 610 W Exchange St, Akron, OH 44302

**Monday, May 3rd from 3p-6p**

Firestone Community Center | 1480 Girard St, Akron, OH 44301

**Thursday, May 6th from 12p-6p**

Summit Lake Community Center | 380 W. Crosier St, Akron, OH 44311

**Saturday, May 8th from 9a-3p**

Summit County Fairgrounds | 1050 North Ave, Tallmadge, OH 44278

**Thursday, May 13th from 12p-6p**

Perkins Park (near the swimming pool) | 899 Diagonal Rd, Akron, OH 44320

Call 330-926-5795 or visit [scph.org](https://scph.org)

### **Permanent Vaccination Site**

**Walgreens Pharmacy**

1303 Copley Rd, Akron, Ohio 44320

call (330) 869-5896 or visit <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19/location-screening>

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Sign up for Leader Sykes’ email list at <https://ohiohouse.gov/members/emilia-strong-sykes/newsletter-sign-up>

## House Democrats unveil comprehensive police reform plan

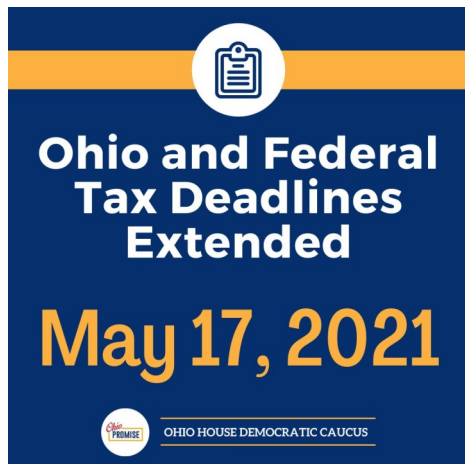
Democrats have unveiled our comprehensive police reform plan for the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, which restores accountability, modernizes use-of-force standards and tackles racial bias to promote the safety and security of all Ohioans. Democrats have long held police reform as a priority, introducing many of the same measures in recent General Assemblies.



Our comprehensive list of reforms goes a step further than the Governor and Statehouse Republicans' recommendations by tackling issues of bias and racism within departments, something the Republican plan fails to address.

Key components of the plan include:

- Urging support of the federal George Floyd Justice in Policing Act
- Requiring Attorney General to create database on officer shootings and use of force,
- Requiring independent investigations of officer-involved shootings and misconduct,
- Requiring officers to intervene and report misconduct, known as Andre's Law,
- Requiring law enforcement officer database for hiring eligibility,
- Requiring officers to exhaust all other alternatives prior to using deadly force,
- Requiring officers to provide a verbal warning before using deadly force,
- Requiring departments to establish a use of force continuum,
- Banning chokeholds and strangulation,
- Prohibiting law enforcement from using arrest and citation quotas,
- Prohibiting police from engaging in biased policing,
- Making the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board permanent.

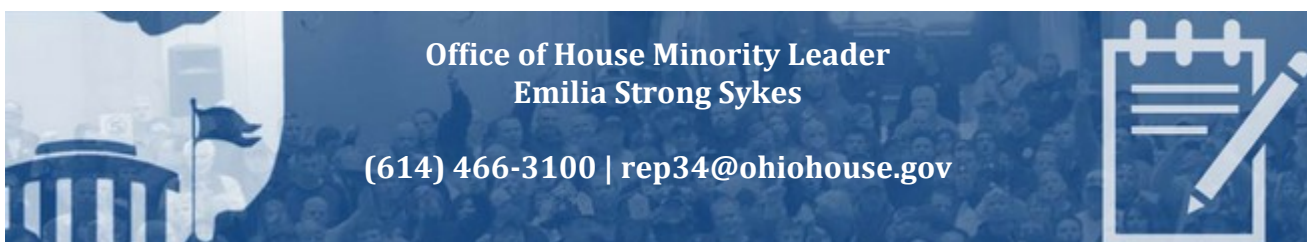
Democrats also oppose several Republican-backed anti-First Amendment bills, which would threaten to silence the voices of marginalized groups and give a free pass to police brutality and misconduct.



  
**Ohio and Federal  
Tax Deadlines  
Extended**  
**May 17, 2021**  
 OHIO HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS



**EMILIA STRONG SYKES**  
MINORITY LEADER  
OHIO HOUSE DISTRICT 34   
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