

A legislative update from
STATE REP. RICHARD D. BROWN
HOUSE DISTRICT 20

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@RepRichBrown
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From the desk of Rep. Brown

Dear Neighbor,

Last month, President Biden and Democrats delivered the largest long-term investment in our infrastructure and competitiveness in nearly a century, signing into law the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. This will bring more than \$11 billion to rebuild Ohio’s infrastructure, and with it, create thousands of good paying union jobs for Ohio workers.

For Ohio to lead again in jobs and opportunity, I believe it is critical that we deliver these funds where they are needed most—to rebuild our roads and bridges, ensure clean drinking water for every Ohioan and invest in our future. It’s about jobs, opportunity and building an economy that works for everyone, not just those at the top. That’s why one of my priorities this General Assembly has been our state’s infrastructure, fighting to reverse the governor’s proposed cuts to public transit funding, and delivering historic wins to expand broadband access to unserved households and clean up Ohio’s waterways. And it’s why I am ready to work with the Biden administration and our communities to revitalize Ohio’s infrastructure and create jobs, right here at home.

Ohio is set to receive more than \$11 billion dollars to repair our roads and bridges, replace outdated water lines in our communities and continue to invest in modern, accessible public transit systems that allow people to get to work, go to school and earn a living. Additionally, the infrastructure deal will provide every Ohioan with reliable access to high-speed internet, and ensure cleaner water, cleaner air, and more protections for our lakes and environment.

I believe the historic infrastructure bill will make life better for millions of Ohio residents, grow our economy, and restore Ohio’s promise as a leader in innovation and opportunity for all of us, not just for some of us. I am proud to be able to continue this crucial investment in our state.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments or concerns.

Best wishes for a wonderful and healthy holiday season!

Richard D. Brown



Open Enrollment Healthcare

Open enrollment for healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act began Nov. 1 and ends January 15, 2022. Coverage will begin starting January 1, 2022. All US citizens or immigrants who are lawfully living in the US are eligible to enroll in health coverage through the Marketplace.

Visit healthcare.gov to preview 2022 health plans and find a plan that’s right for you and your family.

Local Resources

Legal Aid 614-285-6710	Job and Family Services 1-844-640-6446
Mental Health and Addiction 614-224-1057	Developmental Disabilities 614-475-6440
Aging (614)-525-5230	Transportation 216-241-8230



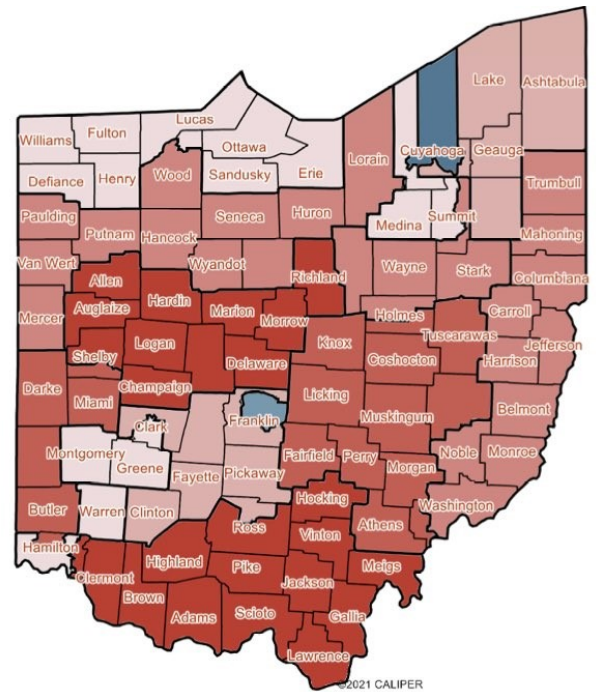
Gerrymandered GOP congressional maps betray voters

Gov. DeWine betrayed Ohioans by signing into law a Congressional map that unduly favors Republicans 13-2, and fails to meet Ohioans' demands for a fair, bipartisan map that keeps our communities together. The map faced immediate lawsuits by national redistricting groups, and will now proceed to the Ohio Supreme Court for review.

When Gov. DeWine gave the green light on this map that splits apart communities and goes against the will of Ohioans who called on us to draft fair maps, he went back on his word and his promise to the citizens of Ohio. Despite the 2018 congressional redistricting reforms that were created and overwhelmingly

passed by more than 70 percent of Ohio voters to ensure that district maps were created with bipartisan input and support, Republicans shut Democrats and Ohioans out of the map-making process. House Democrats sent letters to the governor urging a veto of the map, but the governor dismissed them, along with the concerns raised by thousands of citizens who demanded a fair map-making process.

I believe that this gerrymandered map disrespects Ohio voters and the legislative process. Ohioans deserve better from their government.



Get vaccinated this Winter!

In these winter months, it is more important than ever to get vaccinated. The CDC recommends that everyone ages 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to protect against the COVID-19 virus. Children are now eligible to receive the vaccine, and boosters are now available for anyone who has already received the vaccine. To find a vaccine provider near you, visit gettheshot.ohio.coronavirus.gov.

While health experts and the Biden administration continue to recommend vaccines to protect the health and safety of Ohioans, House Republicans recently passed House Bill 218, legislation that would prohibit schools, universities and employers from requiring students or employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. It would also bar public and private entities from requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination for any reason, including admittance for events and concerts. I believe that this bill will only prolong the pandemic and threaten the health and safety of Ohioans. Our state continues to lag the nation for coronavirus vaccination, ranking 41st among states. More than 25,000 Ohioans have died from COVID-19.

Getting vaccinated not only helps protect the health of you and your loved ones, but it also ensures that businesses can keep operating and workers can be safe on the job. Ohio's major business and health organizations oppose banning vaccine requirements, as vaccine hesitancy would slow Ohio's economic recovery by threatening the health of workers, shutting down businesses and causing uncertainty among consumers.

Do your part and get vaccinated. Together, we can beat this coronavirus, save lives, put people back to work, and get Ohio moving in the right direction again.

